



CENTRAL NSW
JOINT ORGANISATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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Approved by: Cr Kevin Beatty, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Mayor of Cabonne Council

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Central NSW Councils have a proud history of working collaboratively, demonstrating strong value to the 10 member councils and through them to their communities, as well as to State and Federal Government to achieve sustainable regional development that leads to jobs and population growth.

“Delivering value to our Councils and their communities is at the heart of everything we do,” said Cr Beatty, Mayor of Cabonne Shire and Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation.

With the minimal rate increase of 0.7%, the lowest rise in 20 years, across the region Council sustainability is at the forefront. “As a region we are very efficient and share costs with other stakeholders where possible like fuel, training and bitumen. This region administers around 25 contracts with \$2.2m net annual savings to members,” said Cr Beatty.

However, across the region there are real concerns that to make up the shortfall of this rate increase, less money will be allocated on local roads, parks, pools, libraries and other community services on which our regional and rural communities depend. “There are so many increases like fuel, wages and building materials. The coffers are empty and there is no money tree in the Council carpark,” said Cr Beatty.

With the upcoming election our Board will be advocating that Financial Assistance Grants be at least one percent of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

“One percent of total revenue is such a small ask. For many smaller rural and remote councils, FAGs form the majority of their revenue,” Cr Beatty said. “These cuts to funding are effectively forcing councils to cut services or consider more rate rises.” said Cr Beatty.

“Already residents have paid taxes to the Federal Government and most community members expect an adequate level of that revenue to be returned to where they live to provide local services and infrastructure,” said Cr Beatty.

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