

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 6

## MEDIA RELEASE

## Committee to visit Cobar, Wagga Wagga and Armidale for inquiry into local government

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 14 August 2015

The parliamentary committee inquiring into local government in New South Wales will hold public hearings in Cobar and Wagga Wagga on 17 August 2015 and a public hearing and public forum in Armidale on 18 August 2015.

The Minister for Local Government, the Hon Paul Toole MP, will appear before the committee during the hearing at Wagga Wagga. The committee will also hear from local councils and regional organisations of councils at each of the public hearings, as well as academics from the Centre for Local Government, University of New England.

The Chair of the committee, the Hon Paul Green MLC, said:

'It is essential to give rural and regional councils and communities the opportunity to discuss the State Government's significant reform proposals for local government. Local councils in regional New South Wales have vastly different characteristics and challenges compared with councils in Sydney. The committee is keen to hear the views of these councils about the Fit for the Future process that's currently underway.'

The public hearings and public forum will take place at the following times and locations:

- The hearing in Cobar will be held at the Cobar Bowling and Golf Club from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm.
- The hearing in Wagga Wagga will be held at the Wagga Wagga RSL Club from 3.30 pm until 7.00 pm.
- The hearing and public forum in Armidale will be held at the Armidale City Bowling Club from 11.00 am until 4.30 pm.

The schedules for each public hearing, along with other information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference and submissions, are available on the committee's website: <a href="https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/localgovernment">www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/localgovernment</a>

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, Hon Paul Green MLC, on 9230 3484