

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON CRONULLA FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTRE CLOSURE

COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE CLOSURE OF THE CRONULLA FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Committee seeking to review the decision to close the Centre

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 29th June 2012

A Select Committee has been appointed to inquire into the closure of the Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre of Excellence and the relocation of its functions to other research centres at Coffs Harbour, Port Stephens and Nowra.

"The Inquiry will thoroughly consider the decision to relocate the Cronulla Centre including the impact the decision will have on the research being carried out there, as well as its effect on the staff and their families who cannot move to other areas of New South Wales", Revd the Hon Fred Nile, Committee Chairman, explained.

The Committee will also review the costs and benefits of the decision and the potential loss of scientific expertise held by staff who are unable to relocate, and the implications for sustainable fisheries management.

Revd Nile added that "an important part of the Inquiry will be to visit the Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre to further inform the Committee about the effect of the Centre's closure."

The Committee is keen to hear from individuals and organisations affected by the decision and is seeking submissions by Monday 30 July 2012. The Committee intends to thoroughly examine all issues relating to the closure of the Centre, with a view to providing key recommendations for government action.

For more information, including terms of reference and guidelines for making a submission, please visit the Committee's website – www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/cronullafisheries.

-ENDS-