

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE
OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

NOTICE OF DECISION TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION
AND INSTRUMENT OF AUTHORISATION AND DELEGATION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

I, Brett Whitworth, Deputy Secretary, Office of Local Government, NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, under delegation from the Secretary, NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, have DETERMINED that there should be an investigation pursuant to section 430 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) into those aspects of New England County Council, also known as New England Weeds Authority (NEWA), and its work and activities set out in the Terms of Reference below and I hereby AUTHORISE Principal Investigator Jag Biring, Principal Investigator Chris Rowe and Manager Investigations Ashley Hinds of the Office of Local Government to conduct the investigation.

Terms of reference

To investigate and report upon:

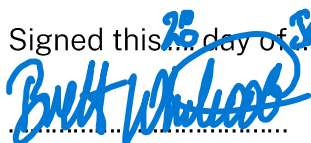
1. whether the former General Manager of NEWA, Mr Tim Weeks was, at all times, paid in accordance with the contract of employment between Mr Weeks and NEWA
2. any other matters, including but not limited to, the process undertaken for any variations to Mr Week's contract and agreed remuneration, and the details and amounts of financial claims made by Mr Weeks during his tenure.

AND

Pursuant to section 745(2) of the Act and any other power or delegation enabling me to do so, I hereby SUB-DELEGATE to Principal Investigator Jag Biring, Principal Investigator Chris Rowe and Manager Investigations Ashley Hinds all the powers and functions of the Secretary, NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure under section 429, 431, 432 and 434(C) of the Act, for the purpose of conducting the investigation.

This instrument takes effect from the date of signature.

Signed this 25 day of January 2025



Brett Whitworth

Deputy Secretary

Office of Government

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure