



PAUL SCULLY MP
MEMBER FOR WOLLONGONG

Helping to deliver Cost of Living Support for NSW



Dear Resident,

The NSW Government is committed to relieving cost of living pressures and making it easier for people to access financial support.

We are investing to support you and your family, with measures including:

- **Bulk Billing Incentive:** Investing \$189 million to increase bulk billing so that you and your family can get better access to the healthcare that you need.
- **First Home Buyers Assistance:** Waiving or reducing stamp duty for first home buyers purchasing homes up to \$1 million. So far over 1,500 first home buyers from across the Illawarra have received support under this program.
- **Energy Rebates:** Providing energy rebates of up to \$350 on energy bills for families. This is in addition to the Australian Government's \$300 energy relief payment.
- **Childcare:** Up to \$500 in fee relief for families of 3-year-old children attending eligible long day care centres, as well as constructing 4 new public preschools in the Wollongong electorate.
- **Rental Reform:** Making renting fairer in NSW by introducing new laws to end no-grounds evictions, delivering a new portable bonds scheme, banning fees for background checks, making sure that tenants have a free way to pay rent and making it easier for tenants to have pets in rentals.
- **Pensioner Council Rates Rebates:** An annual concession of up to \$250 is available to pensioners for ordinary council rates and domestic waste charges.
- **Toll Cap:** Capping tolls at \$60 a week, making it cheaper to drive on Sydney's roads.

We have created an online Cost of Living Hub, where you will find consolidated information from more than 80 websites in one central place, making it easier for you to access rebates and vouchers that can save you money.



If I can be of assistance to you on any State Government matter, please do not hesitate to contact my office on **4226 5700** or by emailing wollongong@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Paul Scully

Paul Scully MP
Member for Wollongong

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Paul Scully MP, Member for Wollongong. Always here to help:

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Do you need help finding rebates and vouchers?

The NSW Government is helping to reduce the cost of living with more than 70 rebates and vouchers currently available to eligible NSW households and residents.

The Savings Finder Tool, which can be found online in the Cost of Living Hub, will help you find rebates and vouchers applicable to you.

Alternatively, you can visit a local Service NSW Centre, where trained Service NSW Specialists can help you find and claim your savings, or you can contact Service NSW on 13 77 88.



Housing

- New transformative housing reforms to increase supply and make housing more affordable.
- An expanded First Home Buyer Assistance Scheme.
- The \$10,000 First Home Owner (New Homes) Grant is available for eligible first home owners purchasing newly built or substantially renovated homes.
- Private rental assistance to help eligible individuals, set up and maintain a tenancy in the private rental market.
- The Pensioner Concession Rebate Scheme, which provides a rebate of up to \$250 on ordinary council rates and charges for domestic waste management services to eligible pensioners.

Energy and Water

- The Low-Income Household Rebate provides eligible concession cardholders with an annual rebate on their electricity bills. \$350 for retail customers and \$385 per embedded network (on-supply) household.
- The NSW Family Energy Rebate offers an annual rebate of up to \$250 for eligible households with dependent children that receive the Family Tax Benefit.
- The NSW Life Support Rebate helps pay electricity bills for people who need, or have someone living with them who needs, to use approved energy-intensive life support equipment at home.
- The NSW Medical Energy Rebate helps eligible concession cardholders pay their electricity bills. It is for people who are not able to, or have someone living with them who is not able to, self-regulate their body temperature in extreme environmental temperatures (hot or cold).
- Energy Accounts Payment Assistance (EAPA) is available for people experiencing difficulty paying their energy bill because of short-term financial hardship, crisis, or emergency.
- The NSW Gas Rebate provides up to \$121 per year off the gas bills of certain Commonwealth concession card holders.
- The Pensioner Water Rebate, provides eligible pensioners with a concession for their water rates.

Health

- Assisting eligible people in New South Wales by providing appropriate assistive technology through the Aids and Equipment Program.
- Providing new parents with a Baby Bundle filled with essential items to assist in their child's early health and development.
- Providing ambulance services free of charge for certain concession holders and victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, or child abuse.
- Offering free dental care for children attending schools participating in the NSW Health Primary School Mobile Dental Clinics program.
- Financial assistance for travel and accommodation costs for patients traveling long distances for treatment not available locally.
- Offering free glasses and vision aids for financially disadvantaged residents.
- Providing a Pre-IVF Fertility Testing Rebate of \$250 to help eligible NSW residents.
- \$2,000 Fertility Treatment rebate to help with the costs of IVF and other Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) treatments.

Education

- \$500 per child fee-relief for 3-year-olds attending eligible preschool programs in long day care centres, and up to \$2,110 for children aged 4 and above.
- Fee relief of up to \$4,220 a year for families of children attending eligible community and mobile preschools.
- Offering fee-free training for the formal training component of apprenticeships and traineeships.
- Providing fee-free vocational education places for training in-demand skills and industries, along with fee concessions for Commonwealth welfare beneficiaries and people with disabilities to undertake Certificate IV and below qualifications.
- Implementing the Vocational Training Assistance Scheme travel and accommodation allowance for eligible apprentices or new entrant trainees who are required to travel more than 120km (round trip) to attend day or block release training.

Recreation

- A new means-tested \$50 Active and Creative Kids combined voucher issued twice per year for each eligible child.
- The Learn to Swim Active Pre-Schooler Voucher, providing \$50 per child aged between 3 and 6 years who are not yet enrolled in school, to attend swimming lessons.
- Providing discounted or concessional National Park passes for eligible seniors, pensioners, veterans, and visitors who renew their New South Wales vehicle registration.

Transport

- A weekly \$60 weekly toll cap for eligible motorists.
- Continuing the existing Toll Rebate Scheme, offering a 40% rebate of up to \$802 to eligible drivers.
- Offering daily, weekend, and weekly Opal Card Travel Caps for adults, children, youths, and concession holders, along with the \$2.50 daily Gold Opal Cap for seniors and pensioners.
- Providing the School Student Transport Scheme, offering subsidised travel to and from school for eligible students on government and private bus, rail, and ferry services, long-distance coaches, and in private vehicles where no public transport services exist.
- Offering Concessional Driver Licence Renewal fees for eligible concession holders.
- Granting exemptions to vehicle registration for selected social security recipients, including pensioners.
- Implementing the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme, providing transport support for NSW residents who cannot use public transport due to a severe and permanent disability.
- Providing a \$100 rebate to first and second-year apprentices through the Apprentice Vehicle Registration Rebate.
- Offering free places in the Safer Drivers Course each year for learner drivers from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Keeping the Gong Shuttle Free.