

## MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 24 October 2019

### FEDERAL GRANTS, HELPING TO MEET OUR COMMUNITY'S EXPECTATIONS



*Photo: Mayor Rasheed expressing her appreciation to Tony Pasin MP for federal funding support.*

*Photo supplied by Coastal Leader.*

Kingston District Council has recently expressed its appreciation to Mr Tony Pasin MP for federal funding support – to the tune of half a million dollars for 2019/20.

Mayor Kay Rasheed said, "being a small regional Council with rate revenue of just \$3.9m, we would not be able to deliver the level of services and infrastructure to our community without the support of the financial assistance grants from the federal government."

Included in the grant is \$269k in supplementary local road funding, which supports a key community plan theme of achieving excellence in assets and infrastructure. Mayor Rasheed said. "council is committed to delivering a high-quality road network and we know this is particularly important to our rural community".

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Being a coastal council, balancing the delivery of traditional community services and infrastructure with an increase in coastal and marine infrastructure expenses, is a daily battle. In what is presenting as an emerging and on-going trend, CEO Nat Traeger indicated that in 2018/19 Council expended over \$1m addressing these issues, thereby escalating pressure on Council to continue to service the needs of its community whilst dealing with environmental issues that are generally out of Council's control.

In highlighting Council's allocation of the federal funds, Mayor Rasheed said that they are largely used to continue to provide services at a level that meet our community's expectations. The fact that they are un-tied is also appreciated by Council as we can use the funds on priority expenditure, rather than a pre-determined project as is the case with many grants that local government generally apply for.

- ENDS -

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