

What is the Avonbank Community & Coexistence Reference Group?

The Avonbank Community & Coexistence Reference Group, or CCRG, is an advisory group being established by WIM Resource to help shape the delivery of community benefits associated with the Avonbank Mine.

The CCRG will provide a structured way for local voices to inform community benefit priorities, provide input into the Community Support Program, and offer feedback on WIM's communication and engagement activities as the Project progresses.

You can learn more about the CCRG by visiting <https://wimresource.com.au/community-coexistence-reference-group-ccrg/>

Why is WIM establishing the CCRG?

WIM is establishing the CCRG to support the delivery of community benefits associated with the Avonbank Mine.

The group will help WIM hear community perspectives on local priorities, community investment opportunities, proposed initiatives, engagement activities and emerging concerns or opportunities.

It is one mechanism to support more structured community input, clearer communication and reporting back as the Project progresses.

Is the CCRG replacing existing engagement with landholders or the community?

The CCRG will not replace direct engagement with landholders, Traditional Owners, councils, community organisations, businesses or residents.

It is intended to sit alongside WIM's existing engagement and provide an additional structured forum for community benefit, communication and engagement matters.

Property-specific matters, landholder negotiations, regulatory matters, and individual stakeholder concerns will continue to be managed through the appropriate direct channels. Community members can visit our Community Information Hub at 83 Firebrace Street Horsham to meet with a member of our community team to ask questions, make suggestions, and learn more about the Avonbank Mine.

What will the CCRG do?

The CCRG will:

- provide input into the design and delivery of the Community Support Program;
- provide recommendations to WIM Resource on community investment priorities;
- help test whether proposed initiatives reflect community needs;
- provide feedback on WIM's communication materials and engagement activities;
- help identify emerging community concerns, suggestions and opportunities;
- promote understanding of the Project lifecycle, including construction, operations, rehabilitation and closure; and
- support structured discussion between WIM and a cross-section of community representatives.

Will the CCRG make decisions about the mine?

The CCRG is advisory. It will not have decision-making authority over the Avonbank Project, WIM's operations, investments or commercial decisions.

Its role is to provide advice, recommendations and feedback to WIM, particularly in relation to community benefits, community investment priorities, engagement activities and project communication.

Is the CCRG part of the mining licence process?

No. The mining licence process is a statutory process managed by the regulator. The CCRG will not replace, duplicate or determine that process. It is an advisory group established to support community benefit planning, communication and engagement as the Project progresses.

Who can apply to join the CCRG and how do I apply?

WIM is seeking Expressions of Interest from people and organisations who can contribute constructively to discussion about community benefits, engagement, coexistence and local priorities.

WIM is **currently seeking membership from community members**, and you can lodge an expression of interest (EOI) to join the CCRG by clicking [here](#) or by visiting: <https://wimresource.com.au/community-coexistence-reference-group-ccrg/>

Membership is proposed to include representatives from:

- community members;
- education and youth;
- community organisations and service groups;
- local business, training and industry;
- environmental and natural resource management groups;
- local government;
- state government economic development;
- Traditional Owners;
- directly affected landholders and neighbouring property owners; and
- WIM Resource.

Do applicants need formal committee experience?

No. WIM is seeking people with local knowledge, community connection, relevant experience and a willingness to participate constructively and respectfully. Experience in community organisations may be helpful, but it is not required.

How will members be selected?

Members may be appointed through public Expressions of Interest, direct invitations to key stakeholder groups, and recommendations from community organisations.

Applications will be assessed using criteria including local knowledge, connection to the Wimmera Southern Mallee region, ability to represent broader community interests, willingness to participate constructively, relevant experience, and diversity of representation across the group.

Appointments for members of the public will be finalised through a selection panel process.

How often will the CCRG meet?

The CCRG is expected to meet quarterly, with additional meetings during establishment and at key project stages if required.

Will members be paid?

Membership is voluntary. However, reasonable expenses such as travel or childcare may be reimbursed to support participation, up to \$500 per meeting.

Will there be an independent chair?

The CCRG will have an independent Chair to support balanced, impartial and constructive discussion.

The Chair will facilitate meetings, approve agendas and meeting summaries, and help ensure respectful, inclusive and solutions-focused discussion. We anticipate the Independent Chair will be paid at industry-standard rates commensurate with their experience.

Is WIM announcing a Community Benefits Fund now?

Community benefits are central to the purpose of the CCRG. WIM has committed to establishing the Avonbank Community Support Program, underpinned by a long-term Community Benefits Fund, which will be announced later in 2026.

The CCRG is being established to help provide community input into the design and delivery of the Community Support Program and to provide recommendations on community investment priorities.

The group is being established so local voices can help inform community benefit priorities, test whether proposed initiatives reflect community needs, and provide advice on how community investment can deliver meaningful local benefit.

Will the CCRG decide how future community benefit funding is spent?

The CCRG will help guide how future community benefit funding is considered.

Its role will be to bring local knowledge, community perspectives and practical advice into discussions about community benefit priorities. This may include identifying local needs and opportunities, advising on potential initiatives, and helping WIM understand where funding could deliver meaningful local benefit.

While the CCRG will play an important advisory role, final decisions will remain subject to WIM's governance, decision-making and accountability processes.

When will more information about community benefit initiatives be released?

Further details about WIM's future community benefit approach will be released at a later stage.

The CCRG will help inform that process by providing local knowledge, community perspectives and recommendations on community investment priorities.