

## **A NEW PLAYSPACE FOR LIGHTNING RIDGE ENSURING EVERYONE CAN PLAY**

Walgett Shire Council was successful in the 2020-21 Everyone Can Play Grant, Bushfire and Drought Recovery demonstration project category, and received a grant of \$511,000. The funding will deliver a new playspace on Pandora Street in Lightning Ridge. The NSW Government's Everyone Can Play program supports councils to create new playspaces across the state to ensure people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds can play.

The demonstration project will be a collaboration among Council, The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the community. The play space will demonstrate an inclusive response that supports community recovery and resilience, and will show how the project can bring a community together and to provide a new space for all to enjoy.

General Manager Mike Urquhart said, "Inclusive playgrounds provide wonderful spaces for families and friends of all ages and abilities to play, relax and connect, and this funding will help make our community even more inclusive, and the playground will add another element to the existing recreation precinct."

An all-inclusive play environment is designed to develop the physical, cognitive, sensory and social skills in children of all abilities. The new playspace will provide a range of play and recreation activities that ensures there is truly something for everyone.

"This project will show how a collaborative approach between council, community and the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment can deliver a truly inclusive space for the community and visitors alike," the General Manager said.