



Heather Butler, MP

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier

Thursday, 22 January 2009

Tasmanian Doing Well in Job Stakes

The most recent employment figures show yet again that Tasmania is coping with the world economic crisis better than most other parts of Australia, Parliamentary secretary to the Premier Heather Butler said today.

"ABS figures released today show that in the year to December 2008, an average of 2,100 people were classified as long-term unemployed in Tasmania, a 26.1 per cent decrease on a year earlier compared with a national decrease of 4.2 per cent.

"This is a record low figure and a wonderful social and economic achievement," Ms Butler said.

"Unfortunately at a time when we all need to be talking up confidence in the economy the Liberal opposition is again trotting its negative comments about alleged Government waste."

"It is a tired mantra.

"The economic management of the Labor Government speaks for itself with Tasmania among the best performing economies in Australia, as further evidenced by these latest figures."

"However all we get from Mr Gutwein and his party is continual complaining, trotting out the same old lines every few weeks."

"It is time the Liberals started to present themselves as a real alternative with policies that can be scrutinised rather than engaging in continual criticism for its own sake," Ms Butler