

# Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund

## North West Regional Expert Panel Meeting No.1 - Summary

### Details

**Location:** The University of Sydney,  
Sydney Institute of Agriculture |  
Faculty of Science,  
I.A Watson Grains Research Centre E12,  
12656 Newell Highway,  
Narrabri NSW 2390

**Date/time:** 23 February 2023, 1:30pm-3:30pm

**Chairperson:** Andrew Johns

### Panel members in attendance

1. Andrew Johns
2. Sarah Withell
3. Sally Hunter
4. Robyn Faber
5. Guy Roth

### 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 Mr Andrew Johns to act as Chair for the meetings of the North West Expert Panel.

The Chair, Andrew Johns, welcomed all participants and acknowledged that the meeting was being held on Kamilaroi 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 North West 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 second meeting be held in Narrabri on 23 March 2023 and the third meeting be held in Gunnedah on 27 April 2023.

#### **5 Close**

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