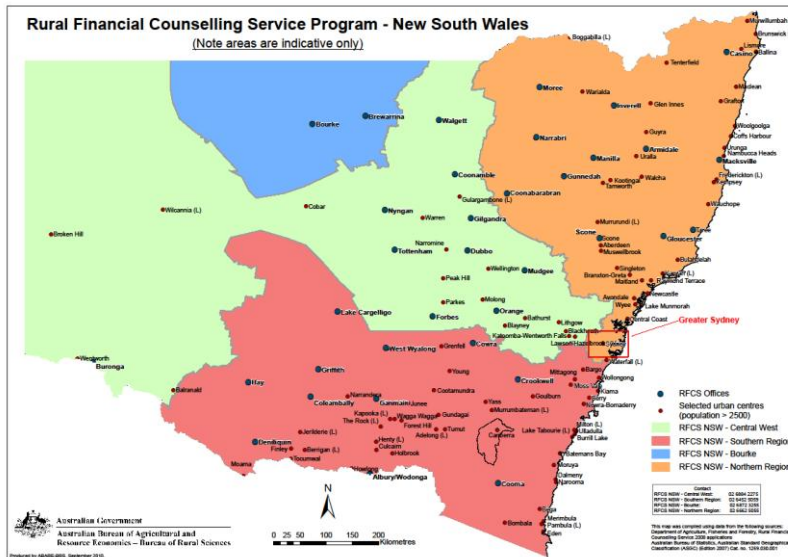


# Rural Financial Counselling Service NSW Central West Inc

www.rfcs-cw.com.au



## BRIEFING PAPER #1: Who is RFCS-CW?



- Provides free, impartial and confidential financial counselling to farmers, fishers & agriculture-dependent small business
- Established in 2006; expanded in 2008
- Core funding from DAFF; has also been supported by NSW Government
- Covers about 60% of NSW
- Administered from a regional office in Dubbo
- In 2010-11: 15 Rural Financial Counsellors & 12 part-time Administrative Support Officers
- In 2010-11: Offices in Dubbo, Buronga, Coonamble, Forbes, Gilgandra, Mudgee, Nyngan, Parkes, Orange, Tottenham & Walgett

Rural Financial Counselling Service NSW Central West Inc. (RFCS-CW) provides free, impartial and confidential financial counselling to help farmers, fishers and agriculture-dependent small businesses in their decision making.

RFCS-CW was established in November 2006 and receives core funding from the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry under the "Australia's Farming Future" initiative. The service has, until 30 June 2011, been financially supported by the NSW Government.

In March 2008 RFCS-CW was successful in applying for grant funding to provide Rural Financial Counselling across the designated service area which covers approximately 60% of NSW (pale green area on the map) spanning the area from Forbes to the Blue Mountains, north to Lightning Ridge, west to Cameron's Corner and in the south west, to Wentworth/Balranald (excluding Bourke and Brewarrina Shires – in blue on the map).

RFCS-CW is administered from its Regional Office based in Dubbo with a team lead by CEO, Jeff Caldbeck, and three management/administration support staff.

In 2010-11, the organisation employed 15 Rural Financial Counsellors (RFCs), made up of 12 full-time RFCs, one relief RFC and two part-time RFCs, and 12 part-time Administrative Support Officers (ASOs). Offices have been located in Dubbo, Buronga, Coonamble, Forbes, Parkes, Gilgandra, Mudgee, Nyngan, Orange, Tottenham and Walgett. Outreach office sites are located in Broken Hill and Balranald.

RFCS-CW assist clients in assessing their current financial position and cash flow; reviewing contracts and loan applications; facilitating meetings with financial institutions and lenders; obtaining information about industry assistance; providing referrals to Centrelink and other relevant services; assisting with developing enterprise plans and succession, as well as providing advice and support for managing change and adjustment issues.

**Rural Financial Counselling Service NSW Central West Inc. (RFCS-CW)**  
**CEO: Jeff Caldbeck**  
**Regional Office (Dubbo), T (02) 6884 7841; ceo@rfcs-cw.com.au**