

AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES

The following initiatives have been suggested so far. Do you have any further information or input on any of the initiatives? If so please email kerry@readycommunities.com.au (updated 30 July 2024)

Progress

Already in place

Requires a local lead

Complete or no longer tracking

Initiative suggested	Date	You said...	What's happening so far
Develop a farmers market	29/2	Hosting a regular farmers market and ensuring stall fees are affordable	Local social enterprise interested in starting. More info on the way (3/5) Dave Davis has applied for a Council permit to run in Clyde Street Mall (15/6) no progress to date, several local stores are contemplating selling local produce (30/7) Kempsey Bulk Health Food shop has started selling local produce, movement in West Kempsey with local bulk health food and proposed fresh produce
Initiate or expand a waste water reuse feasibility study	29/2	A study to better understand how to utilise water particularly post floods	No progress
Develop a collaborative market stall for farmers at markets (a shared stand for farmers that are working or can't get there)	29/2	A shared stand for farmers that are working or can't get to the markets	This happens at Eungai market and food swap. Can it happen in other areas too? (3/5) explore for Clyde Street Market (30/7) no update however food being sold in Kempsey Bulk Health Food store
Facilitate joining properties for scale	29/2	Creating partnerships to join properties particularly to support natural capital markets and initiatives	No progress
Provide workshops on natural capital and environmental assets	29/2	Workshop with Lorraine Gordon to better understand natural capital / environmental assets	Negotiating date for delivery (3/5) delivery with LALC in June and further workshop on 31/5 (30/7) revised delivery date TBC
Develop or implement a software app to link producers to the hospitality industry	29/2	New app to ensure hospitality industry can access local produce	(3/5) This exists: Refresh:Food (refreshfood.com.au) , GrownBy Home (US) , Local Food Loop The essential app for connecting with local producers, growers, makers, farmers markets and sellers
Develop more opportunities to link school and industry	29/2	Stronger pathways to link young people to industry	(3/5) Cultivate Ag update (30/7) Cultivate Ag still moving forward, have provided interim support as asked
Develop an agricultural school of excellence	29/2	Macleay Vocational College considering developing this model	Discussing with MVC (3/5) no update (30/7) new principal in place, no update

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Develop more opportunities for Cultivate Ag - a program that engages young people into then agriculture sector	29/2	Support opportunities related to existing Cultivate Ag program	(3/5) Cultivate Ag Open Day, July (30/7) open day postponed, to reset date
Develop or enhance a Women in Dairy program	29/2	Develop program similar to successful Taree based Women in Dairy program promoting more opportunities for women in agriculture	(3/5) no progress
Improve communication across the Macleay agriculture sector, including producers and the supply chain	29/2	Stronger communication between industry	(3/5) Working with Mangiato to access local produce for conference (30/7) local food accessed for conference
Increase and enhance mental health support for producers and the agriculture sector	29/2	Timely metal health support for farmers and easy access to links	(3/5) LLS, Support National Centre for Farmer Health Mental Health Resources - National Farmers' Federation (nff.org.au) (30/7) contacted by health, resources listed on website
Develop independent advice for farmers	29/2	Farm advice that isn't delivered by a particular brand	(30/7) have spoken with LLS who provide advice and support to farmers. No further progress
Reinvigorate or develop something like the Macleay Valley Foodbowl initiative - an initiative that provided "news, information and contacts to stimulate supply and demand for food produced in the Macleay Valley Food Bowl precinct"	29/2	Reignite Kempsey Shire Council's Macleay Valley Food Bowl initiative	(3/5) We have spoken with numerous stakeholders who are interested, however no local leadership on this. The website is still live and Council have recently posted a survey (1) We are looking to establish a more... - Macleay Valley Food Bowl Facebook (30/7) no progress
Market garden and social enterprise opportunities	29/2	Reignite CDEP market garden concepts across the community	(3/5) LTM making progress on this (30/7) no progress to date
Events showcasing local produce	29/2	Create an event such as Tasting on the Hastings	Local food will be showcased at Social Impact in the Regions
More support during and after natural disaster	29/2	More support for farmers including fencing and fodder	No progress

Strengthen supply chains for local produce	29/2	Make it easier for farmer to get produce to market	No progress (3/5)
Strengthen and share support networks for farmers	29/2	Create a central point for information about support networks	No progress
Farm visits	29/2	Create a series of farm visits	No progress (15/6) There is a business in Port Macquarie facilitating this