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## **Old Bega Hospital (R.180050) Reserve Land Manager**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **Building contract awarded for partial restoration of the Old Bega Hospital**

A building contract was awarded on 19 April 2023 for restoration of the main building at the Old Bega Hospital Community Cultural Centre, Bega.

The successful contractor is local builder Leser Build. The Reserve Land Manager congratulates Leser Build for its winning tender, and thanks the other builders who tendered for the project.

Chair of the Reserve Land Manager, Patricia Jones, said, "Awarding this contract is the culmination of many years of work by the community to design and fund the restoration.

"The contract has been made possible by a number of grants: \$1.55m from the Australian Government, a \$100,000 NSW Heritage Activation grant; \$421,000 from NSW Crown Lands; and \$3m from the NSW Regional Communities Development Fund.

"Restoration work is expected to take about a year. When completed, only about half the building will be available for the community to use, but it will have a complete roof and all the essential services - water, sewerage, electricity, fire protection and security."

The Old Bega Hospital has been a community and cultural centre for the Bega area since it was renovated in 1988 as a bicentennial community project. The main building was gutted by an accidental fire on 2 May 2004 and has been derelict ever since. Other buildings in the precinct continue to house a range of active community groups.

The Reserve Land Manager is a volunteer community group that manages the Old Bega Hospital Community Cultural Centre on behalf of the owner, NSW Crown Lands.

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