



Program Sponsors

- NSW Department of State and Regional Development
- Cooma-Monaro Shire Council
- Cooma Unlimited Chamber of Commerce
- Cooma-Monaro Technology Centre and Cooma Call Centre
- Snowy-Monaro Business Enterprise Centre (BEC)

Program Steering Committee

- Mayor - Roger Norton
- Councillor - Les Sutcliffe
- Senior Council Staff - General Manager, Neil Watt;
- Corporate Services Director, Daryl Hagger
- Snowy-Monaro BEC - Chairman, James Hatfield
- Director, Daryl Gaukroger
- NSW Department of State & Regional Development
- Regional Client Manager, Barry McDonald
- Community Development Manager, Louise Connibear
- Cooma Unlimited - President, Dugald Mitchell
- Cooma Call Centre - Manager, Christine Harris

Project Team

- Daryl Hagger - Corporate Services Director
- Caroline Fox - Economic Development & Tourism Promotions
Manager
- John Mercer - BEC Manager

Cooma-Monaro Growth Strategy Program

A NSW government funded initiative
under the NSW Country Centre's Growth Strategy

managed by the
Snowy-Monaro Business Enterprise Centre

supported by
NSW Department of State & Regional Development
Cooma-Monaro Shire Council
Cooma Unlimited Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Cooma-Monaro Technology Centre and Cooma Call Centre
Snowy-Monaro Business Enterprise Centre



Snowy-Monaro BEC

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How it started

The Alpine Regional Strategy, a regional planning document published in 2001, highlighted Cooma's role as a Regional Service Centre. It showed Cooma's potential to grow and support the Snowy-Monaro region's development.

In 2002, Cooma-Monaro was recognised by the NSW State Government as one of 14 NSW Country Growth Centres. This initiative was designed to help selected regional communities optimise their economic growth and development.

November 2002 saw the establishment of Cooma's Country Centres Growth Strategy Steering Committee. It included representatives from Cooma-Monaro Shire Council, Cooma Unlimited Chamber of Commerce (CUCCI), NSW Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) and the Snowy-Monaro Business Enterprise Centre (BEC).

By March 2003, four initial projects had been identified and DSRD agreed to fund them. These were:

- Audit of Heritage Sites within the Shire,
- Update of Council's Prospectus, Business Executive Summary Brochure and Website
- Strategic Community Development Plans for the villages of Bredbo, Nimmitabel and Numeralla plus Cooma's Polo Flat Industrial area
- Audit of Industry and Industrial Land within the shire

In January 2004, the BEC was appointed Program Manager for the Cooma-Monaro Growth Strategy Program (CMGS) for a three year period. Funding is provided by DSRD, Cooma Monaro Council, CUCCI and Cooma Call and Technology Centre.



The BEC Manager works as part of CMGS project team with Council's Corporate Services Director, Daryl Hagger, and Economic Development and Tourism Promotion Manager, Caroline Fox.

The team will complete the above projects and implement other projects agreed by council.

Projects Completed

- Audit of Heritage Sites within the Shire, with an agreed action plan to take advantage of Heritage Tourism potential.
- New Cooma-Monaro Business Information Kit and Website for relocating businesses.
- Review of village strategic plans with local villages and assistance to implement various community and tourism projects.
- Completion of industry and industrial lands audit with recommendations to Council for improvements / promotion of Polo Flat industrial area.
- Economic development reviews as part of Council's Local Environment Planning Process.
- Attending Country Week Expo and recommendation to Council on the use of this event as the foundation for the Shire's Economic Development Strategy for population, business and industry growth.
- Various assistance to new-start and relocation businesses.
- Draft submission to NSW Skills Shortage Enquiry.
- Attendance at various events / functions related to the Shire's Economic Development.
- Feasibility Review of Southern NSW proposed Gaol.
- Canberra University Relationship Review Board
- Review of Cooma-Monaro Business Development Assistance Scheme

Projects to Complete

- Economic data collection / tracking process.
- Database of business grants and finance.
- Numeralla Heritage Park Development Planning.
- Bredbo Community Planning Activity.
- Polo Flat Development Planning Activity.
- Development of Council Home-based business policy.
- Ongoing assistance to growth Cooma-Monaro Businesses

Business Relocation and Set-up Assistance

The BEC facilitates assistance for new or relocating businesses in the Cooma-Monaro Shire. The service is free under the CMGS program.