



MEDIA RELEASE

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Inquiry into support for start-ups in regional NSW

Parliament's Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development is looking into ways to strengthen and support the budding entrepreneurial ecosystem of start-ups in regional NSW.

"With more than 20 percent of Australian founders living in regional areas and the growth of start-ups trending towards regional NSW, it is paramount that there is support for these business communities in their early stages" said Committee Chair and Cootamundra MP Katrina Hodgkinson.

Nearly a quarter of Australian start-up businesses are founded outside of capital cities and start-ups are projected to create more than half a million jobs across Australia over the coming decades, according to a report from Universities Australia and Startup Muster published in March 2017, entitled 'Startup Smarts: Universities and the Startup Economy.'

"We'll be looking at what support is available at the moment both within and outside NSW and how we can make it easier for regional start-ups to get up and running."

The Committee will be looking at the effectiveness of state government policies and programs aimed at supporting start-ups in regional areas, and new initiatives to reduce barriers to entry for start-up businesses.

The Committee is currently inviting submissions from the public and is keen to hear from start-up businesses and initiatives in regional and rural NSW.

"We're keen to hear ideas and suggestions on this issue through submissions to the inquiry."

The closing date for submissions to the inquiry is Friday 21 July 2017.

Further information about the inquiry can be obtained by visiting the Committee's website at: <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/investmentindustryandregionaldev>.

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