

The Hon. Robert McClelland MP



Member for Barton

Robert was first elected as the Federal Member for Barton in March 1996. In October 1998 he was appointed Shadow Attorney-General and later served in a range of shadow portfolios including Workplace Relations, Justice, Homeland Security, Defence and Foreign Affairs. Following the election of the Federal Labor Government in November 2007, Robert was appointed Australia's 33rd Attorney-General.

In December 2011, to ensure a stronger focus for Government on the issue of housing affordability, Robert took over the roles of Minister for Housing and Minister for Homelessness. He was also appointed Minister for Emergency Management and Vice-President of the Executive Council.

Robert has a strong attachment to the local area of St George, where he was born and raised. He attended Connells Point Primary School and Blakehurst High, where he was school captain in 1975. Robert still lives in the area with his wife and four children.

A former junior representative footballer, Robert still likes to play touch football and is a proud supporter of the St George Illawarra Dragons rugby league team. His other sporting passion is surfing.

Robert has a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of NSW and a Master of Law from the University of Sydney. Before entering Federal Parliament he was a partner in the Sydney law firm Turner Freeman where he specialised in labour and sporting law.

In the March 2012 reshuffle, Robert was moved to the backbench.