



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4 – REGIONAL NSW

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **UPPER HOUSE COMMITTEE RELEASES REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF THE PHASE-OUT OF LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS ON NEW SOUTH WALES**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**26 March 2025**

The Upper House Portfolio Committee no. 4 – Regional NSW has today handed down the report for its inquiry into the impact of the phase-out of Australian live sheep exports on New South Wales.

Committee Chair, the Hon Mark Banasiak MLC, said: 'This committee inquiry was established to examine the impact of the national phase-out of live sheep exports by sea, announced by Australian Government in May 2024 to take effect from May 2028, specifically on New South Wales.

'During the inquiry, the committee heard from numerous stakeholders including animal welfare groups, industry representatives and the NSW Government, about the anticipated impact of the phase-out on the state. It became clear to the committee that stakeholders had polarised views.

Mr Banasiak continued: 'Noting the divergent views of inquiry participants, the committee took at face value the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's (DPIRD's) evidence to this inquiry, which appeared to be measured and based on current and historical data. According to DPIRD, the key potential impact on New South Wales from the phase-out of live exports of sheep by sea is an increase in sheep numbers transported from Western Australia to eastern States, leading to concerns about higher supplies and lower prices. DPIRD expects such impacts to be small and short term in nature.

'The committee made one recommendation, highlighting that although the decision of the phase-out was made by the Australian Government and is a matter for it to lead, the NSW Government has a limited but important role in actively monitoring the impacts on industry in New South Wales as the phase-out unfolds, to and beyond 2028.'

The committee's report and other inquiry documents can be found on the committee's website.

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*For further information please contact Committee Chair, Mark Banasiak MLC, on 9230 2573*