



Senator Chris Evans

Leader of the Government in the Senate

Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations

The Hon Wayne Swan MP
Treasurer
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Correspondence Received	
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister & Treasurer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Substantive response	To be signed by:
<input type="checkbox"/> Constituent response	
<input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment	
<input type="checkbox"/> DPM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chief of Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Adviser	
04 OCT 2011	
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to policy area for appropriate action	<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to appropriate Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> No Further Action
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to appropriate Tsy Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Dear Treasurer

I refer to the attached letter of 2 May 2011 from Mr Darryl Gerrity, Mayor of West Coast Council, regarding taxation incentives to assist workers to relocate to the west coast of Tasmania.

As the taxation issue raised falls within your portfolio responsibilities as Treasurer, I am forwarding a copy of Mr Gerrity's letter for your appropriate action.

Please find attached a copy of my response to Mr Gerrity for your information.

Yours sincerely

CHRIS EVANS

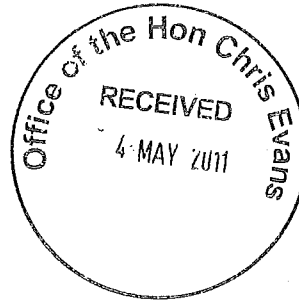
23 SEP 2011

WEST COAST COUNCIL

Tasmania

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Office of the Mayor

2nd May, 2011

Senator Hon. Chris Evans,
Leader in the Senate,
Minister for Workplace Relations,
Suite MG 68,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA 2600

Dear Senator,

I read that you were interested in discussing a plan to lure workers to Western Australia and North Queensland by providing a \$10,000 payment. In areas of Tasmania such as the West Coast and King Island we also require workers for our resource industries.

On the West Coast our mining and aquaculture industries are adjacent to towns that require population growth. Therefore a better incentive than a cash handout to move workers into these areas would be to substantially increase the taxation Zone Allowance.

This would have many benefits such as providing workers, decentralization, building communities and attracting much needed services to these neglected regions. Families relocating would also re-build social infrastructure and enhance our educational and health prospects.

The many service clubs that are now suffering low membership would also be given a membership boost, and give the West Coast a better quality of life.

I therefore respectfully urge you to not only look at what your Government can do for the larger states, but what your Government can do for smaller, resource rich, but worker poor areas, such as the West Coast of Tasmania.

Hoping you will understand the sound logic and reasoning of this proposal.

Yours faithfully,

DARRYL GERRITY

cc. Hon. Sid Sidebottom





Senator Chris Evans

Leader of the Government in the Senate
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations

Mayor Darryl Gerrity
West Coast Council
PO Box 63
QUEENSTOWN TAS 7467

Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter of 2 May 2011, regarding incentives to assist workers to relocate to the west coast of Tasmania. I note you also sent a copy of your letter to Mr Sid Sidebottom MP, Member for Braddon. I apologise for the delay in responding.

As you may be aware, since 1 January 2011 the Australian Government has been providing practical assistance under the Connecting People with Jobs initiative to help job seekers to relocate for ongoing work or apprenticeship. Job seekers looking to relocate to the west coast region of Tasmania may be eligible for assistance under the Connecting People with Jobs initiative.

The Connecting People with Jobs initiative provides a range of additional support, including financial assistance to cover a range of relocation related costs, including travel expenses, removalists, temporary accommodation, post-placement support and mentoring. The financial assistance can also be used to assist people to successfully settle into their new communities, for example, to pay for a wide variety of counselling and support services and for such things as purchasing new school uniforms for their children.

There is also support available for employers under the Connecting People with Jobs initiative. Employers participating in the initiative will receive a wage subsidy of up to \$2500 to employ relocating job seekers in an ongoing position. This is in recognition of the additional support and assistance individuals need in the early stages of their new jobs.

Further information on the Connecting People with Jobs initiative can be found at: www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/Pages/ConnectingPeopleWJobs.aspx.

In your letter you indicate that substantial increases to the taxation Zone Allowance would be a better incentive to assist job seekers to relocate than cash based assistance. As this matter relates to taxation based assistance, I have referred your letter to the Treasurer for consideration as taxation matters fall within the Treasurer's portfolio responsibilities.

I have copied this letter to Mr Sid Sidebottom MP, Member for Braddon for his information.

I trust the information provided is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Evans', written in a cursive style.

CHRIS EVANS

23 SEP 2011