



Daryl Maguire MP

Member for Wagga Wagga

PRESS RELEASE

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\$1.2 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR SNOWY VALLEY COUNCIL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Daryl Maguire MP, Member for Wagga Wagga alongside Snowy Valleys Council General Manager Matthew Hyde and Mayor James Hayes today announced Snowy Valleys Council has received \$1,297,130 in funding to breathe life into local community projects as part of the NSW Government's \$200 million Stronger Country Communities fund.

Mr Maguire said the NSW Government's significant investment in Tumut and Batlow will provide residents with improved facilities the whole region can enjoy.

"This is fantastic news for everyone in the Snowy Valleys," Mr Maguire said.

"Stronger Country Communities funding is an investment in local infrastructure to improve the lives of residents and enhance the attractiveness of our region – this funding will help us do exactly that," Mr Maguire said.

Council Mayor James Hayes said the grant was welcomed by the whole Tumut community as the Bull Paddock is a major sports facility for the town.

"Tumut is a town with a strong sporting tradition, and the sports that use the Bull Paddock are some of the most popular in the region," Clr Hayes said.

Clr Hayes added the \$1 million funding will ensure Snowy Valleys Council can deliver a 21st century library for the people of Batlow.

"Libraries are at the heart of rural communities like Batlow and a new Library will enable us to provide extended learning programs, improved public spaces and better access to technology for our community, well into the future," said Clr Hayes

The Stronger Country Communities fund is one of the six funds that make up the NSW Government's \$1.3 billion Regional Growth Fund, which is designed to improve economic growth and productivity through investment in regional communities.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro said the Stronger Country Communities Fund targets smaller-sized projects that nevertheless have the capacity to make a big difference to the lives of country people.

"The NSW Government is committed to supporting the people of regional NSW, by investing in the facilities, parks, halls and playgrounds they need, want and deserve," Mr Barilaro said.

"The Stronger Country Communities fund is a once-in-a-generation investment and I'm excited for the people of regional NSW to start seeing these projects pop up all over the place," he said.

Applications for Round Two of funding will open in March 2018 and further details can be found at www.nsw.gov.au/strongercountrycommunities.