

12 March 2014

The Hon. Andrew Stoner MP  
Deputy Premier  
Level 30 Governor Macquarie Tower  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: [office@deputypremier.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@deputypremier.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Deputy Premier,

I refer to previous correspondence and discussions with your office in relation to the operation and role of the NSW Cross Border Commissioner.

While the NSW Business Chamber is strongly supportive of the role of the Cross Border Commissioner, and we understand the limited resources and intractability of some of the issues being raised with the Commissioner, we believe that the current structure of the role is not meeting the needs of communities in our border regions.

Feedback from our offices and members in border regions indicates that there is a lack of structured and ongoing engagement with the business community on cross border issues. The Chamber has previously put forward a proposal for the establishment of cross border committees in border regions (Albury, Tweed and Queanbeyan) to the Commissioner (copy attached) as a means to address this issue.

The Chamber's proposal suggested that committees chaired by the Commissioner and comprising stakeholders from local business and community groups, as well as state and local government representatives, could be an effective mechanism in both identifying and addressing cross border issues.

The Chamber understands that current funding for the role of Commissioner only extends to June 2014. If that is the case, the Chamber would be interested in working with you in identifying opportunities to improve the functions of the Commissioner for the future. Our proposal for cross border committees is one such way to ensure better engagement and dialogue with border communities on these issues.

I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter, however if your office requires further information regarding this proposal, please contact Mr Luke Aitken, Senior Manager, Policy on (02) 9458 7582 or [luke.aitken@nswbc.com.au](mailto:luke.aitken@nswbc.com.au).

Yours sincerely



**Stephen Cartwright**  
Chief Executive Officer

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