



# DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL WELCOMES SPORT ASSET FUNDING



The Dubbo Region scored big on 30 November 2021, benefiting from over \$1.8 million in grant funding from the NSW Government's *Stronger Country Communities Fund – Round 4*.

Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) applied for funding across three key projects that have been deemed a community priority. The projects include upgrades to Nita McGrath Netball Courts, new lighting for John

McGrath Ovals and a refurbishment to the Victoria Number One Oval grandstand.

Council's CEO Murray Wood, and Recreation Co-ordinator Tracey Whillock, joined Dugald Saunders MP and members of sporting organisations yesterday to announce the significant contribution to the sporting assets within Dubbo.

Mr Wood said this funding allows more than the installation of new infrastructure, it ensures the existing assets are maintained and renewed to the high standards our community expects and deserves.

"I'd like to thank Dugald and the state government for his ongoing commitment to sport in the Dubbo region. This significant cash injection will not only add new infrastructure to our existing sporting precincts but importantly it will allow Council to appropriately care for its existing assets. The Dubbo region has the ability to host major sporting events across many of our fields and precincts which returns significant economic benefits to the entire region. Looking after these areas should be a priority for the whole community," said Mr Wood.

Member for the Dubbo electorate Dugald Saunders commended council on its commitment to maintaining the city's sporting infrastructure.

"It's great to see the current council working collaboratively with the NSW Government and supporting these meaningful upgrades," Mr Saunders said.

"I look forward to seeing the difference these upgrades and improvements make."

The Dubbo Netball Courts are set to receive \$500,000 to upgrade the playing surfaces of seven hard courts at the Nita McGrath Netball complex. The upgrades will meet the Netball NSW standards for competition, and remove the current ponding and cracking problems on the older courts.

Dubbo's John McGrath Oval will receive \$683,206 for new lighting to allow the Dubbo Touch Association to expand their competition whilst also allowing other codes to extend their training across multiple fields. Spreading activities will reduce the wear and tear on the playing surfaces with lighting, saving on operational repairs and maintenance. The Dubbo Touch Association are contributing a further \$124,000 to the project, and Dubbo Regional Council \$20,000.

DRC will co-fund the Victoria Park Number One Oval Grandstand after receiving \$100,000 in yesterday's funding announcement. The upgrades will include new aluminium seating with backs, painting and replacement of the existing floor.

Dubbo Junior Australian Rules Football Club was also successful in its funding submission and will receive \$553,954 to convert the former Girl Guides Hall at South Dubbo Ovals into a clubhouse, and construct female change facilities.

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