

.....PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT.....

## Proposed Stephen Ward Rooms-Library Outdoor Area Program

Cootamundra–Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC), identified the need of extension of Library Outdoor area for Steven Ward Rooms at Cootamundra.

It is well understood that the library serve as critical community partners by evaluating current and future needs and proactively filling gaps in the community fabric. Often libraries forget to use a key asset in their toolkit: the outdoors. Library buildings have historically included outdoor spaces, often to underscore the building's significance and to contribute to the beauty of place. Libraries of all scales and in all climates can use their outdoor spaces to fulfill their missions and effectively serve their communities. By turning the library inside-out, libraries can increase their available real estate for providing services and add a host of benefits for patrons.

Some of the benefits that with effective utilization of outdoor space, Library can provide to the community efficiently are:

- Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles
- Providing Space for Making
- Providing Respite
- Hosting Community Fun etc.

With preliminary investigation, Council proposes to utilize the available outdoor space of Stephen Ward rooms at Cootamundra to provide aforementioned benefits to the community. The concept design and the location plan of the outdoor room is as shown in the Fig 1.1, Fig 1.2 & Fig 1.3 below.

Estimated cost of Stephen Ward Rooms- Library Outdoor Area Program is \$200k



Fig 1.1 Concept Design-Stephen Wards Outdoor room reading porch outside the Library in provides respite and a space for reading and reflection.

Fig 1.2 Photo-Stephen Ward Rooms A



Fig 1.3 Aerial View-Stephen Ward Rooms at Cootamundra



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**Cootamundra Office:**  
81 Wallendoon Street, Cootamundra NSW 2590  
Phone: 02 6940 2100 Fax: 02 6940 2127

**Gundagai Office:**  
255 Sheridan Street, Gundagai NSW 2722  
Phone: 02 6944 0200 Fax: 02 6940 2127