



Hon Tony Kelly MLC  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Infrastructure  
Minister for Lands  
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

## MEDIA RELEASE

9 July, 2010

### **UPPER LACHLAN SHIRE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN APPROVED**

The NSW Government has approved a new council-wide plan for the Upper Lachlan Shire to meet the area's housing needs and protect agricultural assets.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said that, in line with the Government's Sydney-Canberra Corridor Regional Strategy, the LEP would strengthen the role of existing townships by enabling infill development within these settlements.

"The plan also provides opportunities for the growth of the Shire's townships by allowing for around 500 new dwellings at Crookwell and 280 new dwellings in Gunning," the Minister said.

"Focusing urban development around these townships also minimises land use conflict with the Shire's agricultural and environmental lands, ensuring future development occurs in a way that safeguards the Shire's natural assets.

The LEP:

- Recognises the importance of the Sydney drinking water catchment, which covers much of the Shire, by including provisions to appropriately manage any development in these areas;
- Implements varying minimum lot subdivision sizes for rural areas to reflect the diversity of the area's agricultural lands;
- Identifies more than 160 significant local heritage items which will be protected;
- Includes provisions to manage lands of significant ecological value; and
- Puts in place arrangements to ensure areas subject to salinity, erosion and flooding are appropriately managed, if developed.

Mr Kelly said the plan had been prepared using the standard LEP template which aims to clarify and simplify State planning controls.

"The standard template provides a consistent framework for the layout, zone names and definitions of new council-wide LEPs across NSW, which makes them easier to implement and understand," the Minister said.

"The approval of the Upper Lachlan Shire LEP is an example of how the standard template can be successfully used as a framework for an LEP which reflects the distinct and individual values of the Shire."

Country Labor MLC for Burrinjuck, Mick Veitch, said the LEP was prepared over a number of years by the council with input from State Government agencies.

"Council received \$270,000 in financial assistance from the NSW Government through the Department of Planning, to formulate the LEP," Mr Veitch said.

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