

**Submission  
No 37**

## **INQUIRY INTO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND A GLOBAL SYDNEY**

**Organisation:** Tweed Shire Council

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Council Reference: Business, Industry and Economic Development  
Your Reference:



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The Hon. Gregory Pearce, MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on State Development  
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Dear Chair

### **Regional Development and Global Sydney**

Thank you for allowing Council to make this submission to the Committee.

Firstly, Council would like to commend the State government for identifying the significance that South East Queensland plays on the Tweed and Northern Rivers - generally through the establishment of the Cross Border Commissioner's office as well as identifying the significance of cross border infrastructure and planning in the North Coast Regional Plan.

Only 80% of workers in the Tweed live in the local government area. This means that 4,660 workers (20%) come from outside of the Tweed. Alternatively, the number of Tweed residents who travel outside of the Tweed for work is 8,774 (27%). From these figures it is estimated that over 7,300 workers cross the NSW / QLD border every day in both directions for work.

The Gold Coast is a vibrant growing city with a population of over 577,000 people with capacity to continue to grow well into 2030. Combined with the greater Brisbane area this represents a population of over 3 million people within a two hours' drive from the Tweed.

To demonstrate the impact that the Gold Coast region plays on the Tweed can be identified through planning to mitigate the impacts of the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Furthermore, Gold Coast airport is now one of the busiest international airports in the country and, in our opinion, already operates as Sydney's second international airport with part of the runway and new international terminal to be located in Tweed, NSW.

The Tweed economy has a value of \$3.2 billion and employs 30,000 people. This places Tweed as a significant economic contributor to the Northern Rivers Region economy. This importance is reflected by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment identifying Tweed Heads as one of the Regional Cities in the North Coast Regional Plan.

The Tweed Valley comprises some of the most unique and idyllic landscapes in the country, with beautiful rainforest area to vast golden beaches. These landscapes are the drawcard for the Tweed quickly becoming one of the premier small and medium business addresses in the eastern sea board. Promoting the Tweed as an attractive business location is one of the key focuses of the Tweed Economic Development Strategy.

Council trusts that this submission will assist the Committee in understanding the complex issues of regional development in a cross border area.

Yours faithfully

**Troy Green**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**