



Ray Williams MP

MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL
MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURALISM AND MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES



MEDIA RELEASE

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HELP WITH POWER BILLS FOR SELF-FUNDED RETIREES IN CASTLE HILL

For the first time, self-funded retirees in Castle Hill will be among 130,000 seniors across NSW who will be able to claim \$200 a year to help with their power bill, thanks to a new initiative from the NSW Government.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP said the rebate will be available to customers who hold a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card through Service NSW centres and online.

“This new rebate will mean more seniors in Castle Hill will get the cost of living support they deserve,” Mr Williams said.

“The Liberals & Nationals Government understands energy costs are putting pressure on people with fixed incomes and this new policy has been made possible because of the strong economic management of this Government.”

Minister for Energy Don Harwin said the NSW Government has already introduced a range of reforms to put downward pressure on energy bills, including increasing rebates by 20 per cent and cutting \$7 billion in costs from the electricity networks.

The NSW Government has also provided discounts on energy efficiency upgrades for thousands of families and small businesses, and introduced the Energy Switch service to help households get a better electricity deal and increase competition in the retail energy sector.

“The NSW Government invests \$300 million each year on energy rebates, with almost one third of all electricity customers receiving a rebate,” Mr Harwin said.

The NSW Government’s existing vulnerable household appliance program has already helped 17,600 households cut their bills by up to \$200 a year.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian said the Liberals & Nationals Government have worked hard to get the economy back on track after years of mismanagement by Labor.

“As a result we are able to give back to the community to help take the pressure off households,” Ms Berejiklian said.

Minister for Ageing Tanya Davies welcomed the announcement and said the program will extend NSW’s generous energy rebates to self-funded retirees for the first time.



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“Pensioners already benefit from rebates, this new program will ensure seniors across NSW who have worked hard for their retirement will have much-needed hip-pocket relief now too.”

The Commonwealth Seniors Health Card applies to Australians aged 65 and over, with an income of up to \$54,929 a year for singles and \$87,884 a year for couples.

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