

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

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JP Legislation Changes Now In Effect – Draper

Major changes to the Justice of the Peace Legislation come into effect next week following their passage through the NSW Parliament recently, according to State Member for Tamworth Mr Peter Draper.

“The changes, which affect all existing JP’s as well as those wishing to be appointed in the future, have come about following a major review undertaken by the State Government,” said Mr Draper.

“There were concerns that many people appointed as lifetime Justices under the old system had ceased acting as JPs. Up until now, the government had no way of maintaining contact with JPs. Further, there was no support provided to JPs once appointed,” said Mr Draper.

Under the new arrangements, all JPs must reapply for appointment every five years. The Government will be responsible for maintaining a register of JPs and providing them with on-going support, including information on legal matters that may impact upon their duties.

“The good news is that the Government has agreed that JPs will not have to pay any fee for reappointment, something we fought hard to ensure when the review was announced, as concerns were held that the process could become a money making stream for the Government,” said Mr Draper.

“In the meantime, existing JPs will be entitled to continue operating without renewal for up to three years. At that time, they will be expected to reapply, or have their appointment lapse.”

If people wish to apply to become a JP, they should contact Mr Draper’s office at 13 Fitzroy Street Tamworth, or telephone 67661422 for details.

End Release

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