

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

## MEDIA RELEASE

## STATE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TRAVELS TO THE SHOALHAVEN AND ILLAWARRA

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 28 June 2017

The New South Wales Legislative Council Standing Committee on State Development is holding a public hearing on Thursday 29 June 2017 at the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre.

The Hon Greg Pearce MLC, Chair of the Standing Committee on State Development, said 'The public hearing is a valuable opportunity for the committee to collect evidence for our two current inquiries into Regional development and a global Sydney, and the Defence industry in New South Wales.'

Mr Pearce continued, 'For the Regional development and a global Sydney inquiry we are interested in hearing about ideas for how the Shoalhaven and Illawarra regions can benefit from the expansion of international trade, infrastructure, employment, tourism, innovation and research in the greater Sydney region'.

'Regarding the Defence industry in New South Wales inquiry, we know that the Shoalhaven and Illawarra areas are leaders in supporting the defence and aviation industries. The committee is interested in learning about their approach to encouraging defence industry innovation, research and education, and workforce development,' Mr Pearce concluded.

Public hearing participants include representatives from: the Illawarra and Shoalhaven Business Chambers; Illawarra Innovative Industry Network Incorporated (i3net); Shoalhaven Defence Industry Group; University of Wollongong; Illawarra Forum; Illawarra Pilot Joint Organisation; Wollongong City Council; Regional Development Australia – Illawarra; and the Shoalhaven City Council.

The public hearing schedule for 29 June 2017 is available on the committee's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/statedevelopment.

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For further comment please contact the Hon Greg Pearce MLC, Committee Chair, on 9230 2328