



6 November 2019

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA:

(1) MAYORAL MINUTES

MM15/2019 Strategic Review of the Resources for Regions Program -
Input Summary Report2

Mayoral Minute

Report No. MM15/2019

General Manager's Unit



MAYORAL MINUTE No. MM15/2019

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC REVIEW OF THE RESOURCES FOR REGIONS PROGRAM - INPUT SUMMARY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the General Manager prepares a submission to the proposed recommendations in the Strategic Review of the Resources for Regions Program – Inputs Summary Report.
2. That the submission be circulated to Councillors for their input prior to the November 22 deadline to Regional NSW Business.
3. That the submission makes a recommendation that program funding be extended to fund both infrastructure and programs aligned to Council Community Strategic Plans and other regional economic or planning priorities.
4. That the submission include discussion on what should be considered in a definition of mining –impacted communities, which supports recognition of mining legacy impacts.
5. That the submission include discussion on eligibility and application requirements and support additional loadings for disadvantaged communities, non mandatory co-contributions or minimum BCR requirements involved in the program.

REPORT/PROPOSAL

In April 2019 the Deputy Premier announced a Strategic Review of the Resources for Regions program. The review recommendations will help shape future rounds of the program to ensure it is designed to best support the needs of mining-impacted communities in NSW.

An initial Review Report has been completed by the University of Technology Sydney's Institute for Public Policy and Governance. The review report is available at the following link:

<https://static.nsw.gov.au/nsw-gov-au/1572410489/Resources-for-Regions-strategic-review.pdf>

A request has been received from the Acting Director, Regional Infrastructure and Programs, Department of Premier and Cabinet seeking view's on a more effective program and in particular seeking input on the UTS Report.

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Key questions to address could include:

1. What are the key benefits the Resources for Regions program can deliver to mining-related communities in NSW
2. Should the program funding be extended to fund both infrastructure and programs aligned to Council Community Strategic Plans
3. What is the best way to determine if a community is mining impacted and if it should be eligible to receive funding under the program
4. How should funding be allocated under a new program including whether areas with higher concentrations of mining should receive a higher allocation

For Cessnock, other key areas of concern include co-contribution requirements, eligibility to be involved in the program and the impacts on low socio economic communities.

Responses have been requested by **COB Friday 22 November 2019**, and due to the short timeframes, it is considered that preparation of a response by the General Manager and distribution to Councillors for input into the submission is suitable, rather than inclusion of a possible draft report and submission to the Council meeting of 20 November 2019.

ENCLOSURES

There are no enclosures for this report