



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TONY WINDSOR MP
INDEPENDENT
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Shop 5
259 Peel Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

All Mail: PO Box 963
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Ph: (02) 6761 3080

Toll Free: 1300 301 839

Fax: (02) 6761 3380

e-mail: Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au

Web Page: www.tonywindsor.com.au

MEDIA RELEASE

12 November 2003

Disability Employment Services Working Group Meets

The Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor MP, will attend the first meeting of the newly formed disability employment services working group to be held in Armidale tomorrow.

Mr Windsor said, "This working group is an initiative of the Vision New England Summit where concerns over the future of federally funded disability employment services were raised by Kevin Mead the CEO of Challenge Armidale. The first meeting will comprise representatives of the communities of Armidale, Glen Innes and Inverell."

"Since the Summit there has been a groundswell of concern over this issue, including a public meeting held in support of the Glen Innes sheltered workshop attended by 230 people."

"The meeting tomorrow will attempt to formulate positive suggestions to present to the Government in an attempt to avoid the type of outcomes that workers and their families fear in the current reform process."

"I have raised the issue with both the Prime Minister and his Minister for Family and Community Services Kay Patterson, and I am hopeful that changes will be able to be made that will see the continued employment of disabled employees continue", concluded Mr Windsor.

For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080