

Media Release The Hon Greg Hunt MP

Federal Member for Flinders Minister for the Environment

Tuesday, 16th June 2015

National Stronger Regions Fund Round Two opens to support local projects

Round Two of the Australian Government's landmark \$1 billion National Stronger Regions Fund is now open.

The fund will provide a significant injection for local towns and communities to ensure residents in regional areas have access to top-class facilities.

This is about making our regions more attractive places to live, work and enjoy.

The Fund will support a range of development initiatives that are designed to spur economic growth – from freight and transport projects to convention centres and major multi-purpose sports and community facilities.

These facilities will draw people to our townships, in turn providing a boost to local economies.

There are a number of worthy projects throughout the Flinders electorate that could benefit from this funding so I encourage councils and community groups to get their applications in.

Projects large and small have the capacity to transform our townships.

The Government's focus is on strengthening economies in Australia's most disadvantaged areas by improving productivity, economic opportunity, employment and workforce skills.

The National Stronger Regions Fund will provide local community projects with between \$20,000 and \$10 million, covering up to 50 per cent of the project cost.

The Fund encourages partnerships between project proponents and the private sector, local and state governments.

Guidelines of the National Stronger Regions Fund are available at <u>www.infrastructure.gov.au/nsrf</u> Applications close July 31.