

BUSINESS HUNTER

18 August 2025

City of Newcastle

Via email - engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au

SUBMISSION: Newcastle Regional Show Day 2026 and 2027

Business Hunter appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal to declare a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 27 February 2026 and Friday 26 February 2027.

Business Hunter is the peak business group in the Hunter region. We serve more than 4,400 member and affiliate businesses operating across the region, representative of industries spanning all sectors and all sizes of business, from start-ups through to leading regional organisations and corporations. Many of our member organisations operate within the Newcastle City Council local government area.

Business Hunter acknowledges the Newcastle Show contributes to the region's visitor economy and has historical and social significance for the community. However, we do not support the declaration of a Local Public Holiday for this event because of the adverse impact on the business community.

An additional public holiday comes at significant cost and inconvenience to businesses, staff and their customers, through staff payments, lost trading opportunities and interruptions to business operations and productivity. It also penalises casual staff, who miss the opportunity for a day's paid work if their place of employment is closed.

Business Hunter maintains its long-held view that the declaration of a Local Event Day is a better option than a Local Public Holiday, as it strikes the right balance between marking this significant event on the local calendar without imposing unnecessary additional pressure on businesses. We maintain that the three-day duration of the Show, which spans the weekend, provides ample opportunity for people to attend without the need for a public holiday to be declared.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. Should you wish to discuss these matters further, I can be contacted at amy.delore@businesshunter.com.

Yours sincerely,



Amy De Lore
Policy and Public Affairs Manager