

Monday, 13th February 2023

Lifeline secures funding thanks to the NSW Government

People in Cessnock and across the Hunter region will have access to strengthened counselling services, thanks to a \$150,000 grant to Lifeline from the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government.

Nationals Upper House Member Scott Barrett said the grant will provide a well-earned boost to this essential service.

“Everyone knows someone struggling with their mental health, and it’s important that people living in regional parts of our State can easily access counselling support now and well into the future,” Mr Barrett said.

“We can’t underestimate the role Lifeline plays in our communities, so it’s great to be able to give them some certainty with this grant.”

Pat Calabria from Lifeline NSW welcomed the announcement saying “This means hundreds of sessions that Lifeline will be able to run in the local community. We will certainly see the benefits of what this brings over the coming months. Thank you. It means a lot.

We really can help people out and get on the front foot helping them with their mental health. We encourage anyone to reach out to Lifeline and make an appointment. It really can put you on that path to hope,” Mr Pat Calabria said.

This project is one of many being delivered across the Hunter region through the Stronger Country Communities Fund.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW Paul Toole said in the past five years the Stronger Country Communities Fund had delivered more than 2500 grassroots projects, benefitting every Local Government Area in regional NSW.

“We all know how important it is for communities to have great places to come together to build social connections and boost their wellbeing through sport or community events.

“It’s the little things that make a big difference to the way we all work, live, play and do business, and the NSW Liberals and Nationals in Government are delivering the projects that make a difference to everyday life right across regional NSW.”

Round Five of the Stronger Country Communities Fund will support local community and sporting infrastructure projects, street beautification, public programs and events that display the best of local character and community spirit.

The Stronger Country Communities Fund is part of the NSW Government’s \$3.3 billion Regional Growth Fund, designed to support growing regional centres, activate local economies and improve services and community infrastructure in the regions.

For more information, visit: nsw.gov.au/sccf