



**NEW SOUTH WALES**

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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**The Hon Frank Sartor MP**

*Minister for Planning*

*Minister for Redfern Waterloo*

*Minister for Science and Medical Research*

*Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)*

## **COASTAL STRATEGY SUPPORTS JOBS, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT**

**State Plan Priority E5:** Jobs closer to home. **State Plan Priority E6:** Housing affordability

**State Plan Priority P6:** Increased business investment in rural and regional NSW

**State Plan Priority E4:** Better environmental outcomes.

Planning Minister Frank Sartor today released a 25-year strategy to promote prosperity, protect the environment and guide jobs and housing growth on the NSW Far North Coast.

Mr Sartor said the final Far North Coast Regional Strategy aims to support 32,500 new jobs, 60,400 additional residents and an extra 51,000 homes by 2031.

“This Strategy outlines a clear direction for growth that will guard against inappropriate development along this sensitive coastal strip,” Mr Sartor said.

“This is a long-term land-use plan which provides planning and investment certainty for business, local families and Government.

“It locks in important green breaks between towns and villages from Tweed Heads to Evans Head to limit sprawl and high-rise development along the coastline.”

Mr Sartor said the development boundaries would protect environmental and agricultural lands, including old growth forest, rainforest and paperbark swamps.

“The Strategy also encourages investment and jobs growth inland in towns and centres such as Lismore, Casino and Kyogle,” he said.

“We are planning to unlock an extra 232 hectares of employment land so NSW can take advantage of looming shortages of industrial land in South-East Queensland.”

The land-use plan links with the State Infrastructure Strategy to inform future infrastructure priorities, and will be regularly updated. A draft Far North Coast Regional Conservation Plan will be released shortly for public comment.

Mr Sartor said the draft Strategy was generally well-received during a public exhibition period last year which attracted more than 100 submissions.

A number of changes have been made to the final Strategy, such as:

- Detailing regional infrastructure plans listed in the State Infrastructure Strategy;
- Mapping land with significant environmental constraints within growth boundaries;
- Further detail on responding to growth in neighbouring South East Queensland;
- A greater focus on how the region can benefit from well-planned tourism proposals.

Member for Tweed Neville Newell welcomed the changes made in response to community consultation.

“The lemma Government is working hard to promote economic growth and prosperity on the Far North Coast, but not at the expense of the State’s most biologically diverse environment,” Mr Newell said.

“This Strategy is a blueprint for investment and jobs growth that also aims to safeguard our region’s unique local character.

“We need a clear plan for the future to help deliver employment and housing opportunities for young people and families, while still protecting the environment.

“I am confident this Strategy strikes the right balance and sets a strong framework for future infrastructure investment.”