



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO REGIONAL AVIATION SERVICES TOUCHES DOWN IN WAGGA WAGGA AND BEGA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4 June 2014

An upper house committee will conduct public hearings in both Wagga Wagga and Bega to hear the local community's views on the availability of air services in the surrounding regions.

The chair of the Standing Committee on State Development, the Hon Rick Colless MLC encourages the local community to attend the hearings and hear evidence from witnesses including Transport for NSW. He said "The NSW Government will be the first witness to appear at the first regional hearing in Wagga Wagga. This is a great opportunity to hear what the government has to contribute to the discussion on regional air services".

Mr Colless also mentioned a unique way for the community to be involved: "In addition to the NSW Government, we will also be talking to representatives from several regional councils who have a direct role in managing their airports. If you have a question you would like the committee to ask at the hearings, send us a tweet or an email".

Mr Colless noted: "The committee is aware of the difficulties that regional communities face when their air services are restricted or have become non-existent. We are hoping to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the issues faced by regional communities, including impacts of isolation, the delivery of essential services, and the wellbeing of residents. We are also keen to discuss options for future development and explore strategies that could progress this".

The hearing details are:

Venue: Quality Inn Carriage House, Corner Sturt Highway and Eunony Bridge Road, Wagga Wagga

Date: Tuesday, 10 June 2014

Time: 10.30 am – 4.00 pm

Venue: Bega Valley Shire Council, Zingel Place, Bega

Date: Wednesday, 11 June 2014

Time: 9.00 am – 12.15 pm

For more information, including hearing schedules, please visit the Committee's website:

www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/regionalaviation



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*For further comment please contact the Hon Rick Colless MLC
Committee Chair, on 9230 2397*