



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

M E D I A R E L E A S E

20 March 2019

23,859 pensioners to receive payment boost in Braddon

The Liberal National Government has delivered another increase to payment rates for pension and allowance recipients in Braddon from 20 March.

Liberal Senator for Tasmania Richard Colbeck said pension payments including Age Pension, Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment will increase by \$9.90 a fortnight to \$926.20 for singles, and by \$14.80 a fortnight to \$1,396.20 for couples combined.

“Since we were first elected, the Age Pension has increased by \$117.80 per fortnight for single pensioners and by \$177.40 per fortnight for couples combined,” Senator Colbeck said.

This will directly benefit the 23,859 pensioners living in Braddon.

Individuals receiving Newstart Allowance, Widow Allowance and Sickness Allowance will benefit from an increase of \$5.50 a fortnight to \$564.50, including Energy Supplement. Members of a couple will see an increase of \$5.00 a fortnight to \$509.60 each, including Energy Supplement.

The rate of Parenting Payment (Single) will increase by \$7.60 to \$788.10 a fortnight, including Pension Supplement and Energy Supplement.

“The Liberal National Government understands the importance of these increases to help pensioners and allowance recipients keep up with the cost of living,” Senator Colbeck said.

“Rent Assistance rates will also increase from 20 March, as well as a range of income and assets limits for pensions and allowances. This includes higher limits to the income and assets tests for age pensioners.

“While the Liberal National Government is protecting older Australians in Braddon, Labor and Bill Shorten wants to steal their retirement incomes. Labor’s Retiree Tax would rip an average of \$1,400 in income away from more than 1 million retirees across Australia, including pensioners.”

Full details of new rates and thresholds can be found on the Department of Social Services website at www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/benefits-payments.

ENDS

Media Contact: Felix Ellis 0457 517 734

Authorised by Senator Richard Colbeck, 5-7 Best St Devonport, TAS 7310