

# **Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper Submission**

## **Date submitted**

12/12/2014

## **Name of Organisation/Individual**

The Lucas Group Pty Ltd

## **What are the top policies from the Green Paper that the Government should focus on in the White Paper and why?**

Finance business structure and taxation.

Finance :- Establish a national rural finance strategy so the banking facilities available for Agriculture / Horticulture production are in synergy with the longer term growth potential .

Taxation :- to encourage greater rural and regional development provide taxation concessions so those people living in regional areas are not financially disadvantaged

Regional company tax concessions to attract value adding to regional centres

Education , Skills and training and labour

Provide employment support through regional training and development strategies to engage local communities to embrace education

Implement as a priority the access to high speed broad band to regional centres to provide internet as a conduit to education

Provide PAYG tax benefits for people employed in regional centres so they are not disadvantaged through the added costs of travel for services and local amenities

## **What policies from the Green Paper don't you support and why?**

All the policies require support but in a balanced holistic manner

## **General Comment**

1. Provide taxation relief for those people employed in regional areas

2 remove the FBT on accommodation in regional areas

3 Education and promotion at all level to engage the Agriculture and horticulture in the wider community