


COUNCIL POLICY

Community Grants	Adopted By Council:	01/12/98		
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	Document No:	CP004		
	Directorate:	Governance & Community		
	Responsible Officer:	Community Development Coordinator		

CONTEXT

The Community Grants Program is a valuable tool for the Borough of Queenscliffe enhancing good governance and strengthening communities. This is achieved by empowering individuals and community organisations to respond collectively to community needs.

The Community Grants Program aims to enable community groups to further meet the needs of the wider community in a partnership relationship with Council.

The Community Grants Program is based on community development principles focusing on community building and strengthening. This is achieved by assisting community groups and organisations to deliver practical community building outcomes at the local level.

POLICY

Council has the discretion to decide the amount of funds allocated yearly to the Community Grants Program.

1. Priorities For Funding

The priorities for funding are shaped by Council's Vision and Objectives and are further identified through Council's various planning processes. Projects must fit within one of the following priorities:

- Projects that increase opportunities for particular population groups – young people, older adults, people with disabilities
- Projects that improve communities' access to information about local and regional services, programs and events
- Projects that improve community facilities
- Projects that increase the range of community, recreation, sport, arts, heritage or cultural activities
- Projects that protect and enhance the natural environment

2. Funding Categories

Funds will be provided for projects and activities that fall into the following broad categories:

- Community Support and Inclusion
eg. Projects, events or activities that address social isolation, accessibility and/or provide community celebrations or events
- Leisure and Recreation
eg. Projects or activities that promote recreation, physical activity and participation
- Minor Equipment
Priority will be given to groups that demonstrate access for all, shared use of community facilities and equipment

- Arts & Culture
Priority will be given to projects that strengthen participation in arts activities and contribute to the cultural life of our community

3. Eligibility

Organisations must be a not for profit group and able to match the grant amount on a \$ for \$ basis, either in cash and/or through in-kind labour and/or materials

Religious organisations are eligible to apply for program grants only where the program is accessible to all members of the community.

4. How Projects Are Assessed

Applications are assessed by the Community Grants Sub Committee and final decisions are formally endorsed by Council. The Community Grants Sub-Committee will consist of 1 Councillor, 2 Community Members, Community Development Coordinator and Arts Officer.

Projects will be assessed according to the criteria set out in the Community Grants Program Guidelines.

5. Conditions of Funding

Individual organisations can only apply for one grant each year and Council reserves the right to consult with the Committee of Management at multi use facilities to assist in determining the priority of projects.

Organisations must sign a funding agreement and adhere to the conditions and guidelines contained in that agreement, including grant acquittal requirements.

While the maximum grant will be \$2000, Council reserves the right to consider funding larger projects.

OTHER REFERENCES

Borough of Queenscliffe 2011/12 Community Grants Program Guidelines

Borough of Queenscliffe 2011/12 Community Grants Program Application

END