



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

10 October 2003

### **Preparations underway for Vision New England Summit**

The Independent Federal Member for New England, Tony Windsor, said today preparations are proceeding well for the "Vision New England" Summit he is convening in Armidale on 25 October.

Mr Windsor said he has received a great deal of feedback to his call for submissions from numerous regional groups, organisations, local government bodies and various industry representatives on a broad range of issues.

"A comprehensive agenda has now been drawn up covering the key issues which have been raised by the community," Mr Windsor said.

"Matters to be discussed include the Roads to Recovery program, rail and airline services, zonal taxation, disability services, the possible establishment of a veterinary school at the UNE, Aboriginal employment, health issues including rural health education at the UNE, nursing education and salaries, IPTAAS, tobacco control, the PBS, mental health, dental funding, and the IBNR levy, drought assistance, the possible full privatisation of Telstra, the Charities Bills 2003, public liability insurance and regional development issues."

Mr Windsor said the summit will endeavour to agree upon a set of resolutions on each agenda item which will then be pursued with the appropriate levels of government and their departments.

"I would like to thank everyone who has submitted agenda items to the Summit and I look forward to the opportunity of discussing and working toward progressing solutions to these issues of importance to the New England Electorate," Mr Windsor said.

The intent of the Summit is for the Electorate to provide the Federal & State MP's with guidance as to their vision for New England

"All members of parliament whether lower or upper house, duty senator's and upper house members have been invited to attend," Mr Windsor said.

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