MEDIA RELEASE

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BRIGHT FUTURE FOR ILLAWARRA AND SHOALHAVEN

Planning Minister Rob Stokes and Parliamentary Secretary for the Illawarra Gareth Ward today released a new plan to create new jobs and homes for the Illawarra and Shoalhaven.

“The Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional Plan sets out the NSW Government’s vision for the region over the next two decades to create jobs, homes and a resilient environment,” Mr Stokes said.

“We want to maintain the region’s enviable lifestyle and build a sustainable community with more jobs closer to home for locals.”

Mr Ward said the plan was finalised following extensive community consultation and feedback from the community, and set out a way forward to build a bright future for the region.

“This plan sets out how we will grow the local economy; create strong and healthy communities; and protect the region’s environmental and heritage assets.” Mr Ward said.

Mr Stokes and Mr Ward were joined by Member for South Coast Shelley Hancock and Member for Heathcote Lee Evans.

“The Shoalhaven is a fantastic place to live and work, with a lifestyle to match its spectacular environment. We’ve listened carefully to members of the public so we can build an even better future for our community,” Mrs Hancock said.

“I’m delighted to see the NSW Government delivering this vision for the Illawarra to make life even better for the community and for future generations,” said Mr Evans.

A new Coordination and Monitoring Committee will be established to drive the plan’s implementation, jointly chaired by the Illawarra Pilot Joint Organisation and the Department of Planning and Environment. The committee will bring together local councils with government departments such as Health, Education and Transport to achieve the plan’s goals.