

HUON VALLEY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

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Council attracts millions in Grants

The Huon Valley Council has applied for and received more than \$2.5million in Federal and State Grants in the last 12 months. This is on top of the \$2.6million from the Federal Financial Assistance Funding for the maintenance and upkeep of roads in the municipality.

Huon Valley Commissioner Adriana Taylor says grant funding is a very important component of service provision and infrastructure improvements in the Huon Valley.

"Our staff are constantly preparing and applying for grants from both levels of government so the services we provide can continue at the same level.

"Our successful applications include more than \$1.641 million for the Huonville stormwater project, more than \$470,000 for childcare and vacation care programs.

"For example, the provision of Council child care for residents in Dover and Geeveston would not be sustainable without grant funding from the Department of Education and Training.

"We're constantly lobbying the State Government on behalf of the Valley. These efforts have resulted in the shade sails for the Huonville swimming pool, the kayak platform at Ranelagh, the extension to the Southbridge waste transfer station, the construction of the Cygnet Skate Park and a playground and half basketball court at the Huonville Skate Park.

"Council have commitments for \$7.5 million for the Channel Highway diversion and improvements to Arve Road in Geeveston, Hastings Caves Road and the Franklin Foreshore redevelopment including the shared pathway between Huonville and Franklin and feasibility studies into a possible Mountain Bike Trail and to upgrading Jeffreys Track. "There are almost 17,000 residents in the Valley and the rates levied on properties only go so far to cover service provision for such a large area (5.5 thousand square kilometres).

"Council's work on achieving this grant funding might happen in the background but it makes a big difference to the services and infrastructure we provide and the amount of rates residents pay," Commissioner Taylor said.

For more information Adriana Taylor – Huon Valley Council Commissioner Phone (03) 6264 0300