Louise Markus Federal Member for Macquarie said Councils and incorporated not-for-profit organisations in the electorate of Macquarie will now be able to apply for funding of between $20,000 and $10 million for capital infrastructure projects under Round Two of the National Stronger Regions Fund.

Mrs Markus said she would encourage all eligible parties to apply, with the National Stronger Regions Fund designed to strengthen communities and deliver economic growth within Australia’s regions.

“There were 405 applications received under Round One seeking funding of over $1.2 billion, reflecting on the importance of this programme to Australia’s regions,” Mrs Markus said.

“Given that Round Two applicants will now have more time to develop and submit their applications the quality for this round is expected to be much higher.

“This programme presents a key opportunity for local councils and organisation to receive much needed funding towards priority projects, and I would encourage all eligible parties to submit an application.”

Mrs Markus said following feedback from stakeholders on Round One, some changes have been made for Round Two.

“Under Round Two, $25 million will be quarantined for those projects seeking funding of $1 million or less. This will create more opportunities for councils and organisations in Macquarie who may not need $10 million in funding, but do need a smaller amount to achieve real outcomes,” Mrs Markus said.

“Applicants will also be allowed to submit two applications. This is a huge boost for potential applicants in Macquarie, allowing them to target two key projects which may not have been funded by other means.”
The Australian Government is providing $212 million to successful applicants under Round One of the programme.