



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Tuesday 31 May 2011

### **COUNCIL BY COUNCIL AUDIT TO IDENTIFY LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE BACKLOG**

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Local Government Don Page today announced a council by council audit to identify the local infrastructure backlog in communities across the State.

Mr O'Farrell announced the audit at the opening of the NSW Shires Association Annual Conference, fulfilling another election commitment and a key element of the NSW Government's 100 Day Action Plan.

"The NSW Government is determined to foster a strong relationship with local government to deliver infrastructure and services to people in NSW," Mr O'Farrell said.

"Local government is a major manager of infrastructure in NSW, providing many of the local amenities NSW families rely on every day.

"The council by council audit will identify infrastructure needs in every local government area of NSW.

"To be completed by early 2013, the audit will cover all urban and economic infrastructure such as roads, community halls, libraries, parks, sports grounds and water facilities.

"The findings of the audit will assist the NSW Government in identifying precisely where the State's infrastructure needs lie – and we will work with Councils to deliver on those needs for local communities."

Local Government Minister Don Page said the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is committed to working in partnership with the local government sector, giving it the support it needs to thrive and deliver real change.

"The NSW Government has shown its commitment already by removing Part 3A of the Planning Act, restoring democracy to the Illawarra, dissolving interim planning panels, and developing a Strategic Regional Land Use policy to strike a balance between our important agricultural, mining and energy sectors," Mr Page said.

"As Councils manage most of the State's infrastructure, I am determined to ensure both levels of government are working together to improve the lives of people across the State."