



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 1 April 2011

PREMIER TAKES ON WESTERN SYDNEY PORTFOLIO

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell today announced he will appoint himself Minister for Western Sydney in the NSW Government.

The NSW Liberals now hold the seats of Penrith, Londonderry, Riverstone, Mulgoa, Camden, Campbelltown, Wollondilly, Menai, Smithfield, East Hills, Granville and Parramatta.

"Western Sydney has put its faith in a NSW Liberals & Nationals Government and I am determined to deliver for those families and communities," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The Liberal Party now holds more seats in Western Sydney than we do on the North Shore, and we are indebted to the tens of thousands of people who switched their votes at the election," he said.

"I want to send a strong message to those voters who supported us at the State Election that a NSW Liberals & Nationals Government will support them.

"During my time as the Shadow Minister for Western Sydney over the past four years, I was privileged to meet many of the regions residents, business owners and workers.

"Western Sydney is a unique region bursting with talent, opportunity and potential.

"Western Sydney should be the powerhouse of the Australian economy, a place where people can find a job, progress a career, settle down and start a family.

"After 16 years of Labor, Western Sydney's infrastructure has been neglected and the Aussie dream of owning a home has become more difficult: we are determined to reverse those trends.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is committed to delivering the South West and North West Rail Links, widening the M5, providing more teachers for local schools, more beds and nurses for local hospitals, investing in the region's major hospitals, axing Labor's homeowners tax and providing more land for families to build their own home.

"I am determined to deliver for Western Sydney," Mr O'Farrell said.