

SUBJECT: LMM 16/04/19 - NSW ELECTION RESULTS

MOTION

That City of Newcastle:

1. Acknowledges the re-election of the Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, and the NSW Liberal National Government, following the 23 March 2019 poll;
2. Notes significant changes in portfolio responsibilities for a number of Minister's, including new Minister for Planning, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP, and new Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP;
3. Notes that Minister Stokes holds portfolio responsibility for all Planning, Local Government, Environment and Crown Lands legislation (179 Acts in total) including the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, Local Government Act, Growth Centres (Development Corporations) Act (which includes HCCDC), Crown Lands Management Act, Housing Act, National Parks and Wildlife Act, Coastal Management Act, Protection of Environment Operations Act);
4. Congratulates the following local Hunter Members of Parliament on their re-election:
 - Tim Crakanthorp MP, Member for Newcastle
 - Sonia Hornery MP, Member for Wallsend
 - Jodie Harrison MP, Member for Charlestown
 - Kate Washington MP, Member for Port Stephens
 - Jenny Aitchison MP, Member for Maitland
 - Yasmin Catley MP, Member for Swansea
 - Clayton Barr MP, Member for Cessnock
 - Greg Piper MP, Member for Lake Macquarie
 - Michael Johnsen MP, Member for Upper Hunter
5. Notes with disappointment the decision to abolish the position of Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter and writes to the NSW Premier, advocating for the re-creation of a dedicated Minister for the Hunter;
6. Commits to continuing our collaborative working relationship with the NSW Government, the NSW Opposition, and Independent Members of the NSW Parliament for the benefit of the people of the City of Newcastle.

BACKGROUND:

Following the 2019 NSW election, the NSW Liberal National Government has formed a majority government.

Across Newcastle and the Hunter, all sitting Members of Parliament were returned to represent their communities in the NSW Parliament.

The election win has brought about significant changes to both the Ministry, and many NSW Government Departments that interact with Local Government and the City of Newcastle.

It is disappointing to note that the position of Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter has been abolished with the announcement of the new Ministry and Cabinet.

NSW Government Media Release: New cabinet team to get it done for NSW

Premier Gladys Berejiklian and Deputy Premier John Barilaro have announced a new Cabinet team that will focus on delivering a better quality of life for people in every part of NSW.

Ms Berejiklian said the new Cabinet combines new blood and experience and introduces a number of new key portfolios such as dedicated Customer Service, Water and Regional Youth Ministers.

“After taking our economy from last to first and rolling out the most ambitious infrastructure program in the nation, we are now focused on getting the job done and delivering real benefits to families and individuals across NSW,” Ms Berejiklian said.

“The new team will help deliver better social outcomes for the most vulnerable and equality of opportunity for people across the State, no matter their background or where they live. This Cabinet is very much outcomes focused and will deliver positive improvements to the lives of people – whether they are in our cities or in the regions.”

Mr Barilaro said the new Ministry will hone in on key challenges and opportunities in the regions like never before. “Our Government has always recognised that the regions face different challenges than our cities, and this new team takes that to another level,” Mr Barilaro said.

“The ongoing drought is still the major issue impacting on our communities, particularly in the State’s West. That is why we have introduced a dedicated minister for Western NSW while also introducing a Minister for Water.

“Our new Ministers for Regional Youth and Regional Transport will also target the unique needs in our communities and will deliver real positive outcomes on the ground.”

Ms Berejiklian and Mr Barilaro thanked outgoing ministers Niall Blair, Gabrielle Upton, Tanya Davies and Ray Williams, while also thanking retired ministers Troy Grant and Pru Goward. The new Cabinet will be sworn in at Government House on Tuesday.

List of Ministers and their portfolios, as well as Parliamentary Office Holders

2 April 2019

NEW SOUTH WALES CABINET LIST OF MINISTERS

The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian MP
Premier

The Honourable (John) Giovanni Domenic Barilaro MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

The Honourable Dominic Francis Perrottet MP
Treasurer

The Honourable Paul Lawrence Toole MP
Minister for Regional Transport and Roads

The Honourable Donald Thomas Harwin MLC
Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, and Vice-President of the Executive Council, Leader of Government Business in the Legislative Council

The Honourable Andrew James Constance MP
Minister for Transport and Roads, Leader of the House

The Honourable Bradley Ronald Hazzard MP
Minister for Health and Medical Research

The Honourable Robert Gordon Stokes MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

The Honourable Mark Raymond Speakman SC MP
Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

The Honourable Victor Michael Dominello MP
Minister for Customer Service

The Honourable Sarah Mitchell MLC
Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning

The Honourable David Andrew Elliott MP
Minister for Police and Emergency Services

The Honourable Melinda Jane Pavey MP
Minister for Water, Property and Housing

The Honourable Stuart Laurence Ayres MP
Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney

The Honourable Matthew John Kean MP
Minister for Energy and Environment

The Honourable Adam John Marshall MP
Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales

The Honourable Anthony John Roberts MP
Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections

The Honourable Shelley Elizabeth Hancock MP
Minister for Local Government

The Honourable Kevin John Anderson MP
Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation

The Honourable Dr Geoffrey Lee MP
Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education 2 April 2019

The Honourable Anthony John Sidoti MP
Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

The Honourable Bronwyn Taylor MLC
Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women

The Honourable Gareth James Ward MP
Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services

The Honourable Damien Francis Tudehope MLC
Minister for Finance and Small Business

PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE HOLDERS

The Honourable John Ajaka MLC
President of the Legislative Council

The Honourable Jonathan Richard O'Dea MP
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

The Honourable Trevor John Khan MLC
Deputy President and Chair of Committees of the Legislative Council

The Honourable Leslie Gladys Williams MP
Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Mr Mark Joseph Coure MP
Assistant Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

The Honourable Donald Thomas Harwin MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

The Honourable Andrew James Constance MP
Leader of the House

The Honourable Sarah Mitchell MLC
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Mr Adam Sibery Crouch MP
Government Whip

The Honourable Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC
Government Whip in the Legislative Council

Ms (Steph) Stephanie Anne Cooke MP
The Nationals Whip

The Honourable (Wes) Wesley Joseph Fang MLC
Deputy Government Whip in the Legislative Council

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Hunter Joint Organisation Letter to Premier the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, regarding the role of Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter

Hunter Joint Organisation

The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP
Premier
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

2 April 2019

Dear Premier Berejiklian

RE: Recent NSW Cabinet Reshuffle – Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter

I write as the Chair of the Hunter Joint Organisation of Councils (Hunter JO) concerning the cessation of the role of the Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter and to ask you to reconsider your decision. The Hunter JO represents the interests of the people that reside in the local government areas of:

- Cessnock City Council
- Dungog Shire Council
- Lake Macquarie City Council
- Maitland City Council
- Mid -Coast City Council
- Muswellbrook Shire Council
- City of Newcastle
- Port Stephens Council
- Singleton Council
- Upper Hunter Shire Council

The Mayors of each of these councils have expressed their concerns to me about this unexpected development.

The Hunter Region and its city, Greater Newcastle has the potential to be one of Australia's great cities, with a globally connected diversified economy, talented and skilled people and a pristine natural environment.

The Port of Newcastle and Newcastle Airport offer the State of NSW a pair of nationally significant international gateways that can increase productivity, regional access and stimulate regional economic growth. Together with our national road and rail links, these gateways create a unique opportunity for the Hunter JO and NSW Government to collaborate and invest in areas that have untapped capacity to grow.

The decision by your government in the cabinet re-shuffle to not appoint a Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter, without consultation, is extremely disappointing. Since the Hunter JO was proclaimed we have developed the Intergovernmental Partnership Project which has involved the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Department of Planning, the Hunter Central Coast Development Corporation and other state agencies. The role of the Parliamentary Secretary has been critical to the Hunter JO and the NSW Government being able to effectively collaborate as well

Hunter Joint Organisation

as being an efficient pathway for advocacy, ensuring relevant NSW government departments and ministers are aware of the important work we are doing for our region.

This decision has weakened the ability of the Hunter JO and the NSW Government to work together as intended under legislation. It limits the ability for your government to identify significant opportunities in our region.

The Hunter JO requests that you reconsider this decision and looks forward to discussing this matter directly with you. NSW second biggest city deserves to be heard.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office on 02 4993 4210 or via email bob.pynsent@cessnock.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Bob Pynsent
Chair Hunter Joint Organisation
Mayor of the City of Cessnock