

Dr Catherine Dale General
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Dear Dr Dale

A Better Eurobodalla (ABE) is a community forum dedicated to achieving open, accountable and responsive government in the Eurobodalla region.

The catastrophic bushfire season of 2019-20 ravaged much of the Eurobodalla Shire, significantly affecting the economic and environmental fabric of the Eurobodalla community. There is widespread community interest in the progress of bushfire recovery efforts, which has been communicated to ABE from a variety of sources across the Eurobodalla community.

ABE is aware that Eurobodalla Shire Council secured \$5.25 million funding in the first round of the BLER (Bushfire Local Economic Recovery) program for construction of a walking trail linking coastal headlands south of Batemans Bay.

ABE notes that the second round of applications to the BLER program (which closed in January) offers the prospect for significant additional bushfire recovery activities in the Eurobodalla.

ABE therefore seeks information from Council regarding the following aspects of potential BLER funding :

- 1) Has Council submitted any grant applications for second round BLER funding?
- 2) If so, please provide a summary of the grant/grants applied for;
- 3) What criteria did Council apply in developing these grant applications?
- 4) What consultation was undertaken during the development of these applications?

ABE looks forward to your timely advice regarding these aspects of relevance to the recovery of the Eurobodalla community from the devastating fires of 2019-20.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Brett Stevenson

Co-Convenor

ABE

8/4/21