



The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP

Minister for Primary Industries

Assistant Minister for Tourism and Major Events

MEDIA RELEASE

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LOCAL LAND SERVICES OPENS NEW OFFICE IN GRIFFITH

NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, has today officially opened a new Griffith office of Riverina Local Land Services, to deliver on-ground agricultural, natural resource management, biosecurity and emergency management services.

Ms Hodgkinson said the office is incorporated into the Department of Primary Industries' Centre for Irrigated Agriculture, providing a one-stop shop for ratepayers, community members and land managers in the Griffith area.

"Seven Riverina Local Land Services staff work out of the Griffith office, providing irrigation, agriculture, natural resource management and biosecurity services," Ms Hodgkinson said.

"While the former Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA) and Catchment Management Authority (CMA) covered the area with offices in Hay, Leeton and Coleambally, there was not previously either a LHPA or CMA presence in Griffith."

Ms Hodgkinson said the NSW Liberal & Nationals Government's Local Land Services model is about ensuring local priorities drive local decision making, supported by a coordinated State-wide approach.

"Local Land Services is delivering a new standard of regional services to communities, ratepayers, land managers and farmers across NSW," Ms Hodgkinson said.

"Today's announcement is just another example of how regional boards are identifying local needs, then delivering grass-roots results.

"This reform was more than just tinkering with the fringes or doing a minor shingle-change, it was about fundamentally re-thinking the way regional services are delivered in NSW.

"Back when Local Land Services was launched I said it would be unashamedly obsessed with customer service and less about bureaucracy – Riverina Local Land Services is leading the way in implementing that new culture."

Member for Murrumbidgee, Adrian Piccoli, said Riverina Local Land Services will conduct a forum in Griffith in the near future to consult with the community on potential services that would be valued by the local agriculture sector.

"Riverina Local Land Services is committed to working with its community to understand its needs and to deliver relevant services that are cost effective and of value to the primary industries sector," Mr Piccoli said.