



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO TOURISM IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

9 May 2013

General Purpose Standing Committee No 3, Committee Chair, the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones has announced a new inquiry established by the NSW Parliament that will review the value and impacts of tourism in local communities across NSW.

This inquiry was referred to the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 by the Legislative Council on 2 May 2013. The Committee will consider the value of tourism across the State and its return on government investment. It will also examine the value to regional, rural and coastal communities, and the impacts of tourism on local government areas in relation to infrastructure services provision and asset management, social impacts, unregulated tourism and employment opportunities. In addition, the Committee will investigate the marketing and regulation of tourism and evaluate the use of special rate variations by local councils to support tourism initiatives.

As Chair, the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones said that it was 'important to recognise the importance that tourism plays in our state's economy, which accounts for approximately \$28.7 billion to the NSW economy. One in every 21 jobs in New South Wales is in the tourism industry'.

'It is vital that the industry is operating as effectively as possible and getting the support it needs to continue to foster and grow tourism throughout the state. The Committee is keen to find out what impact tourism has on local communities across NSW, particularly in terms of local infrastructure such as parking, parks, information centres, as well as other essential amenities'. Mrs Maclaren-Jones said

'We need to understand this in order to ensure that tourism in New South Wales is operating at a world class standard.' Mrs Maclaren-Jones commented. 'Any interested individuals and organisations can make a submission to the Committee.' Submissions can be lodged via Committee's website by **Friday 28 June 2013**.

'The Committee will hold two hearings in Sydney in August and regional hearings in September.' Mrs Maclaren-Jones continued, 'We especially want to hear from communities in regional, rural and coastal areas.' Detailed information about the dates and times of these hearings will be provided on the Committee website following the closing date for submissions.

For further information about the inquiry, including its terms of reference, and for more on how to make a submission, please visit the Committee's website at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc3, or call the Committee Secretariat on (02) 9230 2898.

A full copy of the terms of reference is attached to this release.

*For further comment please contact the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC
Committee Chair, on (02) 9230 2836*



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GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

Inquiry into tourism in local communities

That General Purpose Standing Committee No 3 inquire into and report on the value and impacts of tourism on local communities, and in particular:

1. the value of tourism to New South Wales communities and the return on investment of Government grants and funds
2. the value of tourism to regional, rural and coastal communities
3. the impacts of tourism on Local Government Areas, including:
 - (a) infrastructure services provision and asset management
 - (b) social impacts
 - (c) unregulated tourism
 - (d) employment opportunities
4. the marketing and regulation of tourism
5. the utilisation of special rate variations to support local tourism initiatives
6. any other related matter.

Committee membership

The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Niall Blair MLC	The Nationals	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Jan Barham MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Paul Green MLC	Christian Democratic Party	
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Steve Whan MLC	Australian Labor Party	