

## 8.7 Acceptance of Grant Funding - NSW Government (Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program)

REPORT BY THE EVENTS COORDINATOR  
TO 20 JULY 2022 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400098, GRA600052

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. receive the report by the Events Coordinator on the Acceptance of Grant Funding - NSW Government (Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program);
2. if successful, accept the following grant funding of \$239,651 from the NSW Government:

Project	Amount
Mudgee Arts Precinct Culture Workshop	\$20,000
Kildallon Education Centre Opening Celebrations	\$19,651
Lights Up Community Event	\$200,000

3. amend the 2022/23 Event Operations Budget to set an expenditure budget of \$239,651 funded by grant funding; and
4. if successful, authorise the General Manager to finalise and sign the funding agreements with the NSW Government.

### Executive summary

The Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program aims to promote the social and economic recovery of regional communities, by renewing social connections and providing a revenue boost to local businesses, following the extended COVID-19 restrictions across regional NSW and impacts of border closures. A dedicated allocation of \$239,651 is available to the Mid-Western Regional Council to apply for funding towards events that meet the funding criteria.

Council has applied to this grant program to support 3 free community events, including Mudgee Arts Precinct Culture Workshops, Kildallon Education Centre Opening Celebrations and a Lights Up Community Event.

It is recommended, if successful in the above application for funding, that Council accepts the grant funding, authorises the General Manager to sign the funding agreements and amends Council's Budget for 2022/23.

### Disclosure of Interest

Nil

## Detailed report

The NSW Government unveiled a \$200 million Regional Recovery Package aiming to create new jobs and support community events, shows and festivals to boost tourism across the state.

A dedicated allocation of \$239,651 is available to the Mid-Western Regional Council to apply for funding towards these events

Funding will be allocated to events that meet the program assessment criteria, viability and deliver positive social outcomes promoting community participation, inclusion and cohesion. Importantly, events must be free to attend for the community.

Council has applied to this grant program to support 3 free community events:

- **Mudgee Arts Precinct Culture Workshops**

The Cultural Workshop space, part of the Mudgee Art Precinct will open August 22 housing a space in the region for a Community Arts Program. The events will engage arts educators for a variety of free activities over a weekend (or two) to showcase the new facility.

- **Kildallon Education Centre Opening Celebrations**

The Kildallon Education Centre (old TAFE Building), is the new home for U3A, Mudgee Performing Arts and Mudgee Concert Band. The event would be the official launch of the facility. Providing a free community event with activities and local food and entertainment.

- **Lights Up Community Event**

A free community event including local entertainment, food trucks & wineries, light installations and lights show. Date for this event is to be established. Activities will take place at Mudgee Showground and lighting opportunities across other towns.

It is recommended, if Council is successful in its application for any of the above grant funding, that it accepts the grant funding, authorises the General Manager to sign the funding agreement and amends Council's Budget for 2022/23 by amounts noted.

## Community Plan implications

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Building a Strong Local Economy</b>
Goal	An attractive business and economic environment
Strategy	Promote the Region as a great place to live, work, invest and visit

## Strategic implications

### Council Strategies

The identified projects support a number of Council strategies as identified in the Community Plan including promoting the region as a great place to live, work, invest and visit.

### Council Policies

Nil

### Legislation

Nil

## Financial implications

If application is successful, the following adjustments are required to the 2022/23 budget set an expenditure budget of \$239,651 funded by grant funding.

<b>Budget Year</b>	<b>Operating Performance Ratio</b>	<b>Own Source Revenue</b>	<b>Building &amp; Infrastructure Renewal</b>
<b>2022/23</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Future Years</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Associated Risks

Nil

JOANNA LINDSAY  
EVENTS COORDINATOR

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER

23 June 2022

*Attachments:* Nil

### APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

ALINA AZAR  
ACTING DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT