



17 August 2015

Dr Peter Hendy MP
Federal Member for Eden-Monaro
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Dear Dr Hendy

Old Bega Hospital

Old Bega Hospital Reserve Trust, a State Government Trust, is responsible for the care and control of the Old Bega Hospital located on the Old Princes Highway, Bega. The Reserve Trust has been working very hard, since the unfortunate fire that partially destroyed the main building, to restore the site and grow the facility into a regional community and cultural centre.

The Reserve Trust has developed a focussed Business Plan and has raised funds for a number of projects on the site. There is still a high need for funding for the restoration to achieve the business plans intended outcomes. Whilst the State Government has committed funding of \$500,000 with conditions there is still considerable funding to be raised. Council has assisted the project with as much in-kind assistance as possible and with the waiving of fees and provision of building advice.

At its meeting on 10 June 2015 Council resolved:

That Council include the Old Bega Hospital in its strategic plans, with Council shown as a facilitator and not a funding body.

Council is committed to supporting local groups achieve their plans of providing key community, cultural and recreation facilities. In the Council's adopted strategic plan there is clear intent to show that projects such as the restoration and future development of the Old Bega Hospital are important. As there are a number of these projects across the Shire Council has not previously, specifically articulated the various individual projects. The above resolution will see the Old Bega Hospital project listed and we will work to ensure similar projects are also covered. Council will to assist the Reserve Trust access appropriate funding from State and Federal Government to implement their plans.

The Old Bega Hospital has wonderful community support and current usage, whilst extensive, is curtailed by the requirement to refurbish and develop the building damaged extensively by fire.

Council supports the centre's vision to develop a centre for the region's identity, a place where we celebrate our past, nurture our community and dream about our future.

Yours sincerely

Cr Michael Britten
Mayor