



**JULIE COLLINS MP  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
MEMBER FOR FRANKLIN**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**ABBOTT GOVERNMENT HAS NO REAL PLAN FOR JOBS**

Following today's revelations that the Government's welfare to work program is failing, Tony Abbott must immediately scrap his planned expansion of Work for the Dole.

Reports confirm it is unlikely that the Abbott Government's expanded compulsory Work for the Dole scheme will even help job seekers find work.

Labor believes that we need to do everything we can to support people into work.

But Work for the Dole only works in certain circumstances and is expensive to deliver.

The reality is Work for the Dole is unlikely to help a sacked Holden or Qantas worker find a job.

The Government announced they would expand Work for the Dole across the country, but Budget documents obtained by Labor confirm there is no additional funding.

The expanded Work for the Dole scheme is to be funded from the existing Job Services Australia budget.

Based on the Government's own figures of an expected 150 000 Work for the Dole places each year the expanded scheme will cost more than \$1 billion.

They either won't be able to meet the costs or are planning significant cuts to existing Job Services Australia programs to pay for it.

It appears that the Abbott Government is scrapping successful programs like Labor's Wage Connect to fund an already failing approach.

Tony Abbott has no plans when it comes to creating jobs and getting people off welfare and into work.

Marginalising already disadvantaged people is not the answer.

Labor is committed to ensuring jobseekers get real work through the right training, work experience and incentives, and the appropriate level of support.

**FRIDAY, 2 JANUARY 2014**