

## MEDIA RELEASE: TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER, 2018

## A promising result for the Euroa Health Working Bee

Representatives from the local community, Euroa Health, Euroa RSL and Strathbogie Shire Council gathered for a Twilight Working Bee to clean up the currently unused Amaroo and Euroaville facilities on Monday, 15 October.

This came as part of a concerted effort to make the facilities more presentable when touring to advocate for funding to make use of the facilities as a Post-Traumatic Stress Wellness Centre for veterans and emergency service workers.

Council was honoured by the attendance of Member for Euroa and Deputy Leader of The Nationals Steph Ryan and new Labor candidate for Euroa Fionna Deppeler-Morton.

Ms Steph Ryan was so impressed by the concept that she announced her commitment to funding \$200,000 for a feasibility study to explore the viability of such a facility if the coalition is elected to govern in the State Government elections on 24 November 2018.

"Euroaville and Amaroo were established through the hard work of volunteers so it was great to see the community again banding together to work towards finding a new purpose for them," Ms Ryan said.

"The community's vision for a hub for veterans dealing with post-traumatic stress is wonderful and I'm keen to see it advance by funding the necessary feasibility study if I am elected to government."

Such a centre would provide retired veterans and emergency service workers and volunteers suffering post Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS) with short term accommodation, wellbeing services and training and employment opportunities.

The aim of the centre would be to assist as a springboard for those suffering from PTS back into the community and minimise their risk of mental health problems and homelessness.

It could also prove to be of significant economic and social benefit to the region and would put to use two currently disused community assets.

Strathbogie Shire Mayor Amanda McClaren said the working group is excited to have received an election promise after all of their hard work advocating for feasibility.

"A feasibility study will guide future planning, decision-making and investment for this project," Cr McClaren said.

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Media contact: Clare Allen- 0418 336 078

Key Spokesperson: Mayor Amanda McClaren- 0409 700 958