



GRANTS TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS POLICY

Adoption Date:	July 2023	Revision Date:	July 2024
Division:	Corporate	Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer Director Corporate Services
Note:	P – Primary Author S – Secondary Author		

Policy Objective

This policy recognises and values the contribution of community groups and organizations within the Lockhart River Shire and acknowledges that through the provision of support to these groups, it can assist to foster the enjoyment, appreciation and development of sports, arts, heritage, recreation and other community activities within the shire. Support may include donations of financial assistance or the waiver of fees and charges the Council would normally charge for the use of plant, equipment, and facilities or the supply of materials.

Relevant Legislation

Local Government Regulation 2012 (s.195)

Background:

The legislation requires a local Government to maintain records of any grants it may provide to a community organisation. Grants can only be allocated in a way that is consistent with the local government's community grants policy.

Policy Statement:

The provision of community assistance is subject to the following conditions:-

- The request complies with this policy;
- The grant of Council approval in accordance with this policy;
- An appropriate allocation in the Council's annual budget;
- Where applicable, bonds must be paid regardless of any concessions or fee waivers that may be granted;
- That any equipment is to be operated by a Council employee accredited to operate that equipment; and

- That any materials provided are surplus to immediate requirements and their donation does not breach a funding agreement

Procedure/s:

In approving a request for assistance, Council will consider:-

- The public interest served by any approval;
- The impact on Council's operations of any provision of plant equipment and materials;
- The availability of funds within the Council's annual budget;
- Whether the organisation has sufficient funds of its own;
- The amount of financial assistance Council has provided to the organisation in the preceding twelve (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.

Minor in-kind support

The Council will continue to provide minor in-kind support to community based organisations from time to time with the Chief Executive Officer being delegated the authority to make decisions on the amount of assistance provided (eg: photocopying).

Appeal

Any appeal of a Council decision under this Policy will be treated in accordance with the Council's General Complaints Management Process

Budgetary implications:

Council must allow for operational waivers, material usage, consumables,, and availability of funds within its annual budget to accommodate community assistance grants, waivers, and support.

Implementation:

Policy to be implemented by the Director Corporate Services

Policy commences immediately on adoption by Council

Policy applies to all employees of the Council.

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