

MEDIA RELEASE

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BILLION DOLLAR BOOST FOR REGIONAL NSW

Regional NSW will receive record investment under the NSW Government's \$1.3 billion Regional Growth Fund, announced in today's Budget.

"This level of local economic investment is the direct result of strong budget management by the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government, and regional NSW is receiving its fair share," Mr Barilaro said.

"The NSW Government will invest in transport, energy, water and projects that turbocharge regional economies along with local community projects that improve the quality of life in our regional towns and cities."

The \$1.3 billion Regional Growth Fund includes:

- Growing Local Economies – unlocking the economic potential of regional towns and cities and creating jobs
- Regional Sports Infrastructure – supporting participation and high achievement for regional sporting communities
- Connecting Country Communities – improving telecommunication connectivity in regional NSW to drive economic growth
- Resources for Regions – delivering infrastructure and community requirements in mining affected communities
- Stronger Country Communities – investing in projects that improve local amenities for residents, such as upgrades to local parks, community centres and playgrounds
- Regional Cultural Fund – building and upgrading arts and cultural venues including art galleries, libraries, performance spaces and cultural centres

The Regional Growth Fund is in addition to the \$300 million Regional Growth - Environment and Tourism Fund investing in environmental assets, tourism infrastructure and attractions to drive greater visitation and spend across regional NSW.

"The 2017-18 NSW Budget is about bringing big ideas to life. We're creating jobs, boosting tourism, and supporting communities by building and fixing the things that matter most to them and wherever possible, that work will go to local tradies," Mr Barilaro said.

"This funding will help to deliver the NSW Government Regional Development Framework to ensure all regional residents have access to the same infrastructure and services as people in the city," Mr Barilaro said.

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