



**BUSINESS
NSW**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Approved by: Cr Kevin Beatty, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Mayor of Cabonne Council and Ms Vicki Seccombe, Regional Director, Western NSW, Business NSW

Good roads are good business

Three years of rain exacerbated by the recent devastating flash flooding has seen unprecedented road damage across Central NSW.

“The immediate impacts of the flooding on businesses are devastating. The insidious nature of the ongoing road damage is less well recognised,” said Cr Kevin Beatty, Chair of Central NSW Council

“We need our roads to get goods and services into our towns, on the one hand it is absolutely about safety, but the economic impacts are also significant, especially in communities with agriculture as their engine industry,” said Cr Kevin Beatty

“Good roads and good business go hand in hand, it’s important for freight and logistics, connectivity, boosting our visitor economy and bringing in much needed foot traffic to our CBDs,” said Vicki Seccombe, Regional Director – Western NSW, Business NSW.

“Tourism is a growing part of our economy and a vast majority of our visitors get here by road,” said Cr Kevin Beatty.

“The impacts vary across the region, however one thing is clear – the road damage is unprecedented and our support for our local businesses needs to be unprecedented,” said Cr Kevin Beatty.

“Central NSW Councils are advocating for more support for roads. Road repair is going to be the main game of Councils for years to come. We need the support of our communities and other levels of government in recognising this challenge,” said Cr Kevin Beatty.

“Business NSW (Western NSW) appreciates the emergency funding to restore and repair damaged roads in the region, but we also recognise it’s going to be a long road to bring the road network back,” said Vicki Seccombe.

“We need all levels of government to be working together to provide the support required to get the roads repaired – our business community is counting on it,” said Vicki Seccombe.

“And whilst it might not be a conversation for now, we need to ensure that flood-proofing key arterial roads is on the future agenda,” said Vicki Seccombe.

“One thing we have learned for the NSW Flood Inquiry is that communities supporting communities gets good results,” said Cr Kevin Beatty.

“This is the right time for our communities to go out of their way to support local businesses, particularly in the lead up to Christmas,” said Cr Kevin Beatty.

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For media enquiry contact CNSWJO Chair and Mayor of Cabonne Council Cr Kevin Beatty - 0439 506 596 and Ms Vicki Seccombe - 0437 871 535