



**Paul Toole**  
Minister for Lands and Forestry  
Minister for Racing

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ClubsNSW that recognises the role clubs play in communities, especially in regional and rural NSW, Minister for Racing Paul Toole said today.

“We are committed to strengthening the State’s economy, growing jobs and building strong communities,” Mr Toole said.

“The Government recognises clubs are often a key point of connection in communities. They provide a place to socialise as well as a refuge in times of emergency.”

The MoU has been signed by the Premier, the Deputy Premier and the Minister for Racing, and Clubs NSW, and is the fourth signed by the Liberals and Nationals.

The new four-year agreement, which is publicly available to provide transparency, applies to the period following the 2019 election.

Mr Toole said clubs employ 43,000 people, including about 23,000 in regional communities, and provide strong levels of community support thanks to the 6.7 million memberships of clubs across the State.

“The Memorandum of Understanding covers a wide range of issues important to the Government, to clubs and to the community, including delivery of workplace skills training, job creation, emergency support and responsible gambling,” Mr Toole said.

The Clubgrants scheme will be extended to provide more support for drought-impacted communities, including support for the purchase and freight of water, and counselling.

The commitment to enhanced responsible gambling initiatives includes the introduction of more effective exclusion schemes as well as enhanced staff training.

To support job creation in regional NSW, the Government will work with ClubsNSW to establish a regional club trainee employment program.

The role of clubs in providing spaces for training and education will be formalised by facilitating partnerships between clubs and training organisations, including TAFE.

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