

21 December 2018

Media Release

Uralla Shire Council's McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre Receives Much Needed Funding

Uralla Shire Council received advice this week of a successful grant application to upgrade ensuites at the aged care centre. Council will receive \$500,000 from the Department of Health's *Aged Care Regional, Rural and Remote Infrastructure Grant (ACRRRIG) Program* for the much needed "fit for purpose" upgrades.

This funding supports Council's preferred strategic direction for McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre, as resolved at the 18 December 2018 meeting to *refurbish the current site as contained in the Strategic Options Report, including renewal and upgrade of the existing facility.*

Mayor Michael Pearce said "We welcome the announcement of the grant from ACRRRIG and praise the work of Council and McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre staff in gaining this important funding."

Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, said the funding is an important part of the Federal Government's commitment to providing the best quality aged care for our treasured senior Australians living in Uralla.

"This grant is a great boost for Uralla, not only for the older residents set to benefit directly from it but the community, employees and businesses which support the aged care sector in town as well," Mr Joyce said.

"With refurbished ensuites the facility will be better able to cater for the higher care needs of residents and hence, local care recipients with higher care needs will be able to be accommodated within their own community closer to family and friends." said Mayor Pearce.

The funding will also assist in securing the long term financial viability of the Centre through the ongoing provision of higher care services as a result of the much needed refurbishment of the ensuites.

[ENDS]

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