

Community Grants

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 102

1. POLICY PURPOSE

This Policy provides a framework for Gannawarra Shire Council ('Council') to allocate funds for community grants in an effective and equitable manner for the benefit of community organisations, groups and individuals.

This Policy supports the principles outlined in Council's Policy 150 Fair Access to promote inclusivity, gender equity, and equitable access to resources and opportunities across all community sectors.

2. SCOPE

Gannawarra Shire Council will provide a Community Grants Program which will open for applications annually and will offer funding support for community projects, programs, events and activities.

Council will determine the amount of funds for the Community Grants Program each year as part of the budget preparation process.

Assessment and Distribution

Grant distribution will consider the Fair Access Principles, ensuring equitable opportunities for women, girls, and people from all socio-economic and cultural backgrounds to benefit from community resources.

Funds will be administered using the eligibility criteria and conditions in the Community Grant Guidelines as endorsed by Council.

All grants, sponsorships and donations are approved on a discretionary basis.

Council funds are not to be used by recipients to make subsequent grants, sponsorship or donations to other individuals or organisation, without the prior approval of Council.

Conflict of Interest Provision

All members of the assessment panel and approvers of grant allocations must declare any potential conflicts of interest prior to reviewing or approving applications. Individuals with conflicts must abstain from decision-making on relevant applications.

Unspent Funds

Any unspent funds of a community grant must be returned to Council by the end of the funding period unless a variation is requested in writing and approved by Council.

Monitoring and Reporting

Community Grant recipients must provide acquittal reports to Council, detailing how the funds were used and

the benefits achieved, including proof of expenditure, to ensure accountability and alignment with the intended purpose.

3. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review this policy within 12 months after a general election of the Council.

At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

This Policy operates in conjunction with Council's Policy 150 Fair Access and its accompanying Action Plan. The principles and expectations of both policies should be considered during grant application, assessment and approval processes.

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna offices or online at www.gsc.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Director Community Wellbeing on (03) 5450 9333.

Records Altus Folder: 3.000518

Originally adopted: 28/06/2006

Reviewed: 24/10/2007

Minute Book Reference: 5042

Reviewed: 17/03/2010

Minute Book Reference: 6164

Reviewed: 15/03/2017

Minute Book Reference: 12502

Reviewed: 19/03/2021

Reviewed: 19/02/2025

To be reviewed: 2029

