

POLICY POINTS

- Prioritising federal investments. Get back to the basics to underpin the social and health needs of Australians
- Incorporating regional/local knowledge in all avenues of public policy affecting regional Australia
- An Australian Government planning strategy for regional and remote Australia incorporating complementary policies to:
 - Drive economic and population growth
 - Resource health services
 - Invest in major infrastructure initiatives for telecommunications, roads and freight systems
- Prioritising the needs of small business as a major employer in Regional Australia
 - Remove the onus from small business to perform the tasks of Government
 - Review Federal and State policies to reduce red and green tape
- Improving access to all students in remote and regional Australia to attend the tertiary education system of choice. Redesign youth allowance to ensure access to higher education for all students.
- Redesigning natural resource management policies to:
 - Promote and encourage investment in food production for Australia
 - Ensure that practical science underpins policy decisions on the environment
 - Promote community driven options for environmental programs
 - Build adaptive management and efficient operations for the delivery of environmental initiatives on both public and crown land
- Climate change:
 - Review Australia's policies on an emissions trading scheme.
 - Promote major Government/Industry investments in energy efficiencies, energy infrastructure, freight logistics and Australian based science
 - Reject an emissions trading scheme or carbon tax until major Government/Industry investments are in place to avoid substantive cost rises on industry and individuals.