

Community Grants Policy

Responsible Manager	Head of Corporate Affairs
Head of power	<i>Local Government Act 2009</i> <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Authorised by	Council
Authorised on	21 July 2020
Implemented from	August 2020
Last reviewed	July 2020
Review history	2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2018
To be reviewed on	30 June 2021
Corporate Plan	People, Sustainability and Prosperity

1. Purpose

Council is strongly committed to support and promote community-based groups and organisations which provide programs, activities, events and projects that enrich the diversity of cultural, social, sport and economic development opportunities available to the residents and businesses located in the Torres Strait.

Council is also committed to supporting individuals to participate in events in and outside the region to achieve results and bring back new experiences to share with the region.

This policy seeks to guide the delivery of Council's Community Grant Program which provides financial and in-kind assistance to individuals and community-based groups and organisations.

2. Application

This policy applies to the Community Grants Program and all expenditure and in-kind activities associated with individuals and community organisations.

3. Legislation/Policies

This policy is established with reference to obligations specified in the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Community organisations are defined in the statutory regulations as follows:

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.

To be eligible for grants, applicants must fit within the above definition or be an individual who are also eligible for assistance. To be eligible an individual must not have breached an agreed current payment plan with Council.

4. Eligible Projects/Activities

Eligible applications must be:

- a) Applying for a project or activity taking place within the TSIRC area; or
- b) applying for a project or activity benefiting TSIRC residents.

Eligible applications must not be:

- c) Requesting funding or support for a project or activity that:
 - has already occurred; or
 - where necessary permits and approvals have not been obtained; or
 - does not involve the Torres Strait Island Regional Council residents or communities
- d) For projects or activities that:
 - duplicate existing services or programs; or
 - have a purely political purpose; or
 - have a life greater than 12 months from date of application for funding.

5. Assessment

In approving a request for assistance Council will consider:

- The benefit to the community;
- The impact on Council's operations of any provision of plant equipment and materials for in-kind donations;
- The availability of funds within the Council's annual budget;
- Whether the entity has sufficient funds of its own;
- The amount of financial assistance Council has provided to the organisation in the preceding 12-month period;
- The real or in-kind value of the group's/organisation's contribution to the project/event;
- Whether the organisation is incorporated under State or Commonwealth legislation; and
- The GST status of the applicant organisation.

Manager Responsible for Review:

Head of Corporate Affairs

Adoption: 21 July 2020
Due for Revision: June 2021

Hollie Faithfull
A/Chief Executive Officer

