



Greg Aplin MP
Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

2 March 2018

OVER \$13M ON THE TABLE FOR SPORTS CLUBS AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin today announced an additional \$13.7 million will be available for sports clubs and community infrastructure across the Albury electorate, as part of Round Two of the Stronger Country Communities Fund.

Mr Aplin said “With 50 per cent of round two funding dedicated to local sport, we’ll see a mix of projects including better fields for kids to play on, amenity upgrades, new parks, improved playing grounds, lighting and much more.”

“There was such an overwhelming response to Round One of this Fund, the NSW Government has decided to increase the funding for Round Two, effectively doubling the allocation to our local Council areas to include dedicated funding for sports projects in the regions,” Mr Aplin said.

“Sport has a major role in making towns and cities exciting and vibrant places to live.

Round Two Allocations are **Albury City Council** – over **\$1.9M**, **Federation Council** – over **\$3.6M**, **Greater Hume Shire Council** – over **\$1.5M**, **Murrumbidgee Council** – over **\$3.8M** and **Snowy Valleys Council** – over **\$2.9M**. At least 50 percent of these allocations are to be sports-related projects.

“We have already seen the sorts of valuable projects this fund can deliver for our communities, and I encourage locals and community groups to speak with your local council and myself, to put forward ideas for projects that you’d like to see happen as part of Round Two,” Mr Aplin said.

“The **minimum grant amount has been dropped from \$100,000 to \$50,000** and **should a council not agree to submit a project brought forward by a community or sporting group**, an **independent review** process can be requested by these groups.”

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW, John Barilaro said in the 2017/18 financial year alone, the NSW Government’s total spend on infrastructure projects currently in planning or construction in regional area has topped \$15 billion.

Mr Barilaro said he is thrilled to see the impact this huge investment has had on regional communities, as projects start jumping off paper, and popping up in the real world.

“Surpassing the \$15 billion mark, plus the extra \$200 million announced today for local amenities and sports infrastructure, is an incredible financial milestone for our regional communities,” Mr Barilaro said.

“We have been working hard to ensure regional cities and towns reap the benefit of the NSW Government’s economic success – we are already seeing results in real life with new hospitals, new schools, better roads and now in sport infrastructure.

Stronger Country Communities applications for Round Two open on 12 March and will close 4 May 2018.

Further details can be found at www.nsw.gov.au/strongercountrycommunities.

Media Contact: Greg Aplin 6021 3042 or 0428 600 343