

KYOGLE COUNCIL

Media Release



Date: Tuesday 10 April 2018

Kyogle Council's \$35 million budget boost

Kyogle Local Government Area (LGA) residents are set to reap the rewards of record grant funding success totalling more than \$7 million in the next two years.

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland said infrastructure spending was up with \$29 million being spent on roads, including \$5 million for Culmaran Creek Road and \$8 million on the Clarence Way.

"An additional \$11 million is dedicated for bridges across the LGA over the next four years, on top of the \$13 million in the current year's program, with 65 bridges scheduled for renewal over the five years," she said.

"Council will also deliver \$3.7 million in community infrastructure projects across Kyogle and the villages after securing \$2.4 million through the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund.

"Council has been consulting widely on the Visions of Village Life project and as a result of our successful grant funding applications we have secured more than \$1 million dollars for the six villages included in the process."

The delivery of cultural and community infrastructure projects, such as the Kyogle Memorial Institute Hall revitalisation, will provide more inclusive and sustainable community facilities.

"Community art is a focus of the budget with a major upgrade for the Roxy Gallery, seeing it relocated to the KMI," Cr Mulholland said.

"The Roxy will be serviced by a new lift making it aged and disability friendly and the KMI hall will continue to be available free to all local community groups and charities."

Doing business with Council will be easier as a result of a \$150,000 Innovation Fund grant, with improvements to on-line services allowing residents to lodge applications, customer requests and make payments online.

Council also has listened to the community's call for more flexible delivery of waste services and Council will now include additional options for waste collection services, a standard price per wheelie bin at our waste facilities, and a tip voucher for all ratepayers to be sent out with the first rates' notice each year.

Other budget highlights include:

- Developer contributions waived for developments completed within the next two years to boost the construction of a range of housing options for our growing community.
- Council continuing its support of library services with \$350,000 allocated in 2018/19.

- \$66,000 allocated to the seven pre-schools operating in the Council area.
- Kyogle LGA will be rebranded to reflect the Hinterland Lifestyle and Culture of Kyogle and the villages with \$340,000 dedicated to new village and council area entry signs, as well as improved visitor information signage.
- Council continues to invest in the area's young people with \$6,000 allocated to support the recently re-established Youth Advisory Committee, and Council will continue its support of apprentices and school-based trainees.
- Community support continues to be a focus with \$90,000 dedicated to community grants and \$11,200 for the three Australia Day Committees.
- Funding for Council's pools will be maintained to allow the extended swimming season to continue, and for longer opening hours during times of extreme heat, and the return of the inflatable activity centre for another fun season.

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