



**NSROC PRESS RELEASE  
Wednesday 14 July 2010**

**FRESH THINKING FOR NORTH SHORE COUNCILS**

Northern Sydney councils will gather later this month to consider reform initiatives to tackle future growth and councils' capacity across the region.

The Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC), which consists of North Sydney, Lane Cove, Hunter's Hill, Ryde, Willoughby, Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai Councils, will meet on 29 July to develop initiatives to modernise local government.

Councillors will hear from four influential speakers including the former NSW Minister for Planning and Health, the Hon. Craig Knowles; the Executive Director of the Sydney Business Chamber, the Hon. Patricia Forsythe; renown local government expert, Professor Brian Dollery of the University of New England; and Councillor Genia McCaffery, President of the NSW Local Government Association and Mayor of North Sydney.

Each speaker will outline their views on changes local government should take to meet future needs of the Northern Sydney community.

Conference host and President of NSROC, Hornsby Mayor Nick Berman, said he looked forward to hearing all points of views from the councillors across the region.

*Like all organisations, councils must be responsive to the needs of the community and be open minded about change. Our Councils are on the front foot in this debate. We recognise that to be successful we must be innovative and dynamic in our thinking.*

The Conference will canvass ideas for local government modernisation across a variety of areas including finances, community services, building and planning, the roles of councillors and the management of councils. A Discussion Paper on these issues is available on the NSROC website : [www.nsroc.org](http://www.nsroc.org)

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