



NSW Government Legal Services Panel – Regional NSW cluster arrangements

16 September 2021: 3pm – 4.30pm



Regional NSW – about us

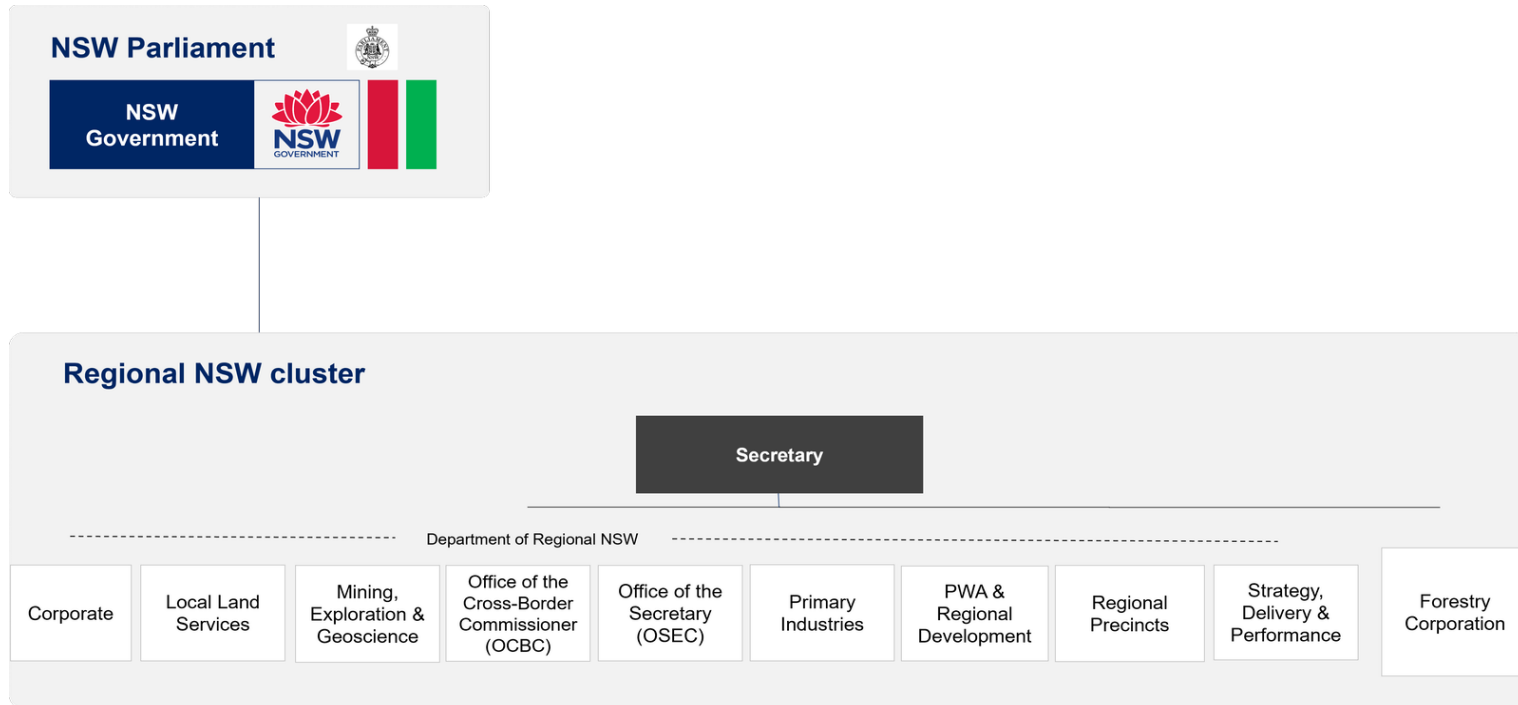
- Created in April 2020 as the central agency for regional issues.
- Ministers:
 - Deputy Premier John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
 - The Hon. Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales
 - The Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC, Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women



Regional NSW – Vision and priorities

- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW (2018)
- The 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW – Refresh (2021)
 - responds to the changed economic landscape and opportunities that have emerged in regional NSW following the drought, bushfires, flood and COVID-19 pandemic
 - Key areas for growth and investment identified
- Key functions
 - Regional development – significant investment in key infrastructure
 - Industry development – mining, agriculture
 - Community resilience and emergency response – floods, fires, biosecurity
 - Economic development and stimulation – significant funding and grants programs
 - Regulatory – mine safety, mining, biosecurity, food safety, fisheries, forestry

Regional NSW – our structure



Regional NSW – What we do

Local Land Services	Public Works Advisory & Regional Development	Primary Industries	Mining, Exploration & Geoscience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 900+ staff across 100 locations around NSW working with land managers and communities to help secure the future of agriculture and the environment of NSW • LLS delivers programs and projects to grow farm productivity and healthy environments; protect against pests, diseases and environmental threats; and connect our customers with the best services, advice and networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Works Advisory supports local and state government agencies to deliver critical infrastructure initiatives by providing expert advisory, planning and delivery support services • Regional Development works with state and local government agencies, regional communities, business and other stakeholders to drive the NSW Government's regional priorities and deliver better outcomes for the people living and working in regional NSW. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the primary producers of NSW through core functional areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture - Biosecurity and Food Safety - Fisheries - Forestry and Land Reform - Infrastructure, Investment and Business Development - Research and Business Excellence - Strategy and Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports Australian and international investment into regional NSW • Acquires, interprets and delivers quality geoscientific data and information • Sets the strategic policy for the state's mineral resources • Provides a trusted minerals and petroleum titles assessment service • Provides strategic and geoscientific advice and analysis to inform government decision-making • Minimises environmental and social risk associated with legacy mine sites

Regional NSW – What we do

Regional Precincts	Strategy, Delivery & Performance	Office of the Cross-Border Commissioner	Corporate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> responsible for Special Activation Precincts, Regional Jobs Precincts, Regional Digital Connectivity and other investment priorities funded by the Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund. brings together the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund Regional Growth NSW Development Corporation Digital Connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> performs a central agency function focused on regional industry, business and communities drives and delivers Regional NSW priorities across all levels of Government through strategic and evidence driven policy advice and development, to enable transformational investment in regional NSW. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> data and performance regional insights strategy and policy (including the Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund team) regional delivery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The advocate for cross-border communities, business and organisations. Works with communities, local stakeholders and state and territory governments to identify and resolve cross-border issues including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> advice on cross-border travel and restrictions during major events, particularly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic improving access to and deliver of essential services improving investment in cross-border communities improving alignment of border policies and regulation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides corporate services and strategic oversight to help Regional NSW to do its job. Provides a better corporate experience for staff, refine and improve all our work, help everyone to operate more effectively <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance, Procurement, Fleet & Facilities People Legal and Governance ICT Data and Analytics

Regional NSW: Legal & Governance

General Counsel
Tim Holden

Litigation
Julieann Ahern

Regional Resources & Legislation
Michelle Blazek

Primary Industries Law
Felicity Millner/Susan Alchin

Audit & Investigations
Chief Audit Officer
Allan Murray

Commercial Law
Chief Procurement Officer
Lesley Skinner

Risk & Governance
Chief Risk Officer
Tim Johnstone



Legal and Governance: our approach

- Central delivery of Legal and Governance services to the Department
- Primarily internal service delivery in most areas
- Higher reliance on external partners in key areas particularly Regional Precincts
- Currently reviewing our service delivery models
- What we look for:
 - Expertise and ability to communicate risks and options
 - Understanding of our business – potential to partner on larger projects
 - Focus on achieving client objectives
 - Clear communication
 - A commitment to delivering what was agreed at the agreed price



Primary Industries Law

Key Work

Functional:

- Legal advice
- legislative reform
- drafting instruments, legal strategy and options for policy and implementation

Subject matter:

- Agriculture
- Animal welfare
- Biosecurity (including emergency outbreaks)
- Fisheries
- Food safety
- Marine protected areas
- Forestry



Regional Resources & Legislation

Key work

Functional:

- Legal advice, legislative reform
- Drafting instruments
- Legal strategy and options for policy and implementation

Subject matter:

- Land management, native vegetation
- Biodiversity offset scheme
- Mining, exploration, mine work health & safety
- Native title
- Planning frameworks
- Agency and interagency proposals with regional impacts



Primary Industries & Regional Resources – Advice & Legislation teams

Our challenges/opportunities and how the panel might assist us:

- Advice in relation to our key subject areas, or specialist areas (property law, insurance and civil liability, succession law etc)
- Large or high-profile projects or matters
- Training modules - general or team specific (admin law, planning, biodiversity offset scheme, native title etc)
- Secondments of staff in to fill gaps
- Clear, practical, client-focused advice based on a good understanding of our business



Commercial Law

Key work

- Commercial and property transactions
- Regional infrastructure development
- Grants and funding programs
- Research, development and commercialisation
- Intellectual property
- Internet and media law



Commercial Law

Our challenges/opportunities and how the panel might assist us:

- Partner with us to provide additional capacity and capability
 - Capacity assistance with large research and development portfolio
- Support with major matters
 - Support for major construction projects (both property and construction transactions)
 - Complex whole of government procurements (Public Works Advisory portfolio)
- Capability development through value adds such as training modules:
 - updates on specific procurement areas eg. Modern Slavery
 - recent changes to the law eg. Ipso Facto laws
 - increasing knowledge eg. basics of cryptocurrency

Previous project

- Doppler radars [NSW Government powers on Hillston radar](#)
 - Farmers, firefighters and Western NSW residents will have access to vital real-time weather observations which will protect lives, reduce damage from fire and flood and boost business efficiency, thanks to a \$24.4 million investment from the NSW Government. Brewarrina, Hillston-Ivanhoe and Yeoval.
 - “Last year we built and launched a Doppler radar in Brewarrina, today we are powering on the second radar in Hillston, and a third radar at Yeoval is under construction, significantly improving coverage right across Western NSW,” Mr Barilaro said.
 - Key points
 - Short time frame 2019 pre-election
 - Construction grant to BOM
 - Negotiation with Commonwealth



Commercial Law

Our challenges/opportunities:

- **Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund priorities**
 - **Regional Digital Connectivity**
 - **Special Activation precincts (Regional Growth Development Corporation)**

Public Works Advisory and Regional Development



Litigation

Key Work

- Compliance and Enforcement advice
- Litigation strategy and advice
- Prosecutions
- Civil enforcement
- Civil compensation claims
- Merits appeals
- Judicial review
- Royal Commissions
- Inquests and Inquires
- Subpoenas



Litigation

Our challenges/opportunities and how the panel might assist us:

- High volume prosecution work
- Timely, practical solution focussed advice
- Government specific issues
- Value-adds:
 - ad hoc short advices
 - Training modules



Audit & Investigations

Key Work

- Audit planning and delivery
- Audit and Risk Committee support
- Complaints framework
- Internal Investigations
- ICAC/ Ombudsman coordination
- Fraud and corruption framework



Audit & Investigations

Our challenges/opportunities and how the panel might assist us:

- Independent probity advice
- Training modules



Risk & Governance

Key Work

- Risk management frameworks
- Disruption & Business Continuity
- Governance framework and advice
- Conflicts of interest
- GIPA/Privacy/SO 52
- Records management (with ICT)



Risk & Governance

Our challenges/opportunities and how the panel might assist us:

- SO52 requests
- Document management
- Training

Questions



Regional NSW contacts

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