

MEDIA RELEASE

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Approved by: Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Cr John Medcalf, Mayor of Lachlan Shire Council

Central NSW Joint Organisation attends landmark Forum at Macquarie Street



The Chair of the Central NSW Joint Organisation, Cr John Medcalf, today came together with other JO's and senior government officials for the first time, at a landmark forum at Parliament House in Sydney.

Cr Medcalf said the meeting was an opportunity for the newly elected Chairs of the 12 JO's to unite and discuss priorities for infrastructure and services in regional NSW.

“The Mayors of our Joint Organisation are keen to see the value of the collaboration between the Chairs and then with the State. In my view Joint Organisations are being uniquely placed in the State framework to deliver on behalf of our communities and by working together we can leverage that.” said Cr Medcalf.

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“In our region we have worked collaboratively for decades and we see these new JOs as a step change in possibility. It is up to us to make this change as good as it can be.” said Cr Medcalf

The meeting of the JO Chairs was addressed by the Premier Gladys Berejiklian, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro, and Local Government Minister Gabrielle Upton.

The meeting marks the official launch of NSW’s network of Joint Organisations across regional NSW. The formation of JOs aims to strengthen economic management, planning and service delivery in regional and remote areas.

The meeting also follows the recent release of the NSW Government’s 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW, which sets out a set of ‘engine industries’ for growth in the regions, and the government’s priorities for infrastructure spending, backed by the \$4.2 billion Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund.

“I want to pay particular thanks to our Deputy Premier John Barilaro. With his local government background he has seen the potential of Joint Organisations to support his long term vision for NSW. He has staunchly stayed the course in our support.” said Cr Medcalf

Currently 12 JO’s have been formed across regional NSW, representing a total of 85 regional councils. 90 per cent of eligible councils have voluntarily joined joint organisations, ensuring the strength and success of the new bodies in delivering for regional NSW.

Joint Organisation Chairs

- Canberra Region Joint Organisation – Yass Mayor Rowena Abbey
- Central NSW Joint Organisation – Lachlan Mayor John Medcalf
- Far North West Joint Organisation – Cobar Mayor Lilliane Brady
- Far South West Joint Organisation – Wentworth Mayor Melisa Hederics
- Hunter Joint Organisation – Cessnock Mayor Bob Pynsent
- Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation – Wollongong Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery
- Mid North Coast Joint Organisation – Kempsey Mayor Liz Campbell
- Namoi Joint Organisation – Gunnedah Mayor Jamie Chaffey
- New England Joint Organisation – Uralla Mayor Michael Pearce
- Northern Rivers Joint Organisation – Kyogle Mayor Danielle Mulholland
- Orana Joint Organisation – Gilgandra Mayor Doug Batten
- Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation – Albury Mayor Kevin Mack

*Riverina Joint Organisation is yet to hold its inaugural Board meeting to elect its chair

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For comment please contact Cr John Medcalf 0429 937 248 or Jenny Bennett 0428 690 935