

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Attention: News Editor

### **Projects to build opportunity and lifestyle**

Thirteen Great Southern organisations will build opportunities and lifestyle in the region with the help of more than \$1.5 million in funding through the most recent round of the Regional Grants Scheme run by the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC).

On 27 July, Regional Development Minister Terry Redman announced the successful applicants for the grants, which are made possible by the State Government's Royalties for Regions program.

GSDC Deputy Chair Ross Thornton welcomed the Minister's announcement and said the projects would build on the work of earlier rounds of the scheme.

"Previous rounds of the Regional Grants Scheme have supported over a hundred projects in total, with more than \$11 million of funding," Mr Thornton said.

"Funding announced by the Minister in this latest round will improve opportunities in the region through projects like the Great Southern Centre for Outdoor Recreation Excellence and the Albany Community Enterprise Development Centre.

"Better firefighting capacity and an upgraded sea rescue boat at Denmark will improve safety services for the local community and visitors.

"Community facilities will be improved in Pingrup, Cranbrook and Nyabing, and there is support for tourism and events," Mr Thornton said.

Applications for funding through the Regional Grants Scheme opened in January, and 32 grant submissions were lodged by the close of applications in March, seeking a total of more than \$4.8 million in funding.

A full list of the successful applicants is on the GSDC website at [www.gsdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gsdc.wa.gov.au).

The Regional Grants Scheme provides funding from \$50,001 to \$300,000 to support projects that will attract investment and increase job opportunities and help to improve the quality of life in regional communities.

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