



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Steve Whan MP
Member for Monaro
Parliamentary Secretary for Primary Industries,
Regional Development, Rural Affairs & Planning
Convenor of Country Labor



Media Release

Monday 21 April 2008

Lemma Government releases Rural and Regional Taskforce Report

The Lemma Government has today released the report issued by the Rural and Regional Taskforce.

The Premier announced the establishment of a Rural and Regional Taskforce to examine and provide advice on key economic, environmental and social issues affecting rural and regional communities across NSW.

Former Director General of the Premier's Department Dr Col Gellatly is the Chair of the committee, which also includes Mr Richard Torbay, Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly and Member for Northern Tablelands and Mr Steve Whan, Convenor of Country Labor and Member for Monaro.

Convenor of the Country Labor Parliamentary Group Steve Whan said the Taskforce has listened intently to the concerns expressed by rural communities.

"We consulted widely across NSW with more than 600 people attending the consultation meetings and 165 submissions were received," Steve Whan said.

"The Taskforce was presented with a wide range of issues particularly on social and environmental matters."

The Taskforce has presented Premier Lemma with this report which contains 22 recommendations across a range of issues, including:

- The expansive NSW regional road network;
- Regional Air Services;
- Telecommunications and Broadband;
- Health services; and
- Education, Training and Skills Development

Steve Whan said that the Premier and his Government are now considering the report and its recommendations.

"I am pleased to see that the Lemma Government has already begun work in a number of these important areas," Steve Whan said.

"I am confident that the Report, its recommendations, and the pending response from the Lemma Government, will contribute to better services for the communities of rural and regional NSW."

Copies of the Rural and Regional Taskforce report can be found at the link below:

http://www.nsw.gov.au/Rural_Regional_Taskforce.asp

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