

Media Release
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Sheed thanks State and Federal Governments for decisive action

Independent Member for the Shepparton District has thanked Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison for their latest rounds of decisive financial actions aimed at assisting local families and businesses help combat the effects of Coronavirus with unprecedented economic packages.

“We are in uncharted waters – there has been no event of this magnitude in my lifetime and on behalf of my electorate I would like to thank the state and federal governments for acting with such deliberation in relation to the serious financial concerns people have,” Ms Sheed said.

Included in the massive expenditure is a refund of payroll tax for the 2019-20 financial year to small and medium-sized businesses, totalling \$550 million. The state government will also pay all its outstanding invoices, releasing another \$750 million and has allocated \$500 million to help transition workers facing job losses.

Meanwhile the federal government has announced \$189 billion in stimulus, around 10 per cent of the country’s total gross domestic product.

This package includes a \$550 fortnightly payment to recipients of the JobSeeker Payment (formerly Newstart), Youth Allowance jobseeker, Parenting Payment, Farm Household Allowance and Special Benefit.

“This Coronavirus supplement will see a very real and tangible benefit for our most vulnerable, effectively doubling the income in some cases for those out of work and providing a badly needed element of security for those facing job losses,” Ms Sheed said.

“I encourage anyone facing the loss of their job to contact Centrelink immediately so they themselves and their families can be afforded a level of economic protection.

“The state government is also attempting to rapidly retrain people who have lost their job as a result of the Coronavirus response, including work cleaning public infrastructure or delivering food.

“We are all in this together and together we will get through this. Recent moves by our governments give me some confidence and businesses throughout the region need to plan for riding this out where possible,” Ms Sheed said.

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Media contact

Myles Peterson 0467 035 840 | myles.peterson@suzannasheed.vic.gov.au