



Director
Southern Region
Department of Planning and Environment
PO Box 5475
WOLLONGONG NSW 2520

Dear Sir/Madam

## **Draft South and East Tablelands Regional Plan**

Thank you for the opportunity of commenting on the Draft South and East Tablelands Regional Plan. The Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) has a significant interest in the Draft Plan, particularly in relation to social and affordable housing supply. I would like to congratulate the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for acknowledging the significance of affordable housing as an issue in the Draft Plan.

In January 2016, the Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister for Social Housing released *Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW*. This document sets out the NSW Government's vision for social housing over the next 10 years. It sets out the government's commitments, which include working with planning agencies and authorities to ensure appropriate rezoning of social housing assets. The Strategy also sets out areas for whole-of-government collaboration, including the DPE working with FACS to identify options to work with Commonwealth and local government to increase affordable housing supply.

FACS key concern is that the NSW Government commitments in *Future Directions* need to be reflected in the South and East Tablelands Regional Plan. The attached submission provides more information about *Future Directions*, specific comments on housing related directions and actions in the Draft South and East Tablelands Regional Plan as well as some data to support those comments. In addition, there are a number of resources on the FACS website that would assist in development of the Regional Plan and in the development of local housing strategies. Information on these resources is included in the attached submission.

If you have any queries or would like any further information, please contact Sue Brown, Manager Affordable Housing, on 8753 8529 or contact at sue.brown@facs.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Mychelle Curran
Executive Director

Community, Homes and Place

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