Memorandum

To:	All SLSNSW Clubs & Branches
From:	Nikki Ronald, Partnerships Manager, SLSNSW
Date:	23 November 2026
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Subject:	Upcoming Grant Opportunity – Aus Gov Growing Regions Program Round 3

Following media coverage over the past couple of months promoting the **Australian Government's Growing Regions Program Round 3**, we're sharing some early information to help clubs with suitable projects understand the likely requirements and start preparing. The program is expected to fund shovel ready new, expanded or upgraded community infrastructure that delivers broad community benefits in regional, rural and remote Australia. Funding is currently provided for in the Federal Budget, with the next round forecast to open between July and December 2026. At this stage, there is no published information confirming whether this timeframe remains current.

As the program guidelines are not yet available, it is unclear whether the next round will involve a two-stage EOI and full application process or require a full application from the outset. Previous rounds have been open for around five weeks, so clubs with eligible projects are encouraged to prepare for a full application now to ensure they are ready regardless of the approach adopted.

Based on the Round 2 guidelines, the potential project requirements were as follows:

- Applicant must have a cash co-contribution of at least 50% of the total project available now
- DA or all approvals are well advanced
- Project must require grant funding of $500,000 to $15 million
- Project located in an eligible location – mapping tool available here
- Not yet commenced and can wait to start until potentially 3-4 months from when applications close and be completed within three years

If your project is eligible we strongly encourage you to commence preparations – in the previous round mandatory attachments included:

- Formal confirmation of cash contribution
- Evidence of tenure
- Business case
- Evidence the project is shovel ready including approved DA, Project designs and timelines
- Evidence of costings (QS, quotes)
- Evidence of community support

A further memo will be issued when the round opens. In the meantime if your club has a project that is shovel ready, and has the required cash contribution, please contact the SLSA Grant Seeking Unit ASAP -

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Kind regards,
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