

Community Partnerships Funding Program

**Supplementary Round
2017**

GUIDELINES



**GREATER
DANDENONG**
City of Opportunity

Council is offering eligible organisations the opportunity to make submissions to a one-off, supplementary Community Partnerships Funding round in 2017. Submissions for single-year funding are being sought from community organisations that deliver services across a diverse range of areas. These include:

- Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres
- Community Support Agencies
- Aid and Community Services Agencies and
- Cultural Organisations.

Community Partnerships Funding is provided at the discretion of Council in consideration of the role that local government plays in providing and/or supporting services for the benefit of residents. Council invites eligible organisations to apply for Community Partnerships Funding to ensure the sustainable provision of comprehensive and complementary community service provision.

Funding through this supplementary round will cover the provision of services during the period 1 December 2017 to 30 June 2018. Council makes no commitment to ongoing funding beyond 30 June 2018. Consideration of funding beyond that date will be subject to an application and assessment process in line with the Community Partnerships Funding Policy.

Why does the City of Greater Dandenong provide the Community Partnerships Funding Program?

Council provides the Community Partnerships Funding Program to ensure the community maximises access to a wide range of services, activities and opportunities that enhance effective social, economic or cultural outcomes for residents and the community.

Council achieves this goal by providing financial assistance to:

- support organisations that provide programs and services that would otherwise not be delivered
- build and support strong and viable community organisations
- increase the capacity of important local organisations to provide other government supported programs and services and
- support programs and activities that increase participation in community life and respond to changing needs and aspirations.

It is recognised that Council provides significant support to organisations to strengthen local communities. The Community Partnerships Funding Program complements this role to ensure that key organisations are adequately resourced to be able to deliver a range of important services and programs.

Community Partnerships Funding Program Principles

Council provides Community Partnerships Funding for eligible organisations to ensure the following:

- strong community outcomes
- commitment to responding to changing needs and priorities
- contribution to long term viability of key community organisations
- efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery
- accountability and transparency and
- continuous improvement.

What are the outcomes and goals?

Community Partnerships Funding Agreements will support projects and activities that align to Councils key strategic objectives as outlined in the Council Plan.

What will be funded?

To be eligible for Community Partnerships Funding, an organisation will:

- have a significant presence in the City of Greater Dandenong
- be incorporated and not-for-profit
- demonstrate a primary focus of delivering inclusive services and programs for the communities of the City of Greater Dandenong
- deliver programs and services that would not otherwise be provided
- articulate clear service priorities and expected outcomes
- possess sound governance and have effective management structures and processes
- demonstrate a need for long term financial security to commit to strategic and business objectives
- demonstrate significant benefit and build community capacity as a result of its programs and services
- be cognisant of changing community needs and priorities and respond to these in its service delivery
- comply with required legislative, legal and regulatory requirements and the conditions of relevant government funding programs and
- conduct activities that are consistent with the strategic objectives outlined in the Imagine 2030 Community Plan, the Council Plan and the Community Wellbeing Plan.

What will not be funded?

- Individuals
- profit making enterprises
- payment of outstanding loans or debts or retrospective funding
- programs and activities that are best funded under another funding program
- programs and services that are clearly the responsibility of other government departments or agencies.

Definitions:

Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres:

Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres provide a broad range of community activities and programs to enhance health and wellbeing, educational and recreational outcomes. They aim to promote civic participation, community empowerment, life-long learning and active citizenship. They also work with local residents to gain skills and pathways to learning and employment.

Community Support Agencies:

The contemporary role of the local support agency in local communities includes service provision, advocacy, social action, networking with local agencies. These organisations provide or host a variety of programs, activities and services for their local communities ranging from support for refugees and newly arrived migrants, counselling services, information provision, social research and planning, emergency relief, financial counselling and volunteer programs.

Aid and Community Service Agencies:

Material Aid Agencies provide services for their local communities, primarily material aid and emergency relief. They aim to work with local residents to promote and develop their ability to be self-determining and self-reliant and provide opportunities for community strengthening.

Cultural Organisations:

These organisations offer services, events, and activities that provide opportunities for cultural development, leisure, recreation and celebration. They aim to work with people of all backgrounds, abilities and cultures to foster respect, harmony, inclusion and belonging.

What are the Funding Categories and how is funding provided?

Successful organisations will be entitled to the base level of operational funding to support management and delivery of programs and services. The additional funding (added to the base funding) will be determined by Council using the organisation's application form, supporting documentation that verifies the organisation's level of activity and reliance on funding and Council's knowledge and understanding of the organisation's outcomes.

The following table provides guidance about the guaranteed base level of funding that eligible organisations may apply for:

Category	Base Operational Funding
Neighbourhood Houses (including Community Centres and Learning Centres)	Up to \$30,000
Community Support Agencies	Up to \$100,000
Aid and Community Services Agencies	Up to \$10,000
Cultural Organisations	Up to \$10,000

Note – Amounts shown in the table are GST exclusive and represent Year One funding only.

In addition to the base operational funding, eligible organisations may also receive funding for the following aspects of their operations:

Additional Funding For:	Level of Funding
Reliance on Council funding for employment of staff	Up to 50%
Alignment with Council's Plans and Strategies	Up to 30%
Provision of emergency relief for residents of CGD	Up to 30%
Provision of support services (particularly new arrivals)	Up to 20%
Delivery of community development and strengthening	Up to 40%
Delivery of volunteer training	Up to 20%

Note – Level of Funding percentages reflect additional percentage which may be added to base operational funding.

Conditions of Community Partnerships Funding Program

- Eligible organisations will be able to submit one submission only for the one year funding round.
- Reporting in accordance with the requirements of the Agreement will be a condition of funding. This will include reporting against Key Performance Indicators and agreed targets.
- Unexpended funds will be retained (by agreement) by the organisation. This will be subject to negotiation and agreement by Council regarding priority objectives and expected outcomes. These outcomes will include the continuous improvement of services and activities on behalf of the community of the City of Greater Dandenong.

How to apply?

Organisations can submit an application on the online Application Form located on Council's website under the Community Funding webpage.

Organisations making an application to the Community Partnerships Funding Program are encouraged to get in touch with Council Officers prior to the application being submitted to Council.

How will Applications be assessed?

The following criteria will be used to assess eligible applications to determine level of funding:

- alignment with the Community Partnerships Funding Policy
- the anticipated community benefit to be provided by the programs and activities that have been outlined
- alignment with Imagine 2020 Community Plan, the Council Plan and the Community Wellbeing Plan
- proposed budget and the organisation's reliance on Council support
- capacity of the organisation to deliver outcomes and respond to the changing community needs and priorities and
- capacity to govern and account for funds.

Eligible applications will be assessed by an internal staff panel and recommendations for funding will be submitted to Council for endorsement.

Timelines

Process	Important Dates
Applications Invited	4 September 2017
Closing Date for Applications	18 September 2017
Applications Assessed	October 2017
Applicants Notified of Assessment Outcomes	15 November 2017
Community Partnerships Agreements Signed	29 November 2017
End of Funding Term	30 June 2018
All Reporting Requirements Due	31 July 2018



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