



The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development

Senator Hollie Hughes
Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region

MEDIA RELEASE – EMBARGOED TIL 9AM FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER

Friday 8th October 2021

MORE THAN \$4.1M INVESTMENT IN A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR HUNTER REGION PROJECTS

The Liberal and Nationals Government is investing in building a better Hunter Region with more than **\$4.1M** in funding announced today for three projects under Round 5 of our highly successful Building Better Regions Fund.

Projects that will receive funding are:

- **Port Stephens Council - \$4,024,787** – to develop a Tourism Transport Interchange at the Birubi Point Aboriginal Place and Worimi Conservation Lands
- **Lake Macquarie Council - \$85,000** – to extend the Creative LAKE contemporary art trail around the northern shore of Lake Macquarie.
- **Curious Legends Limited - \$30,044** – to produce a site-specific theatrical cultural performance with puppets performed by Indigenous youth at the “New Annual” arts festival in Newcastle 2021.

Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region Hollie Hughes said the Government’s investment will deliver better facilities and economic opportunities for the region.

“The Liberal and Nationals Government is delivering the services and infrastructure our communities deserve,” Senator Hughes said.

“We are backing these projects so local people have the facilities for the future, while creating jobs to boost our economic recovery.”

Under Round 5 of the BBRF, the Government has committed almost \$300 million to support 295 projects across regional Australia, which will create an estimated 9,900 jobs during the project period.

This latest funding round takes our total support through the BBRF to \$1.38 billion across nearly 1,300 projects.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Barnaby Joyce said the Government is focused on ensuring our regions remain strong.

“The Liberal and Nationals Government is continuing to work hard on behalf of Australians living in regional and remote communities,” the Deputy Prime Minister said.

“That's why we've committed an additional \$100 million under this latest round to take total funding to almost \$300 million. This extra funding will support more projects, more jobs, and create more economic opportunities in our regions to boost their recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Funding for these projects in the Hunter Region are a testament to the dedication of Senator Hughes.

“Funding under the Building Better Regions Fund supports economic and social infrastructure for the long-term benefit of regional communities.

“Infrastructure upgrades funded in this latest round will ensure our regions remain great places to live and visit, while helping support important regional industries which create jobs.

“Our Government is committed to delivering the best outcomes for regional and remote Australia, which is why we are providing local businesses, industries, and families with opportunities to get ahead.”

For a full list of successful projects, please visit: www.business.gov.au/bbrf

Hunter Region Strategic Advisor for Senator Hughes: Karen Howard - 0413 123 258