



MEDIA RELEASE

Investing in strong local communities

06 Feb 2018

The Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch has received a welcome funding boost under round three of the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Programme (SCP).

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, congratulated the local service association on its \$2,500 grant. It plans to build a new shade awning at the rear entrance to its Bridge Street premises.

"Many ex-service men and women and their families, regularly visit the Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch to seek assistance for issues like Department of Veteran Affairs claims, welfare issues and pension card applications," Mr Joyce said.

"As they're often elderly and frail, most use the ramp at the back entrance but currently there's nothing there to protect them from the weather.

"The new installation will offer welcome comfort to visitors during their time in need."

Also funded in round three is the New England-based, Fire and Rescue NSW Firefighter Championship Association, which will receive \$16,600 to restore and maintain historical fire brigade memorabilia. The grant complemented Tamworth's successful bid to host the 2019 Australasian Firefighting Championship.

Meanwhile, the Currabubula Local Advisory Group is receiving \$8,656 to upgrade facilities at Currabubula Recreation Reserve.

"Works include preparing two existing tennis courts for resurfacing, painting the clubhouse as well as replacing flooring and cabinetry," Mr Joyce said.

The newly formed Advisory Group has been working closely with neighbouring Currabubula Pony Club, which was also successful in a recent SCP funding application, and anticipates works will be completed by the end of 2018.

Nearly \$150,000 in funding has been approved for New England organisations in round three of the SCP, including Nowendoc Bushman's Carnival Association (\$20,000), Upper Horton Sports Ground Trust (\$20,000) and Tenterfield Showground Trust (\$14,852). That's in addition to almost \$300,000 for New England clubs and groups in rounds one and two.

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Hon **Barnaby Joyce** MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

(ENDS)

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