

## Hon. Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council Minister for Police and Emergency Services Minister for the Central Coast

## **Kevin Anderson MP**

Member for Tamworth

# MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 13 March 2014

### MINISTER VISITS NORTH WEST TO MEET WITH LOCAL POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES WORKERS

Minister for Police and Emergency Services Michael Gallacher today met with Tamworth MP, Kevin Anderson to visit the Tamworth electorate and meet with Police and emergency services workers.

"As the Minister it's important that I can visit regional and rural areas and hear the issues and challenges facing our police and emergency services workers," Minister Gallaher said.

"Today I spent some time at Tamworth Police Station where I met with local officers and viewed the recently unveiled David Rixon Memorial.

"It was a great opportunity to meet with some of David Rixon's colleagues and friends and see how the station is getting on since his senseless murder in March 2012.

After spending some time in Tamworth, Minister Gallacher travelled to Gunnedah and Boggabri to meet with local Police and Fire and Rescue NSW personnel.

"I am pleased to have the opportunity to sit down with the men and women who work tirelessly to protect our community, be it firefighters from Fire and Rescue NSW or the Rural Fire Service, officers serving with the NSW Police Force or State Emergency Service volunteers.

"As I have travelled across the state in recent months meeting with emergency service personnel, I am constantly impressed by their professionalism, pride and dedication to what is at times an extremely challenging profession and I commend them for their hard work," Minister Gallacher said.

Tamworth MP Kevin Anderson said he was delighted to have the Minister visit.

"It's always a pleasure to have the Police Minister visit the region to see the challenges we face in relation to crime and to hear firsthand the efforts we are making for our local police," Mr Anderson said.

"We look forward to continuing to work together and to build a case to show the Minister why we need resources in our community to tackle, in particular, drug related crime.

Minister Gallacher will travel on to Narrabri and Gurley Village this afternoon. ENDS

#### MEDIA: Clint McGilvray 0413 285 186

Photos of Minister Gallacher and Tamworth MP Kevin Anderson at Tamworth and Gunnedah attached.