

Lawyers call for fair compensation for rural communities

28 October 2006

Lawyers campaigning for a reform to compensation laws take their message direct to the NSW Country Conference in Queanbeyan this weekend.

Local country lawyers will warn delegates that NSW ALP policies on workers compensation, motor accidents and personal injury are having a disproportionate impact on rural communities.

Members of the Fair Compensation Campaign will be calling on delegates to the Country Conference to pressure the Iemma government to review the laws. They are also calling on the NSW opposition to come up with policies that restore rights to victims.

'Thousands of people across NSW cannot access proper compensation for workplace or motor accidents injuries due to drastic changes introduced by the state government to personal injury laws in 1999 – 2005,' ALA Chief Executive Eva Scheerlinck said.

'The impact of these sweeping changes to personal injury laws have been felt hardest in rural areas, where there is limited access to legal representation,' Ms Scheerlinck said.

Four peak legal bodies, NSW Bar Association, Law Society of NSW, Law Council of Australia and the Australian Lawyers Alliance have joined together to raise public awareness about the devastating effects the changes to personal injury law have had on individuals in New South Wales.

MEDIA CONTACTS: Eva Scheerlinck Mobile: 0404 881433
Local lawyers will be available for comment at 8am

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