

Ordinary Meeting

22 March 2017

ADDENDUM

6.4 COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND - NOVEMBER 2016 TO FEBRUARY 2017

REF: 17/17928

Attachments: Community Grants Summary and Committee Recommendations – November 2016 to February 2017 (refer *Attachment 6.4* – TRIM 17/18163)

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the recommendations made by the delegated Community Grants Assessment Panel (Panel) in regard to funds to be allocated from the Community Grants Program (Program)

Officer Recommendation:

That Council notes and supports the recommendations of the Community Grants Assessment Panel outlined in the following table:

Application	Funding sought	Recommendation
Alexandra Football/Netball Club (Purchase and installation of a new cricket pitch cover)	\$1,000	Supported
Life Saving Victoria (Sink or Swim – youth aquatic safety education program for the Murrindindi Shire)	\$3,875	Supported - subject to the participating schools being located within Murrindindi Shire
Toolangi Castella Community House (Soccer on the Hill)	\$1,448	Supported
Y Water Discovery Centre Association (Facilitating Environmental Learning Project – Stage 1 Landscaping & Amphitheatre)	\$5,000	Supported

Background:

The Community Grants Program provides the opportunity for community groups and organisations to seek funding to support a range of activities and initiatives. The Program is open to community groups, organisations and service clubs undertaking initiatives based in the Murrindindi Shire. Grant applicants can seek a maximum of \$5,000 funding for projects that meet Council's aims, as outlined in the Council Plan and Health and Wellbeing Plan. Applicants are required to make a cash and/or in kind contribution to their project.

There are three grant rounds each financial year. This previous round (Round 1) was extended by one month to cover Council's election period. Subsequently, the current round (Round 2) has run from November to February instead of the usual October to February.

Applications for the current funding round were assessed by the Community Grants Assessment Panel comprising of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer. Applications for \$1000 or less are assessed and approved by the Panel with a report to Council on their decision. Applications for \$1001 or more are assessed by the Panel who make a recommendation to Council.

Four applications for grant funding were received in this round. All applications and the Panel's recommendations are summarised in the attached document (refer to Attachment 6.4).

Council Plan/Strategies:

The community grants process is an operational outcome of the 2013-2017 Council Plan Our Community theme to provide a seed funding pool to support community initiated projects.

Legal/Policy Issues:

Implementation of the Program is in accordance with Council's policy for the Community Grants Program.

Financial/Resources/Risk:

The Community Grants budget for the 2016-17 financial year was \$30,000 and a total of \$15,776 in grants has been approved. The remaining budget allocated to Community Grants for the 2016-17 financial year is \$14,224.

The Panel is recommending a further expenditure of \$11,323. There is one further grant round (March to June) to be paid within this financial year budget.

Discussion:

In total, four applications were received from community organisations for the November 2016 to February 2017 round. These applications are listed in the attached Community Grants Summary.

The Panel supported one application that fell within its delegation. A grant of \$1000 has been provided to the Alexandra Football/Netball Club for the purchase and installation of a new cricket pitch cover to protect the cricket pitch from damage and football players from injury.

The Panel recommended that two applications be supported:

- Toolangi Castella Community House sought funding (\$1,448) to bring together young people from Fitzroy and Richmond (mostly Sudanese, Afghan, Ugandan and Vietnamese heritage) to play soccer with youth from Toolangi, Castella and the Kinglake area
- Y Water Discovery Centre (YWDC) Association sought funding (\$5,000) to progress the uncompleted landscaping and better manage access to the YWDC including creation of an amphitheatre looking out onto the wetlands, enabling better use of the area

The Panel recommended that one application should receive conditional support:

- Life Saving Victoria sought funding (\$5000) to deliver Sink or Swim Programs in local schools to equip youth with skills that prepare them for visits to their local aquatic environment and reduce accidental injury and death by drowning

The Panel recommended this application be supported on the condition that the schools were within Murrindindi Shire.

Council officers will provide feedback to applicants in writing and where necessary will contact them directly to discuss their proposals.

Consultation:

The community grant applications are assessed by the Community Grants Assessment Panel.

Conclusion:

Council, on the recommendations of the Community Grants Assessment Panel has successfully provided funding to a range of community groups across the shire. Council officers will continue to assist and support the community to identify potential projects for funding.

Summary Community Grants Program - Assessment Panel Recommendations

November 2016 to February 2017

No	Org/Club	Project Name/Brief Description	Project Value	Amount Requested	Previous Grant?	Comments
1	Alexandra Football/Netball Club	<p>Purchase and installation of a new cricket pitch cover</p> <p>This project will provide a new cricket pitch cover that will protect the cricket pitch. The cover also gives protection to football players from injury as well as other users of the Reserve.</p> <p>The Alexandra Football/Netball Club and the Alexandra Cricket Club have partnered to purchase, maintain, install/remove and store the current cover which now require replacement.</p>	\$3,630	\$1,000		The Assessment Panel approved funding this application of \$1,000.
2	Life Saving Victoria	<p>Sink or Swim – youth aquatic safety education program for the Murrindindi Shire</p> <p>Sink or Swim aims to enhance participant's knowledge and understanding of various aquatic environments, in particular; beaches, rivers, lakes, dams and creeks.</p> <p>The program is delivered in a classroom setting at participating schools by a lifesaver providing practical components and scenarios relevant to participant's knowledge, the program will encourage participants to be safe while enjoying the water and increase their resilience through the discussion of aquatic risks and risk taking behaviours.</p> <p>The project will equip youth with skills that prepare them for visits to their local aquatic environment in order to reduce accidental injury and death by drowning in the community.</p>	\$7,725	\$3,875	No	The Assessment Panel recommends funding this application of \$3,875 on the condition the proposed Sink or Swim Program is delivered within Murrindindi Shire.
3	Toolangi Castella Community House	<p>Soccer on the Hill</p> <p>To bring together young people from Fitzroy and Richmond (mostly Sudanese, Afghan, Ugandan and Vietnamese heritage) to play soccer with youth from Toolangi, Castella and Kinglake area. To introduce local youth to youth from other cultures.</p>	\$3,756	\$1,448		The Assessment Panel recommends funding this application of \$1,448.
4	Y Water Discovery Centre Association	<p>Y Water Discovery Centre – Facilitating Environmental Learning Project (Stage 1 – Landscaping & Amphitheatre)</p> <p>To progress the uncompleted landscaping and better manage access to the YWDC including creation of an amphitheatre looking out onto the wetlands enabling a better use of the area.</p>	\$10,005	\$5,000		The Assessment Panel recommends funding this application of \$5,000.