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## MEDIA RELEASE

### Start-ups on show in Southern NSW

Greg Aplin MP announced today that the NSW Parliament's Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development will be visiting Albury and Wagga Wagga on Monday 6 November. The visit is part of the Committee's inquiry into support for start-ups in regional NSW.

"We are looking forward to speaking with start-up operators who have chosen to launch in regional NSW" said Greg Aplin, the Committee's Deputy Chair.

Start-ups are newly emerging businesses that offer an innovative product or service to customers. Start-ups usually begin small with only a few founders but have the potential to quickly expand and become a more established business. Often start-ups are able to use new technologies to launch and grow in regional areas where costs of starting a business can be lower.

"Albury and Wagga Wagga are regional centres where start-up companies have flourished. We will be visiting start-up hubs in these cities to see how they encourage innovation and start-up growth."

Committee members will be visiting the Possumworks hub in Albury and the AgriTech Incubator at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Members will also speak with other groups involved in the regional start-up sector during the visit.

The inquiry is focused on how state government policies and programs currently support start-ups in regional areas. The Committee will also look at whether new efforts are needed to reduce barriers for start-up businesses outside Sydney. The Committee intends to hold hearings for the inquiry in early 2018.

Further information about the inquiry is available on the Committee's website: <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/investmentindustryandregionaldev>.

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