

# Grant Funding

The delivery of essential community infrastructure facilities and services provided by local councils in communities is underpinned by government grant programs.

## Funding Reform

### Our Ask

There's an urgent need to simplify the delivery of grant funds provided to local government from both state and federal governments to provide strategic and effective planning and delivery.



### Outcome

- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of funding to deliver the strategic plans developed by local government in consultation with their local communities.
- Provide greater certainty in the expectations, level of funding available and sequencing of payments to align with council and EOFY budget cycles.
- Improved workforce planning and retention, skills development / availability, and reduce the risk of escalating contractor and materials costs arising from the boom-and-bust cycle of grant funding.
- Improved equity for smaller Councils to access funding who currently have limited workforce to apply grants.



# Representing the communities of the Hunter Region

The Hunter Joint Organisation is the statutory collaborative body that brings together the **ten Councils in the Hunter Region, NSW** to provide a united and local voice for our communities

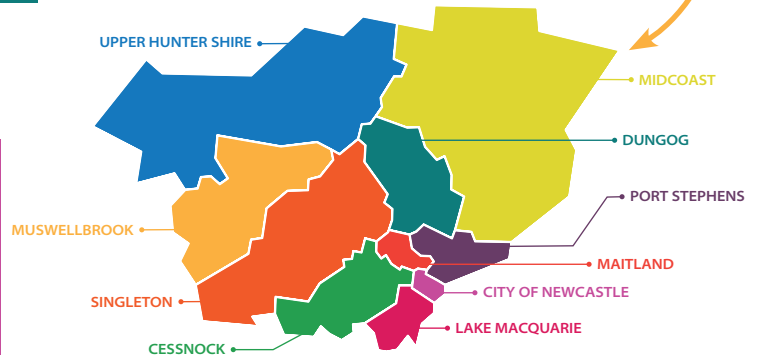


Has a rapidly growing population forecast to reach **1 million people by 2040**



Current Hunter Population **800,000**

**Gross Regional Product**  
**\$86.2b**



<b>Our Statutory Mandate</b>	Strategic Planning and Priority Setting
	Regional Leadership and Advocacy
	Intergovernmental Collaboration

## Our Member Council Leaders

**Cr Sue Moore**  
Mayor Singleton Council  
Chair Hunter JO

**Cr Leah Anderson**  
Mayor Port Stephens Council  
Deputy Chair Hunter JO

**Cr Daniel Watton**  
Mayor Cessnock City Council

**Cr Digby Rayward**  
Mayor Dungog Shire Council

**Cr Adam Shultz**  
Mayor Lake Macquarie City Council

**Cr Philip Penfold**  
Mayor Maitland City Council

**Cr Claire Pontin**  
Mayor MidCoast Council

**Cr Jeffrey Drayton**  
Mayor Muswellbrook Shire Council

**Cr Ross Kerridge**  
Lord Mayor City of Newcastle

**Cr Maurice Collison**  
Mayor Upper Hunter Shire Council