



Greg Pearce MLC

Minister for Finance and Services

Minister for the Illawarra

MEDIA RELEASE

Saturday 3 November 2012

GOVERNMENT LOOKS TO PRIVATE SECTOR TO EXPAND PROPERTY SERVICES

Minister for Finance and Services Greg Pearce has announced the NSW Government will examine the potential for private sector investment to expand services of the Land and Property Information (LPI) agency.

Mr Pearce said services provided by LPI would be significantly enhanced with further investment in its people and technology.

“There’s an ongoing need to upgrade equipment to harness current technologies and enhance staff skills, but given Budget restraints the Government is keen to explore opportunities to secure investment from the private and research sectors,” he said.

“A government review has suggested a number of services can benefit from private sector delivery, including land titling and registration, property information, valuations, mapping and surveying.

“Private sector investment would be contingent on a partnership with a tertiary institution to provide ongoing skills development.

“Ideally we would like a tertiary institution to act as the educational hub for those wanting to make a career in valuation, surveying, mapping, and I.T functions.

“Similar models already operate at Ballarat in Victoria and in Silicon Valley (United States), Bangalore (India) and Sophia Antipoli (France),” he said.

Mr Pearce said services offered by LPI offices across NSW are important to regional residents and regional economies.

“The Bathurst office is currently our largest LPI office outside of Sydney and I believe with investment in staff and technology, this centre will continue to be a vibrant hub for Government.

“A scoping study is now underway to assess the viability of the concept and this should be completed in the new year,” Mr Pearce said.

Media contact: Jan Le Maitre 0419 618 081