

## **Overview of ACT Regional Engagement Arrangements**

### **Regional Development Australian (RDA) ACT**

RDA ACT is part of a network of 55 RDAs across Australia, and was established in May 2009 under a MoU between the ACT and Australian Governments. Both the Australian and ACT Governments provide operational funding to RDA ACT.

RDA ACT's role is to developing the Canberra as a regional centre and engaging the ACT with the surrounding region. RDA ACT has engaged with the RDAs in the region, this includes signing a MoU with RDA Southern Inland.

### **Regional Leaders' Forum (RLF)**

The RLF provides an opportunity for Mayors and General Managers from the 17 local governments surrounding the ACT, State and Federal MPs, regional RDA Committees, and the ACT and NSW Governments to exchange information and discuss issues. The Chief Minister and the NSW Minister for Regional Development co-chair the RLF, with secretariat support provided by Chief Minister and Cabinet Directorate and NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (Southeast Regional Office). The last meeting was in Canberra on 13 August 2010. The next RLF meeting is to be hosted by NSW and is 6 months overdue, having been delayed by the NSW election and resultant change of Government.

### **Southeast Region Organisation of Councils (SEROG)**

Regional Organisations of Councils (ROCs) are voluntary partnerships between groups of NSW local governments, which have been formed within all Australian jurisdictions. ROCS vary in size, capacity and focus but generally cover collaborative research; regional strategies; resource sharing; and advocacy and brokering with other levels of government (both State and Commonwealth).

SEROG was established in July 2010 and consists of 12 of the 17 member councils of the Regional Leaders' Forum. The ACT Government was invited to be represented at the meeting and participated as an observer at the last meeting in July 2011.

### **Engagement with Queanbeyan City Council (QCC)**

Queanbeyan's proximity to the ACT supports specific engagement with QCC. The former Chief Minister met three to four times a year with the Mayor of Queanbeyan to progress matters of common interest. The last meeting between Mayor Overall and the Chief Minister took place on 28 July 2011.

### **The Eastern Regional Transport Taskforce**

The Eastern Regional Transport Taskforce commenced in March 2010. Membership includes representatives from the ACT and NSW Governments and Queanbeyan City Council. The Taskforce was established to consider transport infrastructure, transport planning and service integration, pricing and concession arrangements, as well as alignment between the Canberra and Queanbeyan transport systems and transport-related cross border land use and planning matters. Two working group were established, one to progress issues relating to the NSW and ACT goals of seamless public transport between the ACT Queanbeyan, NSW and the other focusing on transport-related aspects of land use planning and urban development around the Canberra/NSW border to the East.