

# Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund

## Illawarra Regional Expert Panel Meeting No.1 - Summary

### Details

**Location:** iAccelerate building, Building 239,  
Innovation Campus, Squires Way, North  
Wollongong and MS Teams

**Date/time:** 16 February 2023, 1:30pm – 3:30pm

**Chairperson:** Bianca Perry

### Panel members in attendance

1. **Chairperson:** Bianca Perry
2. Adam Zarth
3. Michael Reay
4. David Campbell
5. Kylie Flament
6. Alex Frino
7. Ben Fitzsimmons
8. Jim Allan

### Meeting Summary

#### 1 Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome

The Department of Regional NSW (the Department) welcomed all participants and noted that the Deputy Premier has appointed Ms Bianca Perry to act as Chair for the meetings of the Illawarra Expert Panel.

The Chair, Bianca Perry, welcomed all participants and acknowledged that the meeting was being held on Dharawal country.

All Expert Panel members introduced themselves and confirmed that they have completed a Declaration of Interests. The Chair confirmed that a standard agenda item at the start of all meetings will be to enable Panel members to declare any relevant conflicts. No new conflicts were declared at the meeting.

#### 2 Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund Overview

The Department provided an overview of the Fund and the enabling legislation, the Royalties for Rejuvenation Program and current strategic projects for the Illawarra region.

The Expert Panel discussed the public consultation provisions in the Regulation. Specifically, that the Expert Panels may undertake public consultation for the purposes of advising the Deputy Premier about:

- the consequences and opportunities associated with moving away from coal mining, particularly in relation to the impact on employment and economic activity in the affected coal mining region
- alternative land uses of coal mining sites
- options to support the economic diversification of the affected coal mining region in alternative industries.

#### 3 Overview of Expert Panel Governance

The Department provided a presentation on the Governance framework for the Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund and noted that a Probity Advisor has been engaged to provide advice and assistance to all four Expert Panels.

#### **4 Forward Meeting Schedule and Planning**

The Expert Panel discussed potential forward agenda items and proposed that the next meeting be held in March or April 2023.

#### **5 General Business**

The Expert Panel discussed the importance of ensuring Aboriginal representation on the panel and requested the Department progress recruitment of Aboriginal candidates as a priority following the election.

#### **6 Close**

The Chair thanked the Expert Panel members and closed the meeting.