



The Hon. John Barilaro MP

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Skills

Minister for Small Business

IM16/26429

COPY

Ms Patricia Jones
Chair
Old Bega Hospital Reserve Trust
PO Box 382
BEGA NSW 2550

Dear Ms Jones

Thank you for your letter of 19 September 2016 concerning your request for an amendment of the existing Funding Deed for the grant of \$500,000 provided from the Regional Assistance Fund for restoration work on the Old Bega Hospital.

I can advise that the NSW Government is happy to extend the period of the offer of the grant and the Office of Regional Development (ORD) will prepare an amendment to the Funding Deed. Please note that there is no stipulation for Commonwealth funding within the Funding Deed, as the Deed simply requires that the project secure the balance of funding from "other sources".


It will remain a requirement of the Funding Deed that the Trust secures the balance of required funds of \$1.74 million to complete the project from other sources. I also wrote to the Deputy Premier, the Hon Troy Grant MP, on 26 August 2016 to advise him of consideration of the Trust's request for amendments to the Funding Deed.

Your request to remove the requirement that funds be expended only on the roof component will require further consideration by Departmental officers as this variation is outside of the original offer of assistance.

I am further informed that although there will be no further funding rounds under the National Stronger Regions Fund, there may be funding available under the new Commonwealth Building Better Regions Fund, that will support infrastructure and community initiatives in areas outside of major cities. Once information regarding this program is available, the Trust will be advised.

I have asked that Megan Cleary, Business Development Manager at the ORD Nowra Office be available to discuss the matter further with you. Ms Cleary can be contacted on 4428 9126 or by email at megan.cleary@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely


The Hon. John Barilaro MP
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4 NOV 2016