

23 September 2020

Mr Peter Achterstraat AM  
Commissioner  
NSW Productivity  
52 Martin Place,  
Sydney, NSW 2000

Via: [ICReview@productivity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ICReview@productivity.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Commissioner Achterstraat,

**RE: Infrastructure Contributions Review Issues Paper**

As Chair of Regional Cities New South Wales (RCNSW) and on behalf of our membership, I am writing in response to the Infrastructure Contributions Review Issues Paper.

The 2019-20 bushfire season and other recent natural disasters have made clear the urgent need for reform of the architecture, funding and operation of New South Wales' emergency response services which have been reinforced as preparations for the 2021 fire season begin.

Our Secretariat has prepared a position paper on the Emergency Services Levy and the emergency services available in our member cities for your consideration.

**About Regional Cities New South Wales**

RCNSW is a newly formed alliance comprised of 15 member councils dedicated to growing regional cities in New South Wales.

**Our members are:**

- Tamworth Regional Council
- Albury City Council
- Queanbeyan-Palerang Council
- Port Macquarie-Hastings Council
- Coffs Harbour City Council
- Griffith City Council
- Maitland City Council
- Bathurst Regional Council
- Wagga Wagga City Council
- Orange City Council
- Armidale Regional Council
- Dubbo Regional Council
- Lismore City Council
- Cessnock City Council, and
- Tweed Shire Council.

Regional cities are fundamental to the success of New South Wales, in light of the bushfires and COVID-19, there has never been a more important time to plan for the future success of our regions.

Please find attached our policy position paper and a map detailing the services available in our 15 member cities.

If you have any questions then you are welcome to contact our Secretariat, [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

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