

From: Lithgow City Council [mailto:council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 13 May 2019 8:31 AM
To: Technology One Connect
Subject: FW: Drought Communities Programme

#ECMBODY

Sent: Friday, 10 May 2019 4:54 PM
To: Lithgow City Council
Subject: Drought Communities Programme

Attention:
Mr Graeme Faulkener
General Manager, Lithgow City Council

Dear Mr Faulkener

Re: Drought Communities Programme

As requested by Lithgow City Council, the Tarana Valley Community Group would like to submit the following suggestions for effective use of the funding for the Lithgow area from the Federal Drought Communities Programme.

Due to limited time to prepare, the suggestions are simply in dot form, but we'd be happy to discuss at any time more in depth proposals, based on, but not limited to, any of the following:

- scholarship funding for youth in the district to further their knowledge and skills base in agricultural production (already under consideration by local community group)
- youth programmes in general aimed at skill building and resilience
- education days to upskill primary producers, particularly in ways to best handle drought conditions
- education aimed at regenerative agriculture and land use, which may lead to positive changes in farming practices
- any programmes/workshops that address community well being and mental health
- start up funding for those who may wish to diversify farming enterprises, leading to more economic resilience during drought

- subsidies to provide solar power and storage for primary produces to reduce the punishing power costs
- trials to compare and test the benefits/problems/viability/economic benefits of compost use on pastures, in particular comparisons of the various new products on the market. Use of compost is assumed to build soil structure which would offer pasture protection in drought conditions, but trials on local properties in local conditions would provide relevant data and information particular to this area
- fencing waterways to limit stock access and protect from erosion, areas which are particularly vulnerable in dry times. This may include provision of alternative watering points.

With more time, our group would be very happy to add to and expand on the above.
Please contact if you'd like to discuss further

regards

Annie Cook
Secretary
Tarana Valley Community Group

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