

## Media Release – The Hon Shelley Payne MLC

### Funding Boost for innovative water security projects in the Wheatbelt

Monday 3 July 2023

- The Shires of Narembeen and Narrogin to receive over \$160,000 in funding through the Community Water Supplies Partnership Program
- Over \$3.4 million in funding has been provided to local governments in dryland agricultural areas to boost local community water supplies
- New water security projects to support climate resilience in our agricultural regions

The Shires of Narembeen and Narrogin will receive \$160,600 in combined funding under the State Government's Community Water Supplies Partnership Program.

The Shire of Narembeen will receive \$85,000 for four water tanks which will store harvested rainwater from the roof of the Narembeen District High School. The collected water will reduce the school's reliance on scheme water and will primarily be used for irrigating the school's oval. The water will also be available to the community for firefighting and farming during emergency periods.

The Shire of Narrogin will receive \$75,600 in funding to construct a 5,000kL stormwater harvesting dam to supply water to an additional two water tanks via a solar pump at the Narrogin Aerodrome. The new dam will be an important source of non-potable water during fire emergencies and it will also assist in the greening of the Narrogin Aerodrome.

The Community Water Supplies Partnership Program provides financial support to allow rural communities to adapt to changing rainfall patterns by establishing infrastructure that maximises the efficient use of available water resources.

Up to \$100,000 is available per project for local government and communities to develop off-farm community water supplies. Applicants must contribute 30 per cent of the total project value as a cash or in-kind contribution.

The Community Water Supply Program is jointly funded by the State Government and through the Commonwealth Government's National Water Grid Connections Funding Program.

For more information on the Community Water Supplies Partnership Program, please visit [Community Water Supply Program | Western Australian Government \(www.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.wa.gov.au)

**Comments attributed to Water Minister Simone McGurk:**

"The Community Water Supplies Partnership Program provides our rural communities with important funding to develop innovative water security projects.

"These projects are crucial for regional communities so they can secure water for important irrigation activities and also ensure there is a local water supply in emergency scenarios.

"I would like to congratulate the Shires of Narembeen and Narrogin on their successful applications for funding and I look forward to seeing the positive outcomes of the projects."

**Comments attributed to Agricultural Region MLC Darren West:**

"Congratulations to both of the Wheatbelt shires for taking the steps to ensure they have water supplies for emergency situations and their efforts to strengthen water security in their communities.

"I'd like to thank the Minister for Water and the Cook Government for investing in our regions through these important projects."

**Comments attributed to Agricultural Region MLC Shelley Payne**

"This is a great outcome for both Narrogin and Narembeen in their tireless towards securing water supplies for emergency situations in their Shires.

I really want to thank the Minister for Water and the Cook Government for investing in our regions through these important projects."

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