



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **INQUIRY INTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
28 AUGUST 2015**

A new Upper House inquiry into economic development in Aboriginal communities was launched this week by the State Development Committee.

‘Encouraging sustainable economic development is integral to strengthening Aboriginal communities in New South Wales. The committee wants to develop practical and achievable recommendations to ensure economic development that delivers long-lasting benefits for Aboriginal people and their communities,’ said Greg Pearce, Chair of the State Development Committee.

‘The committee will examine options for sustainability and capacity building of Aboriginal communities into the future, utilising existing community networks and structures. We will also examine how we can better leverage economic development support, including the support provided by the Commonwealth Government and the private sector,’ continued Mr Pearce.

Mr Pearce said, ‘The committee is also interested in the establishment and sustainability of Aboriginal owned enterprises. We’d like to hear of any local success stories which we might be able to learn from as we undertake this inquiry’.

‘The committee will consult extensively throughout the inquiry, including in regional areas. We strongly encourage submissions from interested individuals, groups and organisations,’ Mr Pearce concluded.

The closing date for submissions is Sunday 11 October 2015. Submissions should be lodged online at [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/statedevelopment](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/statedevelopment). The committee anticipates holding public hearings in Sydney and regional New South Wales later this year and early next year.

For more information, including terms of reference and guidelines for making a submission, please visit the committee’s website at [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/statedevelopment](http://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*