

COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM GENERAL POLICY

Intent

To implement, monitor and evaluate the community support program in accordance with legislative requirements and good practice

Scope

This policy applies to Council staff, Elected Members and grant applicants.

Reference

Legislation:

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Provisions

Council provides assistance to not-for-profit organisations through the Community Support Program, which is aligned with the following themes of Council's strategic direction:

- Celebrate our Communities
- Improve environmental performance
- Engage, Plan, Partner

A community organisation is defined by the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to be an entity that carries on activities for a public purpose, or another entity whose primary objective is not directed at making a profit.

Council recognises that supporting community organisations through financial and in kind assistance is essential in helping develop and deliver programs, activities and events that provide cultural, recreational, environmental, community and economic development opportunities in the Douglas Shire.

Objectives

The objective of Council's Community Support Program is to assist not-for-profit organisations develop programs, projects or activities that will benefit the Douglas Shire communities by:

- Encouraging community involvement and participation in a diverse range of sport and recreational, cultural and artistic, environmental and community activities
- Fostering an understanding and appreciation of the Shire's history and cultural diversity
- Promoting and encouraging environmental protection and sustainability
- Supporting and building relationships with disadvantaged or vulnerable groups in our communities
- Providing economic benefits to the Shire including promoting employment and volunteering opportunities
- Promoting the Shire as an area of opportunities for families, lifestyle and business
- Facilitating strong, sustainable and resilient communities
- Developing community resources (human, financial and infrastructure)
- Enhancing communications and partnerships with community organisations and Council

- Increasing opportunities for use of public space and facilities across the Shire
- Supporting the development and growth of activities and events across the Shire

Process

Information regarding eligibility (applicants and projects), types of funding, funding rounds, assessment criteria, assessment Matrix, supporting documentation, application and approval processes, acquittal process, conditions and lodgement is detailed in Council's Community Support Program Guidelines document.

This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

Manager Responsible for Review:

Executive Officer

ADOPTED: 29/04/2014

CURRENT ADOPTION: 16/06/2015

DUE FOR REVISION: 16/06/2018