

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO REGIONAL AVIATION SERVICES WINGS IT TO TAMWORTH, MOREE AND DUBBO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 17 July 2014

The upper house Standing Committee on State Development will conduct public hearings in Tamworth, Moree and Dubbo next week as part of its inquiry into regional aviation services.

The chair of the committee, the Hon Rick Colless MLC, said "Regional hearings are a great way for the committee to get the views of local communities. Over the course of the three hearings we will hear from several councils and other organisational representatives from the Orana, Northern Rivers, and Northern Inland regions of New South Wales".

Mr Colless said that many of the towns in these regions had experienced a reduction in air services over the past several years and had suffered the consequences of being isolated from the basic services that people in larger communities take for granted. He said "Evidence received so far by the committee suggests that there are significant impacts on a community's accessibility and wellbeing when its air service ceases to operate."

Mr Colless added that the hearings are open to the public: "The local community is invited to come along and sit in the public gallery, particularly if the availability of air services in their region is of concern to them". Mr Colless also encouraged the use of social media as a means of getting input from the public: "If you have a question you would like the committee to ask at the hearings, send us a tweet or an email".

The hearing details are:

Venue: Quality Hotel Powerhouse, 248 Armidale Road, East Tamworth

Date: 22 July 2014

Time: 10.30 am - 2.45 pm

Venue: Moree Services Club, Albert St, Moree

Date: 23 July 2014

Time: 9.30 am - 12.45 pm

Venue: Dubbo RSL Club, Corner Brisbane and Wingewarra Sts, Dubbo

24 July 2014 Date: Time: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

For more information, including hearing schedules, please visit the Committee's website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/regionalaviation



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