

Policy Type

Council

Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the provision of community funding to local community groups, organisations and individuals.

Policy Statement

- (1) Council provides up to two per cent of the annual rates income to a budget for grants, donations, sponsorships and subsidies. To ensure that these funds are distributed in a rational way, eligibility, selection and evaluation criteria are required for the assessment and prioritisation of applications to be funded.
- (2) The funds allocated to local community groups, organisations and individuals are to assist in the provision of activities and services that benefit the local community. This program is divided into seven (7) categories (A-G) to encourage and cater for a range of applications and activities.

Community Funding Category	Description	Open for applications	Maximum amount available per application	Approval
Category A – Community Grants	One-off projects, programs or activities that benefit the wider Cockburn community.	Twice a year, in March and September	\$15,000	Chief Executive Officer
Category B – Cultural Grants	Events, projects, workshops and residencies that embody at least one of the diverse art and cultural interests of the Cockburn community.	Twice a year, in March and September	\$5,000	Chief Executive Officer
Category C – Sustainability Grants	Projects or activities that demonstrate Sustainability principles and themes for the benefit of the Cockburn community.	Open all year round	\$4,000	Chief Executive Officer
Category D - Small Events Sponsorship	Small-scale neighbourhood events across Cockburn.	Open all year round	\$3,000	Chief Executive Officer

Community Funding Category	Description	Open for applications	Maximum amount available per application	Approval
Category E - Donations	Financial contribution towards operating or ongoing expenses for not for profit or benevolent organisations to assist the disadvantaged and/or vulnerable within the Cockburn community.	Twice a year, in March and September	\$20,000	Council Decision
Category F – Sponsorships	Financial contribution to a significant event, activity, service or endeavour to either a Group or Individual and, in return, the City receives public recognition for its contribution.	Groups - Twice a year, in March and September Individuals - open all year round	Groups - \$20,000 Individuals - \$1,000	Groups – Council Decision Individuals Chief Executive Officer
Category G – Major and Minor Funding	Major funding proposals, minor funding and requests outside of established categories.	Upon enquiry and invitation to apply	Dependent on funding type	Dependent on funding type Applications over \$5,000 are to be referred to Council for decision

- (3) The categories are described in further detail in the associated 'Community Funding Guidelines for Community Organisations and Individuals' that outlines the relevant selection and evaluation criteria, and limitations of each funding category.
- (4) Applicants for funding to be distributed from the Grants and Donations budget are required to apply and address the relevant criteria in one of the funding categories. Assessment and approval will be done according to the category approval or recommendation by the relevant Council Committee to Council, and applicants cannot bypass these processes.
- (5) An applicant may successfully apply for and receive funding from two different categories from this policy per financial year, provided they meet the criteria for the particular category, however, the applications cannot be for the same project. Applicants that have been successful in previous years are eligible to apply provided all previous funding has been satisfactorily acquitted.

Title	Community Funding for Community Organisations & Individuals (Grants, Donations & Sponsorships)
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Strategic Link:	Strategic Community Plan
Category	Community Support
Lead Business Unit:	Community Development and Services
Public Consultation: (Yes or No)	No
Adoption Date: (Governance Purpose Only)	12 May 2026
Next Review Due: (Governance Purpose Only)	May 2028
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