

**TERMS OF REFERENCE
COMMONWEALTH/NSW WORKING PARTY ON MIGRATION TO SYDNEY AND
REGIONAL NSW**

Purpose

To prepare a joint report to the NSW Premier and to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs on options to divert the level of skilled and business migration from Sydney to regional NSW and reduce the level of temporary and permanent migration to Sydney.

Terms of Reference

The joint report should:

1. Identify past, current and projected immigration trends (based on current policy settings) to Sydney and to each major region of NSW (under each permanent and temporary entry category if possible) as well as emigration from Sydney and regional NSW;
2. Identify and examine strategies for the use of existing, enhanced or potentially new State-specific and regional migration mechanisms that could divert the level of skilled and business migration settlement from Sydney to regional NSW, taking into account the NSW Premier's Five Point Plan;
3. Identify strategies for a whole-of-government approach to encouraging skilled and business migrant settlement in regional NSW through broader regional planning, taking into account the NSW Premier's Five Point Plan;
4. Identify those strategies under 2 and 3 that could be implemented generally and those strategies under 2 and 3 that could be implemented as pilots in specific regional areas of NSW. For the pilot strategies, recommend suitable regional areas, having regard to the skills and potential business investment requirements of the selected regions, services and other infrastructure requirements necessary to attract and retain migrants.

The NSW Premier's Five Point Plan consists of:

1. taking a planned approach to attracting migrants;
2. better marketing of regional NSW to prospective migrants;
3. providing incentives to settlement in regional areas;
4. improving initial settlement services, other services, infrastructure, and support;
5. improving existing regional specific migration programs to better suit the needs of NSW.

Timing

The report will be completed by the end of November 2002.

