

MEDIA RELEASE – 23 January 2017

RDA assisting regions in the gulf with grant applications

Councils and not-for-profit organisations in Normanton, Mornington Island and Burketown can learn how to prepare stronger grant applications, through workshops being held by Regional Development Australia.

RDA is holding free workshops over the coming weeks, to provide advice on developing applications for the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund.

RDA Chief Executive Officer Glenys Schuntner said the new program is just for rural, regional and remote communities.

"The program provides funding for both infrastructure projects and community investment that will create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities," Ms Schuntner said.

Burke Shire Council Mayor Ernie Camp said funding of this type had allowed the council to complete ambitious projects.

Over the past two years, RDA has helped secure \$3.6 million for three projects in Burketown.

"Funding of this type has allowed Burke Shire Council to complete a number of projects, including; the Doomadgee to Burketown Optic Fibre Link, which has modernised internet services in Burketown, and the Albert River Pontoon, which has improved boating safety and access," Cr Camp said.

"With limited own-source revenue, council is only able to deliver such transformative projects through external funding.

"Programs like the Building Better Regions Fund are therefore crucial to enable council and other non-commercial organisations to access funding to develop infrastructure and services for our Gulf communities now and into the future."

The free RDA workshops will be held in Normanton 30th January, Mornington Island 1st February and Burketown 7th February, with tickets available on-line at townsvilletickets.com.au

For more information on the RDA workshops go to: www.rdanwq.org.au

Building Better Regions Fund applications have now opened and guidelines are available at: www.business.gov.au/assistance/building-better-regions-fund

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