

## MEDIA RELEASE



# APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR COMMUNITY LED RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY PROJECTS

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23 November 2020

The Australian and State Governments have partnered to release Phase 2 of the Bushfire Recovery and Resilience Fund. Stream 1 of this fund provides a total of \$250,000 to Walcha Council for Council and Community led projects that help our community overcome the social and physical impact of the bushfires.

Council has allocated a significant portion of this funding to be available to community groups and organisations to apply for. The objective of this funding is to deliver flexible, small-scale grants to locally led community recovery activities.

Walcha Mayor, Cllr Eric Noakes said, *“This funding is a great opportunity for community groups to get support for events and programs that assist with our disaster recovery and preparedness.”*

This funding is intended to be flexible in order to meet recovery needs of local communities. Projects will need to contribute to fulfil one or more of the following Disaster Recovery Outcomes:

1. The needs of vulnerable groups are addressed in disaster recovery
2. The community is aware of the disaster recovery processes
3. The community can express its changing disaster recovery needs
4. Community members are aware of the risks of future disasters
5. The community has improved capacity and capability to respond to future disasters
6. Business and not-for-profits have in place adequate mitigation practices for risks and threats
7. Government, private sector, civil society and organisations are engaged in plans for preparedness and management of the recovery.

Activities that are **not** eligible for funding include:

8. Applications that request ongoing program funding;
9. Applications for projects and/or activities that are not related to the community recovery attributed to the bushfire event; or
10. Applications that request covering existing debts or budget deficits

All approved projects must be delivered by 30 June 2022.

Applications are NOW OPEN and will close at midday on Monday, 11 January 2021. Application forms and program guidelines can be accessed on Council’s website or hard copies can be collected from the Council office. Applications will be reviewed to confirm eligibility prior to being submitted to Council for review and decision.

For interviews phone Walcha Mayor Eric Noakes on 0428 774 504.

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