

## Media release

## \$2.3 million boost for Riverina District

## 22 June 2024

Community safety in the Riverina District has received a boost today with the official opening of a new fire station for The Rock Brigade, and the delivery of two new fire fighting vehicles.

NSW Rural Fire Service Deputy Commissioner, Peter McKechnie was joined by member for Wagga Wagga, Dr Joe McGirr MP, for the station opening, and handover of tankers for the Fargunyah and Pleasant Hills Brigades.

"The recently completed \$1.6 million station looks vastly different to that which the brigade used almost 90 years ago when it was originally established," Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said.

"The facility features three truck bays, an additional training room, kitchen, bathroom facilities, clean room and laundry facilities, storeroom and a compressed air breathing apparatus (CABA) room.

"This significant upgrade means the facility is well equipped to support our volunteers in continuing the protection of the local community – it is also available to be utilised by the NSW SES and other community groups when required."

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said a further \$780,000 commitment was also celebrated with the handover of two new fit-for-purpose firefighting trucks.

"I am confident these state-of-the-art vehicles will prove to be an invaluable asset to the Riverina local communities" he said.

"The RFS is committed to ensuring its members have access to modern firefighting technology when preparing for and responding to fires and other incidents."

Dr McGirr thanked the local volunteer members for their dedicated service.

"The efforts of RFS volunteers do not go unnoticed and today's event provides a great opportunity to publicly acknowledge the outstanding work of our thousands of volunteer bush firefighters," Dr McGirr said.

"These men and women remain on-hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we are extremely proud and grateful for their contribution to our local community."

