

John Barilaro

Deputy Premier
Minister for Regional NSW
Minister for Trade and Industry

Shelley Hancock Minister for Local Government

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 24 October 2019

REGIONAL AGREEMENT DEEPENS CITY – COUNTRY CONNECTION

The NSW Government has today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Regional Cities NSW to strengthen collaboration to deliver projects and services that our regional communities urgently need.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro and Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock signed the MoU alongside Regional Cities NSW Chair Councillor Col Murray at NSW Parliament House today.

Mr Barilaro said the agreement will deepen the relationship between local and state governments.

"The NSW Liberals and Nationals are committed to backing our regional communities," Mr Barilaro said.

"That's why we are working with Regional Cities NSW to make sure we are delivering projects that matter most to regional NSW.

"There has never been a more important time than now to work side-by-side with local governments to do everything possible to help our famers, families, towns and cities make it out of this drought," he said.

The NSW Government is supporting farmers and regional communities through its \$1.8 billion Emergency Drought Relief Package including \$170 million to build shovel ready projects in regional towns.

Mrs Hancock said working collaboratively with Regional Cities NSW, the Deputy Premier and the heads of key NSW Government agencies will deliver strong, secure and sustainable communities.

"Our shared commitment to solving challenges and fulfilling the needs of the towns and cities across regional NSW will ensure the solutions we deliver are innovative and serve the interests of individual communities," she said.

Regional Cities NSW Chair Cr Col Murray said that building strong regional cities is fundamentally important for building a strong regional NSW.

"Our regional cities are essential hubs that provide access to transport, health businesses, employment and education for those living in our cities as well as those in smaller towns and rural areas," Cr Murray said.

"This new agreement between state and local government is an important step in continuing to deliver for the people of regional NSW," Cr Murray concluded.

MEDIA: James Jooste | Deputy Premier | 0429 978 036 Nicholas Story | Minister Hancock | 0438 255 020