

## Weemala Lookout Enhancement

## Do It For Batlow

Snowy Valleys

Funding requested: \$264,292

Summary: The Do It For Batlow Inc. (DIFB) Committee is seeking to implement a project to enhance the values of the township, improve visitor infrastructure and promote local heritage to the township as a way to assist the residents regain pride and confidence in the future of the township. The objectives of the project are to:

Enhance the existing Weemala Lookout through the construction of a raised viewing platform.

Provide picnic and contemplative seating so that the lookout transforms from a simple 'lookout' to a place where people can linger, be consumed in the vista and enjoy the ambience.

Provide a space where local heritage can be captured and promoted to visitors to the lookout. Displays would include historical content and images of the many facets that make Batlow the town that it is, including first nations, early European settlement, agriculture and forestry and connections to World War II through the Women's Land Army that were present in Batlow.

Community value: The primary aim of the project is to create a central space that celebrates Batlow's history and natural beauty, offering a scenic lookout that encourages visitors to linger and explore. This attraction is expected to boost local tourism and positively impact the town's economy. It will also provide a meaningful opportunity for community involvement, strengthening local connections and supporting ongoing recovery from the 2020 bushfires. The project will engage with the local Aboriginal Land Council to incorporate First Nations perspectives, including Wiradjuri language workshops, cultural conversations, and AECG meetings, fostering deeper ties between communities. Designed and planned by Batlow residents and Snowy Valleys Council wherever possible, the project will also involve local schools and broader community participation through information sessions and hands-on involvement. The lookout will become a lasting point of pride - a space for social gatherings, community events, and educational displays - leaving a legacy of resilience, unity and shared identity.



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