A3025354

Clr Denis Todd Mayor, Warrumbungle Shire Council PO Box 191 COONABARABRAN NSW 2357

Dear Clr Todd

I write regarding the Round Three of the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF). Round Three will provide an additional \$100 million for community projects in regional NSW, and includes at least \$50 million for youth-related projects. This brings the total funding for the Stronger Country Communities Fund to \$400 million; and the total value of the Regional Growth Fund to \$1.7 billion.

Round Three of SCCF will open on 1 July 2019

Round Three of the SCCF will open for 13 weeks to all eligible applicants in July 2019. Complementing the Fund's traditional focus on community infrastructure to improve everyday living, in 2019 there will be an increased focus on young people aged 12-24 and a broader scope of eligible projects including programs as well as local infrastructure.

Key dates

Monday 1 July 2019 Applications open 9am
Friday 27 September 2019 Applications close 5pm
October 2019 – January 2020 Projects are assessed

From January 2020 Successful projects expected to be announced

Round Three funding available for your Local Government Area

The funding available for projects in Warrumbungle Shire Local Government Area is \$796,274.

Funding will be allocated to projects that clearly demonstrate community support for projects and align with the program objectives; noting at least 50 per cent of the Round Three funding available in your Local Government Area will be allocated to projects supporting young people.

Other program changes

After listening to feedback from applicants and the community, some changes will be introduced for SCCF Round Three. These include:

- 1. Extending the open period to three months
- 2. Extending the funding period from two years to three years to allow applicants sufficient time to deliver projects
- 3. Opening the round to applications directly from eligible community groups who will be responsible for delivering projects if successful
- 4. Not conducting choice modelling. Applicants will be required to provide evidence of community consultation and support for projects in the application

The Program Guidelines are available with other information and resources on the SCCF website: www.nsw.gov.au/strongercountrycommunities.

I urge your council to start consulting with the community and preparing applications for Round Three as early as possible.

Assistance to prepare applications

The Guidelines and other online resources will be available to assist applicants; and webinars will be held during the application open period to assist in application development.

Your local Business Development Manager is Paul Schenk who can be contacted on paul.schenk@dpc.nsw.gov.au or 0429 833 131 to provide information on the program to assist you to develop applications.

Thank you for your support of SCCF for Rounds One and Two and I look forward to seeing your community's Round Three projects come to life in 2020.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. John Barilaro, MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Regional New South Wales

Minister for Industry and Trade

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Bronnie Taylor, MLC

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Basicand Youth

Minister for Regional Youth

Minister for Women