

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Buloke to Receive Drought Communities Funding**

**23 May 2016**

The recent inclusion of Buloke Shire Council as a Declared Council under the Drought Communities Programme (DCP) qualifies Buloke to submit proposals to the Commonwealth Government to seek funding of up to \$1.5million. This is certainly good news during a time when our community is still very much under the stresses of the drought.

Funding must relate to economic, social and cultural infrastructure, safety and accessibility upgrades, or town facility upgrades.

“The funding is significant opportunity for the people of Buloke. We currently have multiple projects which will fit the purposes of the funding incredibly well. As a Council, we have to be certain we are making the right choices and investing in the right projects to deliver the optimum benefit for the Buloke community”, said Mayor, Cr Reid Mather.

Federal Member for Mallee Mr Andrew Broad agreed that local communities know best.

“Individual communities are ideally placed to work out where best to prioritise funding. When disasters such as drought happen, people need support to maintain that social cohesion. The DCP funding enables community support through infrastructure alongside the employment of locals in building projects”, said Mr Broad.

Council is currently reviewing key projects to establish business cases, costs, timeframes and possible leverage of other funding sources in order to finalise project proposals for the available DCP funds. Whilst these funds are now available, any DCP funded project or component of a project can be scheduled to be completed on or before 30 June 2019.



**End release**

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