



## MEDIA RELEASE

# Special drought for Building Better Regions Fund

14 Nov 2019

Applications are now open for projects under the \$200 million Building Better Regions Fund's special drought round which will be dedicated to helping drought-affected electorates like the New England.

Federal Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, urged communities to take advantage of the fund to get local infrastructure and building projects of all sizes off the ground.

"Capital investment like this will help draw wealth back into our towns, shops and businesses struggling as a result of the drought," Mr Joyce said.

"This funding round is dedicated to unlocking the economic potential of rural, remote and regional Australia and I encourage all eligible organisations with a project ready to start, to apply for the fourth round of funding.

"Our region has benefited significantly from previous rounds of the BBRF with nearly \$6 million committed in recent months for projects in the New England such as the Treloar Park tennis centre redevelopment in Tamworth; stable complex at the Hunter Valley Equine Research Centre in Scone and new facilities for Armajun Aboriginal Health Service in Inverell.

"It is all helping to drive economic growth in the New England and deliver lasting benefits to our local communities."

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack said this was part of the Federal Government's latest package of assistance to combat the drought.

"The BBRF is a central plank of our commitment to supporting stronger regions, supporting local jobs by investing in 'shovel-ready' projects across regional Australia that are doing it tough during this drought to ensure communities thrive and survive," Mr McCormack said.

Two funding streams are available under the BBRF special drought round:

Infrastructure Projects Stream: Grants of \$20,000 to \$10 million to cover 50% or more of project costs.

Community Investments Stream: Grants of \$5,000 to \$1 million to cover 50% or more of project

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Hon **Barnaby Joyce** MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

costs.

Applications are open now and close on 19 December 2019.

Further information on eligibility and how to apply is available at [www.business.gov.au/bbrf](http://www.business.gov.au/bbrf)

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