

Community Grants Policy

Head of Power

Local Government Act 2009
Local Government Regulation 2012

Objective

The objective of this policy is to provide a framework for administering Council's Community Grants.

Definitions

Auspice means a community organisation that is able to accept legal and financial responsibility for the project.

CEO means Council's Chief Executive Officer.

Community organisation means:

- (a) an entity that carries on activities for a public purpose; or
- (b) another entity whose primary object is not directed at making a profit.

Application

This policy applies to the administration of Council's Community Grants.

Policy Statement

Council recognises that community organisations make an important contribution to enhancing the region's vibrant lifestyle, and to creating strong and inclusive communities. Council is committed to supporting community organisations through the provision of Community Grants.

Council provides grants to community organisations to support the sustainable delivery of community, cultural, sporting, economic and environmental activities to residents in the Moreton Bay region. Council also provides grants to recognise individuals who have achieved outstanding results in their chosen field and have qualified, or been selected by a peak body, to represent Queensland or Australia. Grants that recognise individual student achievement are also available to schools located within, or significantly servicing the Moreton Bay Region.

Individuals and community organisations can also receive grants through the Regional Arts Development Fund. This Fund provides funding for projects that promote and develop arts, culture and heritage in the Moreton Bay region. The Regional Arts Development Fund is delivered as a partnership between the Council and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

A community grant is distinct from sponsorship provided in accordance with Council's Sponsorship Policy. Sponsorship is a commercial business arrangement involving the *'right to associate the sponsor's name, products or services with the sponsored organisation's service, product or activity, in return for negotiated and specific benefits such as cash or in-kind support or promotional opportunities'* (Queensland Government Sponsorship Policy 2020).

A grant involves the provision of funding to a community organisation in return for compliance with certain terms and conditions that may not directly give approximate equal value to Council.

To follow is a list of community grants that may be provided by Council under this policy:

- Community Activities Grant;
- Community Facilities Grant;
- Regional Arts Development Fund;
- Individual Achievement Grant;
- Local Community Support Grant;
- Annual Celebrations Grant;
- Regional Economic Development Grant;
- Regional Community Project Grant;
- Community Operational Support Grant;
- COVID-19 Community Infrastructure Revitalisation Grant;
- COVID-19 Community Organisation Hardship and Assistance Grant; and
- Co-contribution Funding Program grants.

The eligibility criteria for each of these grants are listed below.

Community Activities Grant
<p>This grant provides funding to community organisations to deliver self-sustainable local community, cultural, sporting and environmental activities in the Moreton Bay Region.</p> <p>A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will benefit residents of the Moreton Bay Region; • Have \$20 million public liability insurance if required by Council and • Have no overdue Moreton Bay Regional Council grant acquittals. <p>The following are ineligible organisation types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For-profit organisations; • Government departments and agencies; • Schools and affiliated parents' associations; • Kindergartens and child care organisations; • Political groups; and • Unincorporated community groups. <p>Unincorporated community groups may apply through an Auspice which is able to accept legal and financial responsibility for the project. The Auspice organisation must meet the above criteria.</p> <p>Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.</p>

Community Facilities Grant
<p>This grant provides funding to community organisations to develop new or improve existing community facilities in the Moreton Bay Region.</p> <p>A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will benefit residents of the Moreton Bay Region; • Have \$20 million public liability insurance if required by Council; and • Have no overdue Moreton Bay Regional Council grant acquittals. <p>The following are ineligible organisation types:</p>

Community Facilities Grant

- For-profit organisations;
- Government departments and agencies;
- Schools and affiliated parents' associations;
- Kindergartens and child care organisations;
- Churches;
- Political groups; and
- Unincorporated community groups.

Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.

An eligible community organisation can receive up to a maximum of \$20,000 in total across both the Community Activities Grant and Community Facilities Grant in a financial year. Where community organisations act as an Auspice for unincorporated community groups, these funds will not form part of the auspicing organisation's maximum annual funding limit.

Local Community Support Grant

This grant provides funding to community organisations to support local projects and initiatives for a community purpose.

A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:

- Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will benefit residents of the region;
- Have \$20 million public liability insurance if required by Council; and
- Have no overdue Moreton Bay Regional Council grant acquittals.

The following are ineligible organisation types:

- For-profit organisations;
- Political groups; and
- Unincorporated community groups.

Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.

Unincorporated community groups may apply through an Auspice which is able to accept legal and financial responsibility for the project. The Auspice organisation must meet the above criteria.

An eligible community organisation can receive up to a maximum of \$5,000 in total under the Local Community Support Grant in a financial year. Where community organisations act as an Auspice for unincorporated community groups, these funds will not form part of the auspicing organisation's maximum annual funding limit.

Annual Celebrations Grant

This grant provides funding to community organisations towards the delivery of community programs, activities and events that celebrate: Youth Week; Seniors Week; National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week; Harmony Week; and Disability Action Week.

A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:

- Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will benefit residents of the region;
- Have \$20 million public liability insurance if required by Council; and
- Have no overdue Moreton Bay Regional Council grant acquittals.

The following are ineligible organisation types:

Annual Celebrations Grant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For-profit organisations; • Political groups; and • Unincorporated community groups. <p>Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.</p> <p>Unincorporated community groups may apply through an Auspice which is able to accept legal and financial responsibility for the project. The auspice organisation must meet the above criteria.</p>

Individual Achievement Grant
<p>This grant aims to support and celebrate individuals who have achieved outstanding results in their chosen field.</p> <p>An individual that applies for funding under this grant in the youth achievement category must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aged 25 years or younger at the time of the event; and • Reside in the Moreton Bay region. <p>For sporting events, written confirmation of the applicant's selection is required from the recognised state or national sporting organisation. The confirmation must include the applicant's name and level of representation at the event i.e. representing Queensland or Australia.</p> <p>For non-sporting events, written confirmation of the applicant's selection or an invitation to represent an area of interest from the event organiser or peak body is required. The confirmation must include the applicant's name and the level of representation (required to be equivalent to representing Queensland or Australia).</p> <p>An individual that applies for funding under this grant in the Commonwealth and Olympic Games category must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reside in the Moreton Bay region; and • Be selected to compete at either the Commonwealth or Olympic Games. Recognised Olympic Games events are: Summer Olympics, Winter Olympics, Paralympics, Youth Olympics, Summer Special Olympic World Games and Winter Special Olympic World Games. <p>An eligible individual can receive a maximum of two Individual Achievement Grants per financial year.</p> <p>The Individual Achievement Grant is also available to Schools located within, or significantly servicing the Moreton Bay Region, for support of student achievement or recognition awards.</p> <p>Schools can receive a maximum of one Individual Achievement Grant per financial year.</p>

Regional Arts Development Fund
<p>This grant provides funding for projects that promote and develop arts, culture and heritage in the Moreton Bay region.</p> <p>An individual that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be either an established artist or an emerging artist; • Must be based in the Moreton Bay region, or if based outside this area must be able to demonstrate how the project will directly benefit arts and culture within the region; • Be a permanent resident or Australian citizen; • Have an active Australian Business Number (ABN) as an individual/sole trader; and

Regional Arts Development Fund

- Have adequate public liability insurance.

A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:

- Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will benefit residents of the Moreton Bay Region;
- Have \$20 million public liability insurance if required by Council; and
- Have no overdue Moreton Bay Regional Council grant acquittals.

The following are ineligible organisation types:

- Government departments and agencies;
- Schools and affiliated parents' associations; unless the project engages and demonstrates a benefit to the wider community;
- Churches; unless the proposed project can be considered to be in addition to the core business of the church;
- Community organisations operating more than 30 gaming machines;
- Political groups; and
- Unincorporated community groups.

Unincorporated community groups may apply through an Auspice which is able to accept legal and financial responsibility for the project. The Auspice organisation must meet the above criteria.

An eligible individual or community organisation can receive up to a maximum of \$15,000 in total under the Regional Arts Development Fund in a financial year. Where community organisations act as an Auspice for unincorporated community groups, these funds will not form part of the auspicing organisation's maximum annual funding limit.

Regional Economic Development Grant

The Regional Economic Development Grant Program aims to support community organisations in the development and implementation of initiatives that advance the Moreton Bay regional economy and align with the strategic goals of the Moreton Bay Regional Economic Development Strategy.

A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:

- Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will benefit residents of the region;
- Have \$20 million public liability insurance if required by Council; and
- Have no overdue Moreton Bay Regional Council grant acquittals.

The following are ineligible organisation types:

- For-profit organisations;
- Government departments and agencies;
- Education institutions;
- Political groups; and
- Unincorporated community groups.

Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.

Unincorporated community groups may apply through an Auspice which is able to accept legal and financial responsibility for the project. The Auspice organisation must meet the above criteria.

Where community organisations act as an Auspice for unincorporated community groups, these funds will not form part of the auspicing organisation's maximum annual funding limit.

Applications for funding by community organisations under the grants listed above must be made in accordance with this policy and the relevant Grant Guidelines as listed below:

- Community Activities Grant Guidelines
- Community Facilities Grant Guidelines
- Local Community Support Grant Guidelines
- Annual Celebrations Grant Guidelines
- Individual Achievement Grant Guidelines
- Regional Arts Development Fund Guidelines
- Regional Economic Development Grant Guidelines

Council reserves the right to part fund any grant application.

Regional Community Project Grant

Council may respond to unique community circumstances by providing a 'Regional Community Project Grant' to a community organisation where it determines there is significant regional public benefit.

A Regional Community Project Grant can only be approved by a resolution of Council. This Grant can only be awarded to a community organisation that is based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will provide significant public benefit to residents of the region.

To determine if there is significant public benefit in awarding a Regional Community Project Grant, consideration will be given to the following:

- relevance of the proposed project to Council's vision for the Moreton Bay Region;
- alignment of the proposed project to the role and functions of Council including demonstrated economic, community, cultural, sporting or environmental benefits to the Moreton Bay Region;
- capacity of the community organisation to successfully deliver the proposed project;
- the community organisation's financial contribution to the project;
- availability of funds and value for money; and
- the specific circumstances associated with the need for Council support.

A community organisation that is successful in obtaining a Regional Community Project Grant is required to enter into a funding agreement and comply with any terms and conditions as determined by Council.

Community Operational Support Grant

Council may provide a Community Operational Support Grant to a community organisation for the delivery of services or activities that provide public benefit to residents of the region.

Community Operational Support Grants provided by Council form part of its annual budget or may be approved by a resolution of Council.

A Community Operational Support Grant can only be awarded to a community organisation that is based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that its services or activities will provide significant benefit to residents of the region.

A community organisation that is successful in obtaining a Community Operational Support Grant is required to enter into a funding agreement and comply with any terms and conditions as determined by Council.

COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Program

In response to the global pandemic declared by the World Health Organisation and the Public Health Emergency declared by the Queensland Government, Council will provide grants to support community organisations in their endeavours to respond and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. In addition to the community benefits envisaged, these grants will also aim to provide stimulus to the Moreton Bay Region economy through the engagement of local suppliers and contractors, where appropriate.

Council will determine the total allocation of funds given to the COVID-19 Community Response Recovery Program through budgetary processes. The number of grants approved by Council will depend on the demand for funding, the available budget and Council priorities. In some instances, part funding may be offered.

The following grants are to be provided under the COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Program.

COVID-19 - Community Infrastructure Revitalisation Grant
<p>Council acknowledges the various challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presents to community organisations across the Moreton Bay Region. Due to community and volunteer safety risks, many community organisations will be required to close their facilities or reduce their operations for an extended period of time.</p> <p>The Community Infrastructure Revitalisation Grant aims to provide opportunities for eligible community organisations to revitalise their existing community facilities, in preparation for their return to standard operating conditions, all while stimulating the local economy.</p> <p><u>Applicant Eligibility</u> A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will substantially benefit residents of the Moreton Bay Region; and • Have \$20 million public liability insurance, if required by Council. <p>The following are ineligible organisation types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For-profit organisations; • Government departments and agencies; • Political groups; and • Unincorporated community groups. <p>Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.</p> <p><u>Project Eligibility</u> The following projects may be supported under this grant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility maintenance projects; • Facility renewal projects; • Upgrades to existing community facilities. <p>The following are in-eligible projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects that do not meet the requirements of Council’s Community Grants Policy; • Construction of new community facilities; • Projects that are on land owned by an individual or an ineligible entity (with the exception of Government departments and agencies) • Projects that are on land owned by Government departments and agencies, and there is no current signed land tenure agreement between the eligible applicant and the Government department or agency; and • Projects that do not have the consent of the land owner.

COVID-19 - Community Organisation Hardship and Assistance Grant

As with many parts of the Moreton Bay community, the COVID-19 pandemic is anticipated to present extensive challenges to community organisations, both with respect to their financial sustainability, as well as their ability to deliver important frontline services to impacted residents.

The Community Organisation Hardship and Assistance Grant aims to provide 'quick response' financial assistance to eligible community organisations that are either: experiencing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19 related service disruptions; seeking to establish alternate service delivery models for business continuity; or seeking to provide support services to vulnerable residents impacted by COVID-19.

Applicant Eligibility

A community organisation that applies for funding under this grant must meet the following criteria:

- Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will substantially benefit residents of the Moreton Bay Region; and
- Have \$20 million public liability insurance, if required by Council.

The following are ineligible organisation types:

- For-profit organisations;
- Government departments and agencies;
- Political groups; and
- Unincorporated community groups.

Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.

Project Eligibility

The following projects may be supported under this grant:

- Direct financial assistance to community organisations experiencing hardship due to the impacts of COVID-19;
- Operational projects that support community organisations to continue the delivery of services via alternate service delivery models;
- Projects that support the delivery of services to vulnerable Moreton Bay Region residents impacted by COVID-19.

The following are in-eligible projects:

- Projects that do not meet the requirements of Council's Community Grants Policy;
- Projects with sufficient funding support from other levels of government; and
- Projects that have a commercial purpose.

Co-contribution Funding Programs

Co-contribution Funding Programs provide opportunities for eligible community organisations to apply to Council for funding assistance in meeting the financial co-contribution requirements of State and / or Federal Government funding programs (Government Funding Programs).

Council may establish a Co-contribution Funding Program (CFP) by resolution of Council, for a specific Government Funding Program. All grants awarded by Council under a CFP will be subject to:

- Council approving the project and grant amount through a dedicated CFP application process, prior to the community organisation lodging their application to the relevant Government Funding Program; and
- the community organisation being successful in their application to the relevant Government Funding Program.

When establishing a CFP, Council will also determine the relevant program parameters, which will include, but may not be limited to:

- The Government Funding Program that the CFP relates to, noting that the program must have an applicant co-contribution requirement;
- The percentage of the applicant co-contribution that Council will fund for successful applications;
- The maximum and / or minimum grant amount that Council will award under the CFP; and
- The maximum total funding that Council will approve under the CFP.

A community organisation that applies for funding under a CFP must meet the following criteria:

- Be based in the Moreton Bay Region and/or can demonstrate that the proposed project will benefit residents of the Moreton Bay Region;
- Have \$20 million public liability insurance, if required by Council; and
- Have no overdue Moreton Bay Regional Council grant acquittals.

The following are ineligible organisation types:

- For-profit organisations;
- Government departments and agencies;
- Political groups; and
- Unincorporated community groups.

Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under a CFP.

A community organisation that is successful in obtaining a grant under an established CFP is required to enter into a funding agreement and comply with any terms and conditions as determined by Council.

Related Documents

This Policy complements and is to be implemented in conjunction with other Council policies, directives and relevant documents published by other agencies including, but not limited to:

- Community Activities Grant Guidelines
- Community Facilities Grant Guidelines
- Local Community Support Grant Guidelines
- Annual Celebrations Grant Guidelines
- Individual Achievement Grant Guidelines
- Regional Arts Development Fund Guidelines
- COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Guidelines
- Discretionary Funds Policy 2150-101
- Discretionary Funds Availability Notice
- Discretionary Funds Guidelines

Review and evaluation

This policy will be reviewed for applicability, effectiveness, and consistency with relevant legislation, Council resolutions, and other Council documents. Reviews of this policy will occur as required, or at least once every four years.

The impact of this policy will be measured by the extent to which Council's grant programs support the sustainable delivery of community, cultural, sporting, economic and environmental activities to residents in the Moreton Bay Region.

Responsibility

This policy is to be:

- (1) implemented by the Manager, Community Sport and Recreation; and
- (2) reviewed and amended in accordance with the "Review Triggers" by the Director, Community and Environmental Services.

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