



MEDIA RELEASE

Legislative Assembly Committee releases interim report into support for drought affected communities

Thursday 18 June

The NSW Legislative Assembly Committee on Industry, Investment and Regional Development today tabled its interim report on support for drought affected communities in NSW.

The Committee commenced this inquiry at a time when the impacts of the current drought were being acutely felt across New South Wales.

'This drought is one of the most severe in our State's history and it was important to the Committee to examine what support our communities need now while experiencing drought and, importantly, what support is needed to recover and prepare for the future', said Committee Chair, Mr Justin Clancy, MP.

The interim report is a first step in the Committee's inquiry. The recommendations and findings aim to address some of the preliminary concerns and issues raised from submissions and the virtual hearings that have been held to date.

An area of concern to the committee and raised in this report is the detrimental impact drought has on mental health.

'We heard that financial hardship is leading to increased stress, homelessness, family breakdown, anxiety, depression and drug and alcohol abuse. This is one of the areas which the Committee is keen to focus on moving forward.'

The report, submissions and transcripts of evidence can be found on the Committee's [webpage](#).

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