



Inquiry into skills shortages in rural and regional NSW

Terms of Reference

1. That the Standing Committee on State Development inquire into and report on the skills shortages and its impact on rural and regional NSW and, in particular:
 - (a) The current and future demand for labour
 - (b) The economic and social impact of the skills shortage
 - (c) The strategies and programs of local governments to retain and attract skilled workers including opportunities for strategies and programs in conjunction with non-government bodies such as regional business organisations and Area Consultative Committees and Regional Development Boards
 - (d) Consider appropriate models from other states in interacting with the Commonwealth's skilled regional migration programs
 - (e) Coordination between Local, State and Commonwealth Governments, to attract and retain skilled workers
 - (f) The impact of the Commonwealth's regional migration programs including assessing the long term jobs and investment outcomes and considering possible recommendations to encourage sustainable regional development in NSW
 - (g) The adequacy of current measures used to record and report on the skills shortage
 - (h) The methods used by training organisations including TAFE to assess skill needs in rural and regional NSW and their response to identified needs.
2. That the committee report by 1 May 2006.

This inquiry was referred to the Committee by the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for the Illawarra and Minister for Small Business on 7 June 2005.
