

MEDIA RELEASE

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

CNSW Joint Organisation Board present a united front in Canberra

Central NSW Joint Organisation Chair Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor of Cabonne Council, along with a delegation of Mayors from the Central NSW region met yesterday with key Federal Government representatives.

The Board's seventh visit to Parliament House, it provided the opportunity for the region's elected representatives to speak with one voice on the priority issues impacting on the region and to be briefed on the Government's budget priorities.

Water security, transport links, digital connectivity, health and addressing skills shortages were all high on the agenda.

"It was good to be able to meet with Ministers and hear more detail around Government budget commitments for our region," said Cr Beatty.

Announcement of \$150 million for the Newell Highway Upgrade of the Parkes Bypass, continued funding for rural medical education and training places and commitments to improve digital connectivity are all welcomed.

"However, Federal Government support is still needed for water security and transport connectivity to enable the region's full potential to be realised," said Cr Beatty.

"Ensuring a safe swift road link between Western Sydney and Central NSW remains a priority of the Board. Queensland has two safe swift highways at 100kmph to the west of Brisbane and NSW has not one!" said Cr Beatty.

"Likewise, raising the dam wall at Wyangala is an important first step to deliver better flood immunity and water security to enable the agricultural sector and increase productivity in the Lachlan Valley," said Cr Beatty.

With the upcoming election expected in May the delegation also met with representatives of the opposition to share our vision for the future. This was met with enthusiasm and we will continue talking to both sides of politics.

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For media enquiry contact CNSWJO Chair, Cr Kevin Beatty 0439 506 596