

Shire of Mundaring

POLICY

COMMUNITY FUNDING

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PURPOSE

To outline the financial support provided to eligible local community groups and local business and industry through the Community Funding Program.

BACKGROUND

Council receives a range of requests for funding from local groups for a variety of sports, arts, recreation, environmental and community projects each year.

Council seeks to support groups to undertake these projects and in doing so, acknowledges the vast contribution made by local volunteers and not for profit groups to the social, cultural and economic fabric of our community.

This policy ensures that Shire funding resources are allocated in a way that is transparent, legal and equitable and that funded projects further the strategic aims and objectives of the Shire and represent responsible use of public monies.

POLICY

1. The aims of the Shire's Community Funding program are:

- To encourage the development of services, facilities and events that meet identified community needs.
- To promote active participation of local residents in community initiatives and the development of skills, knowledge and opportunities.
- To provide assistance to the community to develop initiatives and services that support the Shire's Strategic Community Plan.
- To enhance the image of the Shire within the community.

- To provide a level of funding that takes into account the budgetary constraints of the Shire.
 - To enable community organisations to attract other funding and in-kind support.
 - To acknowledge community organisations and volunteers for the positive contribution they make to the local community and Council's vision for the future.
 - To ensure Shire funds are distributed in an equitable and transparent manner that ensures good governance.
2. For community groups in receipt of multi-year funding from the Shire, support will be delivered in the following ways:

Four Year Service Agreements:

Service Agreements may be offered to groups who provide a service to the community. These Agreements will support groups in their operations with the services they provide closely aligned to the Shire's strategic goals. These groups are required to report six monthly against key performance indicators as agreed with the Shire. Four year Service Agreements will be reserved for groups who bring a high level return on investment. It is generally expected that these Service Agreements will be offered recurrently, provided all conditions of funding are met.

Three Year Grant Agreements:

Three year Grant Agreements may be offered to groups who have a proven track record in the delivery of their initiative. The initiatives funded at this level will be closely aligned to the Shire's strategic goals. These groups are required to report annually against key performance indicators as agreed with the Shire. It is generally expected that these three year Grant Agreements will be offered recurrently, provided all conditions of funding are met.

Annual Grant Agreements:

Grant Agreements may be offered and if approved by Council, be provided on a year by year basis. Groups in receipt of this form of funding will be required to report against agreed key performance indicators on an annual basis.

Council can consider groups progressing to a three or four year agreement if it can be demonstrated that the group is: financially sustainable, their outcomes are aligned to the Strategic Community Plan and they have the capacity to deliver services or initiatives into the future.

All Service and Grant Agreements are reviewed annually to ensure that key performance indicators and financial reporting obligations are being met. New agreements and recurrent agreements are considered by Council.

Community Grants

The Shire provides a variety of one-off community grants through the open, competitive, Community Grants Program. Guidelines pertaining to each of the

following individual grants, including eligibility criteria and promotional and acquittal obligations, are made available to all prospective applicants via the website and in paper copy on request.

Community Events Grants

This grant provides funding to groups wishing to run fetes, festivals, markets, sporting/recreational carnivals, exhibitions and small performances.

Assessment of applications for Community Events Grants will be undertaken by the Grants Selection Committee.

Matching Fund Grants

This grant provides funding for projects meeting the needs of the local community. Groups must be able to match the Shire funding dollar for dollar. Funding can be used towards equipment, minor capital upgrades, promotional material and training.

Assessment of applications for Matching Fund Grants will be undertaken by the Grants Selection Committee.

Community Quick Grants

This grant provides funding to groups for the purchase of small equipment, promotional material, training and any other small projects that benefit the community.

Assessment and allocation of funding through Community Quick Grants will be undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer.

Giving Back Volunteer Recognition Grants – Milestone Event and Volunteer Recognition Event Grants

The Milestone Event grant provides funding to community groups to help them celebrate a significant milestone achievement.

Assessment of the Giving Back Milestone Grant will be undertaken by the Grants Selection Committee.

The Volunteer Recognition Event Grant provides funding to volunteer based organisations within the shire to support groups wishing to undertake activities and celebrations for the benefit of their members with the purpose of recognising their contribution to the group.

Assessment of Volunteer Recognition Event Grants will be undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer.

Youth Engagement Partnership Fund

The Shire works in partnership with community groups to deliver a range of programs and initiatives to local young people. The Fund provides a funding pool to community groups delivering initiatives that are aligned to the objectives of the Shire's youth services model.

Grants under \$1000 will be assessed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Grants \$1000 or greater, will be assessed by the Grants Selection Committee.

Recover Together – COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund

The Shire works in partnership with community groups and local business and industry, to deliver a range of programs and initiatives to assist in recovery and to build community resilience and connectedness. The Fund will provide a pool for the 2020/21 financial year to community and business led initiatives that address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grants \$2,500 and under will be assessed by the Chief Executive Officer.

The Grants Selection Committee will approve applications between \$2,501 and \$10,000.

Grants over \$10,001 will be presented to Council for approval.