

# Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund

## Hunter Expert Panel Meeting No. 5 - Summary

### Details

**Location:** Donald Horne Building, Hunter Innovation Precinct, 140 Bridge Street, Muswellbrook

**Date/time:** 8 June 2023 9:30am to 12:30pm

**Chairperson:** Bob Hawes

### Panel members in attendance

1. Bob Hawes (Chair)
2. Fiona Plesman (Deputy Chair)
3. Elizabeth Watts
4. Warrick Jordan
5. John Turner
6. Robin Williams
7. Prof Roberta Ryan

### Apologies

1. James Barben
2. Joe James

---

### Meeting Summary

#### 1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair noted that the meeting was being held on Wonnarua country and acknowledged Traditional Custodians and Elders. The Chair welcomed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present.

#### 2 Expert Panel Meeting – Opening and Update since last Meeting

The Panel accepted the minutes of the previous meeting and noted the status of actions.

#### 3 Declarations of Interest

The Chair called for declarations of interest. No new interests were declared.

#### 4 Office of Regional Economic Development Investment Attraction Activity in the Hunter

The Office of Regional Economic Development provided an overview of investment attraction activity in the Hunter Region.

#### 5 Hunter Innovation Precinct and lessons learnt to support Upper Hunter diversification

Muswellbrook Shire Council presented on the Hunter Innovation Precinct and lessons learnt to support diversification in the Upper Hunter region.

#### 6 Post Mining Land Use

The Panel discussed post mining land use issues and opportunities in the Hunter and noted the information provided by the Department on work in progress and potential project opportunities. The Panel noted the importance of hearing the perspectives of industry stakeholders and agreed

to discuss post mining land use in detail and have presentations from industry at the next meeting.

## **7 Transition Authorities**

The Panel considered model options for Transition Authorities and the Panel agreed to provide feedback on this analysis out of session.

## **8 Strategic Priorities for the Hunter Expert Panel and Expert Panel Action Plan**

The Department provided the Panel with a summary of the combined Expert Panels' strategic priorities and facilitated a discussion on the final Hunter Expert Panel priorities to be included in a Statement of Strategic Priorities and supporting Action Plan.

## **9 Funding Program Guidelines**

The Department provided an overview of feedback from all Panels on Draft Program Guidelines, and the Panel endorsed the Department preparing a final set of Guidelines and assessment methodology to be shared with the Panel and endorsement by the 4 Expert Panel Chairs.

## **10 Communications and Engagement Strategy**

The Department provided the Panel with a draft Communications and Engagement Strategy. The Panel agreed to provide feedback on the proposed strategy.

## **11 Actions and Close**

The Chair thanked meeting participants and advised that the next meeting will take place on 20 July 2023 in Newcastle (University of Newcastle - Honeysuckle).