

## **Dominic Perrottet**

Treasurer
Minister for Industrial Relations

## **Stuart Ayres**

Minister for Western Sydney, WestConnex and Sport

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## NINE-YEAR LOW UNEMPLOYMENT IN WESTERN SYDNEY

Western Sydney's unemployment rate is sitting at its lowest level in nine years, with more than 130,000 jobs added since the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government came into office.

New data from the ABS today shows the unemployment rate in Western Sydney has dropped to 5.3 per cent – the lowest since August 2008.

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said the figures were evidence the government's economic reforms and investment in infrastructure were helping to drive growth.

"This is great news for the people of Western Sydney, who are powering the state's economy by taking advantage of our enormous infrastructure program and other business opportunities," Mr Perrottet said.

"With more infrastructure projects to come, the future for Western Sydney is looking strong."

Western Sydney has added almost 57,000 jobs since the last election and 131,200 jobs since this government was elected in 2011.

Minister for Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said business confidence in Western Sydney is sky high.

"Western Sydney's low unemployment rate means sustained growth and an improved standard of living for everyone across the state," Mr Ayres said

"The best part is there is plenty more to come with new investments in the pipeline for new hospitals, schools and roads, along with the Western Sydney Airport and new business parks and research centres creating thousands of new jobs."

The data also showed other parts of the state have benefited from the government's reforms, with 82,000 jobs added in regional NSW since April 2015 – more than all of WA, SA and Tasmania combined.

Regional NSW has also added nearly 60 per cent of the jobs in all the regions of Australia since April 2015.

"The fact that regional NSW has added more jobs than three whole states combined is evidence that our regional workforce is helping to power the national economy," Mr Perrottet said.

MEDIA: Anna Hitchings | Treasurer | 0437 765 466 Vanessa Grimm | Minister Ayres | I 0419 744 236