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## Jobs and Growth on the Central Coast

“It’s been a long wait but worth it at last,” said Mr David Kettle of the Urban Development Institute of Australia NSW (UDIA NSW), Central Coast Chapter. UDIA NSW applauds the NSW Minister for Planning, The Hon. Frank Sartor MP, on the release of the *Central Coast Regional Strategy*.

The release of the *Central Coast Regional Strategy* has provided an increase in dwelling projections to 56,000 from the projected 36,000 dwellings in the draft *Regional Strategy* by 2031. This reflects a revised population growth of 100,000 people and a more ambitious vision for the region from the NSW Government than first proposed in 2006.

“The State Government’s construction of the Hunter to Central Coast water pipeline and proposed construction of Tillegra Dam will ensure the regions long term water supply and provide the fundamentals for sustainable population growth” stated Mr. Kettle. “The provision of this infrastructure along with the growth in the number of new dwellings will translate into improved housing affordability on the Central Coast.”

An additional 45,000 jobs will be required on the Central Coast over the next 25 years by the *Regional Strategy*. Mr David Kettle said, “in order to provide these jobs, the region must offer attractive investment opportunities for business and employers. Central to this task will be the provision of significant public investment in local and regional transport infrastructure”.

“UDIA NSW welcomes the future increase in population, as the development and construction industry is one of the major sources of employment on the Central Coast.” Investment by the NSW Government in transport infrastructure for the region will be required to meet this growth.

David Kettle said, “As a first step to meeting the targets outlined in the *Regional Strategy*, UDIA NSW urges Gosford City Council to withdraw its draft City-wide Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and prepare a new draft plan that accounts for the increased population and employment requirements of the *Regional Strategy*.” “The NSW Government has demonstrated its confidence in the Central Coast Region, its now time for Gosford City Council to do the same.”

UDIA NSW contends that joint-action is required by Wyong Shire Council and the NSW Government to expedite planning for the Warnervale Town Centre, the Wyong Employment Zone and the North Wyong Shire Structure Plan. Projects that are central to delivering the projected employment needs and population growth in Wyong Shire and the objectives of the *Central Coast Regional Strategy*.

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### **About UDIA**

*UDIA is the voice of development. We represent the industry which develops new communities and proudly advocate for its interests. We pursue access to land for development, encourage the creation of a positive regulatory environment, and seek to moderate the burden of taxes and charges on our customers. We believe in affordable, sustainable, and liveable communities. For more information, please visit the website, [www.udia-nsw.com.au](http://www.udia-nsw.com.au).*