

Print media story - Port Macquarie News



Looking ahead: ACES representatives Carlie Culf, David Gough, Val Robinson, Peter Havelick, John Sonter, Jessica Beresford, Renee Benwell, Cody Boylan, Darron Sellick and Andrew Bowerman are looking forward to the new solar panels being installed.

ACES to go solar

ACES Port Macquarie can now seriously think about installing a solar panel plant on their building following a community building partnership grant.

The \$15,000 announcement was made by Port Macquarie MP Leslie Williams on Tuesday afternoon.

ACES chief executive John Faithfull said the money would help the organisation start their project.

"This solar panel plant could enable us to save up to \$8000 a year," he said.

"We consume the majority of our power during the day so this is a beneficial investment all round, but we will also tip in a modest amount."

Mr Faithfull felt the organisation's ability to not request funding for their projects unless they felt they needed it could have played a role in securing the grant.

"We tend to not seek grants a great deal and we haven't applied for

one for many years so we thought our time could be up," he said.

"But this isn't our project, it's a community project because they've contributed to the funding we're going to tip in."

He said the environmental targets were also a positive aspect for the final outcome

of the project and that the benefits were wide-reaching.

"It's similar to receiving a lower-end support package for a person with a disability."

Mr Faithfull was hopeful the solar panels would be installed by the end of the financial year.