



Media Release

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Tenterfield and Glen Innes Councils join forces for drought resilience

Tenterfield and Glen Innes Severn Councils are joining forces with the NSW and Federal Governments to better prepare both shires for drought.

Through the Regional Drought Resilience Planning (RDRP) Round 2 program, the neighbouring councils will work together to develop regional resilience plans to manage future droughts.

Between them the shires will receive up to \$200,000 to develop and up to \$250,000 to implement the plans.

Tenterfield Mayor Bronwyn Petrie said the RDRP program was a key component of sustainable regional development that focused on fostering cooperation among neighbouring councils to deal with the challenges of drought.

"The grant awarded to Glen Innes Severn and Tenterfield Shire Councils will facilitate the implementation of strategic measures aimed at enhancing water security, promoting agricultural sustainability, and bolstering community well-being. Together, we are laying the foundation for a more resilient and thriving region," Cr Petrie said.

Aiming at practical solutions to support communities prepare and respond to drought, development of the plans is underway and will involve stakeholder and community consultation as a key element.

The plans will present:

- historical and predicted impacts of drought in each region;
- an evidence-based, triple-bottom-line strategy to mitigate or adapt to future droughts; and
- a prioritised list of actions and pathways to build drought resilience, specific to the region and that addresses the needs of the community.

Minister for Regional NSW Tara Moriarty said the program supported councils to partner with regional communities, farmers, and industry to prepare for the future.

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“It is vital regional NSW is supported to develop community-driven drought plans that use local knowledge to develop tailor made solutions for their local areas,” Ms Moriarty said.

“The Regional Drought Resilience plans will support economic resilience and help manage drought impacts across a range of sectors and improve the way natural resources are managed in each region.”

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation will independently review the Regional Drought Resilience plans. Once plans are finalised, funding may be available to regions to kick-start implementation of identified actions.

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning program is funded jointly by the Federal and NSW Governments under the Future Drought Fund. More information: www.nsw.gov.au/rdrp