



August 2021 Newsletter

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Once again we are facing a COVID-19 outbreak and enforcement of new [COVID-19 safe regulations](#) in our state. The Economic Development Team continues to advocate on behalf of, and assist business within our region. Please don't hesitate to contact Ali Briggs directly with any issues, concerns or good news stories.

Covid Support Programs

[New financial assistance](#) is available due to the recent COVID-19 situation and lockdowns.

The support package includes:

- COVID-19 business grant
- COVID-19 micro business grant
- JobSaver payment
- Small Business fees and charges rebate
- Payroll tax support

We have collated assistance information for you on the [Kempsey Shire Council Website](#).

Export Assistance Grant

If you are an exporting business, or if you were exporting goods or services before the impacts of COVID-19, bushfires or drought, you may be eligible for an export assistance grant of up to \$10,000.

This grant helps eligible export businesses in NSW access global markets. Funds can be used for:

- marketing materials
- website internationalisation
- pivoting to online delivery (for example, converting face-to-face training content to online content for international audiences)
- e-commerce development
- market research
- international tradeshow and trade missions
- inbound business support
- costs to support compliance/localisation of products for export
- costs to protect business in international markets.

This grant will be provided as reimbursement of 50% of eligible expenses, up to a maximum of \$10,000 per eligible business, for expenses already paid since 1 January 2020

Details can be found [here](#)



Biodiversity Strategy Feedback Sought

Council has published a draft Biodiversity Strategy on Your Say Macleay.

The draft Biodiversity Strategy aims to balance the Macleay Valley's rich environment with sustainable development and

population growth and is open for community feedback.

Have your say by visiting [Kempsey Shire Biodiversity Strategy](#)

Flood Recovery Grants

Recovery grants of up to \$75,000 are available for eligible primary producers and up to \$50,000 are available for eligible small business or not-for-profit organisations.

For information on available recovery assistance for primary producers, visit the [NSW Rural Assistance Authority website](#).

For information on available recovery assistance for small business, visit the [Service NSW](#) website.



Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program

The Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program (DRLM) will connect people to share knowledge and experience bringing together farmers and other rural professionals from all over the country.

Mentors and mentees will participate in six 1:1 mentoring sessions and have access to webinars and resources covering a range of topics relevant to agriculture and regional Australia, broadly contributing to drought and climate resilience.

Participants will have opportunities to learn from one another and those with experience and expertise in the areas of climate science, resilience, wellbeing and agricultural practice.

Applications are now open and close on 31 August 2021, and details can be found [here](#).

Strengthening Business Service

The Strengthening Business Service is a free service to assist bushfire affected businesses to recover, grow and become more resilient, recognising that many businesses have also been devastated by COVID and the recent flood event.

Businesses should be eligible for this service if they were engaged in business with an ABN during the bushfires (1 Aug 19 – 29 Feb 20) and were impacted either directly or indirectly by the fires. If eligible, a Strengthening Business facilitator will work with you to create and help implement a roadmap for your business going forward.

The Strengthening Business Application is done online at: <https://www.business.gov.au/Grants-and-Programs/Strengthening-Business>

Nutrien Ag Solutions Community Grants Program

The advertisement features a background image of a person in a plaid shirt standing in a field at sunset. A QR code is overlaid on the right side with the text "SCAN ME For more information Hold the camera to the image". The main title "Nutrien Ag Solutions Community Grants" is in a green banner. Below it, the text says "Apply now for Grants up to \$5,000" and "Calling for applications from community groups in rural and regional Australia for grants of up to \$5,000. We are supporting the grass roots projects that will make a difference in your community." It also includes the dates "Applications open 3rd August and close 3rd September. Approximately 50 grants available." and the slogan "Growing our world from the ground up." in green.

Apply now for Grants up to **\$5,000**

Calling for applications from community groups in rural and regional Australia for grants of up to \$5,000. We are supporting the grass roots projects that will make a difference in your community.

Applications open 3rd August and close 3rd September.
Approximately 50 grants available.

Growing our world from the ground up.

The success of agriculture and the well-being of regional Australia are inextricably linked. Big and small bush communities are a vital part of creating a life and a career in the regions – and the reason why Nutrien Ag Solutions is a passionate advocate for regional Australia. In 2021, Nutrien Ag Solutions announced a five-year program which will see \$250,000 invested annually into grass-roots projects from Australian rural and regional communities.

The Nutrien Ag Solutions Community Grants Program is run in partnership with the Foundation for Rural and Regional

Renewal (FRRR). The annual program will fund projects that contribute to the success, resilience and well-being of the rural and regional communities in which we operate.

Applications for the first round of grants open 3rd August 2021 and close 3rd September 2021. Community groups can apply for a grant of up to \$5,000 to support their project. Please refer to the FRRR [website](#) for assessment criteria and more information to support your application.

Community Grants Program



Council is pleased to announce that the 2021-2022 Community Grant Program will open on August 3rd.

In 2021-2022 the grants streams available will be:

- Mayoral Community Fund
- Community Safety Grants
- Environmental Levy Grants
- Sporting Grants
- Youth Grants
- Bushfire Recovery Grants

Information sessions outlining the eligibility criteria, available programs and how to apply at this stage, due to the ongoing uncertainty of Covid restrictions, take place online via Zoom.

If however you would like to meet face-to-face, please contact Paul Koch on 0438 558 775 or paul.koch@kempsey.nsw.gov.au to discuss a time, location and how this can be done in a safe setting.

Please note Paul is available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday only.

For more information on the Community Grant Program and to register for a Zoom information session go to: <https://yoursay.macleay.nsw.gov.au/communitygrants>

Do you have a biosecurity management plan in place ?

Protecting what you love means practicing good biosecurity. This includes taking action to protect your property and business from the negative impacts of pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants.

A biosecurity management plan will help you minimise your biosecurity risks and when carefully followed will help:

- allow access to premium domestic and global markets
- deliver better yields and decrease costs of primary production
- ensure you can provide locally grown, safe food and fibre
- reduce stock losses and infrastructure damage by pest animals

Find more info about biosecurity and the benefits of [having a plan here](#).