

Southern Cross Gold Consolidated Community Reference Group Communiqué

August 2026

The Southern Cross Gold Consolidated (SXGC) Community Reference Group (CRG) met in August at Clonbinane Hall. The meeting focused on current exploration activities, noise monitoring, community feedback, CRG membership and ways to strengthen the role of the CRG.

Key topics discussed

SXGC project update

- The exploration tunnel is approximately 22% complete, with completion currently expected in mid-January 2027.
- Surface and underground drilling is continuing. Water bore drilling was due to resume at the end of August, with work limited to 8am-5pm on weekdays.
- Underground drill rigs are planned to commence from October and will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The construction team is already operating 24/7.
- Infrastructure and site facilities continue to progress. Hydro-mulching has successfully established native grasses. Ventilation fans have been installed.
- Emergency and bushfire management planning is progressing, including planned training and familiarisation with local brigades. An external consultant is supporting bushfire management planning, incorporating feedback from local CFA representatives.

Noise monitoring and management

SXGC Environment Manager provided the CRG with a presentation on how noise is predicted, monitored and managed.

- Both attended and continuous noise monitoring are being undertaken.
- Noise modelling is used to predict potential noise levels.
- The EPA noise limits presented to the CRG were 46 dB(A) during the day, 41 dB(A) in the evening and 36 dB(A) at night.
- SXGC will provide a more detailed noise monitoring update to the CRG as a follow-up action.

Water and environmental monitoring

SXGC provided an update on monitoring of Sunday Creek. Baseline monitoring commenced in March 2026, with quarterly groundwater and surface water monitoring required. SXGC has elected to increase monitoring to monthly to better understand baseline stream conditions.

A stream condition assessment is underway, with a water quality summary expected to be provided to the CRG later in the year.

The EPA and Resources Victoria investigation into the previously raised Sunday Creek sediment runoff matter remains ongoing with such investigations often taking 12 months to complete.

Community benefits and regional impact

The CRG discussed the potential role of the group in helping shape future community benefits associated with the project.

Mitchell Shire Council is also considering what community benefits could mean for the region.

Community grants

Another round of SXGC's community grants program is opening, with six \$600 grants available.

Future meetings

The CRG agreed to continue meeting every two months. The next meeting was scheduled for October 2026.

Stay connected

Residents are encouraged to:

- Contact the CRG via sxgcommunitygroup@gmail.com
- Visit the [SXGC website](#) for newsletters and CRG updates
- Join the SXGC email list to receive regular updates