



The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister for Small Business

MEDIA RELEASE

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LOCAL LAND SERVICES EXECUTIVE MANAGER APPOINTED

NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, has today announced the appointment of Mr Tim Ferraro as the executive manager of Local Land Services.

Ms Hodgkinson said Mr Ferraro – a former principal consultant with GHD, general manager of the Central West Catchment Authority and current board member of the Central West Local Land Services – will bring a wealth of agricultural and natural resource management experience to the crucial role.

“Mr Ferraro is an excellent selection as the inaugural executive manager of Local Land Services and will start immediately, working alongside Chair of the Board of Chairs, Mr John Macarthur-Stanham,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

Ms Hodgkinson said Local Land Services is a one-stop shop for farmers and land managers to access agricultural advice, plant and animal pest control, biosecurity, natural resource management and emergency and disaster assessment, as well as response services under a State-wide governance structure and an aligned strategic direction.

“With Local Land Services now officially open for business, farmers and land managers can look forward to this new organisation delivering a new standard of exemplary customer service,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“Local Land Services is unashamedly obsessed with customer service and less about bureaucracy.

“This is a big change and as with all change it will take some time to get Local Land Services fully bedded down, but I ask farmers and land managers to remain patient during the implementation and to get involved in shaping the priorities of their Local Land Services.

“This organisation has considerable financial backing and will be locally acting and empowered with the boards having the capacity to respond to and set regional priorities.”

Ms Hodgkinson welcomed the new staff of Local Land Services, many of whom have transitioned from the Department of Primary Industries and the former Livestock Health and Pest Authorities and Catchment Management Authorities.

“Local Land Services is a new organisation – while the functions have been inherited from other bodies, the boards are focused on building a new, unique, culture based around delivering value to our farmers and land managers,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“An enormous amount of work has gone into establishing Local Land Services to ensure it will be responsive and energetic with a culture of delivering exemplary customer service.

“Local Land Services is not just about tinkering with the fringes – this crucial reform will fundamentally change the way regional services are delivered in NSW.”

Mr Macarthur-Stanham said a replacement for Mr Ferraro will be appointed to the Central West Local Land Services board as a matter of priority.

“Board members, Chairs, general managers and key staff are now in place and the ballot for remaining elected board members will be held on 12 March 2014,” Mr Macarthur-Stanham said.

“I urge those ratepayers who are still yet to enrol to vote to not leave it to the last minute – this is your opportunity to have a say in who from your region will represent you on your local board.

“Similarly, if you have a passion for regional and rural issues and are keen to contribute to your local region, put up your hand and nominate for a board position before 31 January.

“I know staff are excited about Local Land Services kicking off and I encourage farmers and land managers to call into their local office during January to get to know this new organisation.”

Key election dates:

- nominations for board positions close on 31 January;
- close of enrolment for eligible ratepayers is 17 February;
- voting closes at 5pm on 12 March; and
- the election results will be announced on 14 March.

For more information on Local Land Services, to nominate for a board position or enrol to vote and view locations of regional offices, visit www.lls.nsw.gov.au.