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Approved by: Cr Kevin Beatty, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Mayor of Cabonne Council



Central NSW Councils Pilot Simulation Technology to Enhance Disaster Preparedness

Central NSW Joint Organisation is piloting simulation technology to support disaster preparedness across the region's councils. Developed under the Disaster Risk Reduction Fund which is jointly funded by the Australian and New South Wales governments, this project represents a significant stride toward enhancing community resilience in the face of natural disasters.

The pilot program consists of eleven (11) community workshops, one per Local Government Area, using Simtable technology. These workshops target key local community agencies involved in resilience, including Councils, RFS, SES, aligning with Local Emergency Management Committee meetings in May.

"Our communities are increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, requiring proactive measures to strengthen our disaster preparedness," said Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor of Cabonne and Chair of Central NSW Councils. "Through these workshops, we aim to pilot new risk reduction technology and innovation, ultimately equipping our communities with the knowledge and resources to mitigate potential risks effectively".

Central to the pilot program is the use of Simtable technology, an advanced computer program that transforms existing maps and data into interactive, 3D simulations. This visual platform provides community members and local decision-makers with a comprehensive understanding of potential risks, enabling informed planning and responses to emergencies such as floods, fires, and other natural disasters.

"Simtable technology offers a dynamic approach to disaster preparedness, enabling communities to visualise and comprehend the impacts of various hazards," said Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor of Cabonne and Chair of Central NSW Councils. "By partnering with Hunter Joint Organisation, leveraging their extensive experience in delivering Simtable sessions in their region, we aim to ensure the successful evaluation of this innovative tool across Central NSW councils".

Location-based workshops will engage each Local Emergency Management Committee, enabling participants to explore Simtable technology's use cases and benefits firsthand. These workshops play

a fundamental role in guiding informed decisions on technology-enabled disaster preparedness strategies.

"We are committed to encouraging collaboration and innovation in disaster risk reduction," said Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor of Cabonne and Chair of Central NSW Councils. "Through this pilot program, we are not only trialling new technologies but also empowering communities to proactively prepare for and mitigate the impacts of natural disasters".

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