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STRATEGIC EXAMINATION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WELCOMED BY THE REGIONS

The Government's announcement of a wholesale review of Australia's Research and Development system, led by an independent panel of experts in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders, has been welcomed by Australia's regional universities.

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) Chief Executive Officer Alec Webb said today's release of the Terms of Reference to the Government's Strategic Examination of Research and Development provides a rare opportunity to get Australia's Research and Development system working for all Australians.

"It has been almost 20 years since the research and development foundations of our economy underwent such a wide-ranging and consultative review.

"Since that time, we have seen a tremendous growth in world-leading research capabilities and impact being driven by regional Australians at regional universities.

"The Terms of Reference suggest that Australia's regions should – and must – play an increasingly important role in our national Research and Development ecosystem.

"It is in the national interest for regional Australia to grow its research and development productivity, capabilities, and workforces in partnership with industry and community, and we welcome the opportunity for this growth to be supported by the scope of the review.

"RUN recognises the strong leadership the Government is taking in the design, direction and implementation of this review, and we look forward to working with the Government and its independent expert panel throughout the 2025 review process", Mr Webb said.

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