

Strategic Reference	Outcome 3 - Community Strategy 1.2 - Support the provision of formal and informal sport, recreation and play spaces for the community to enjoy. Strategy 1.3 - Work with the community to foster art and cultural activities. Strategy 1.4 - Support volunteering as an essential element in delivering community outcomes and building wellbeing. Strategy 2.1 - Provide welcoming spaces and places for the community through our libraries, community centres and council and community facilities. Strategy 2.2 - Work with communities to provide and promote a range of programs and opportunities to connect and engage around shared interest. Strategy 3.4- Contribute to the development of active ageing programs and events.	
File reference	AR23/11119	
Responsibility	Office of Chief Executive Officer	
Revision Number	1	
Effective date	March 2024	
Last revised date	N/A	
Minutes reference	053/24	
Next review date	Within six (6) months following a periodic election, due to legislative changes, or as required by Council	
Applicable Legislation	Local Government Act 1999	
Related Policies	Nil	
Related Documents	Community Grants, Sponsorship and Funding Procedure (as annexed to this policy)	

1. Purpose and scope

To provide a framework for Council to allocate Community and Individual - Sport & Cultural Grants, Sponsorships, and funding support in an effective, equitable and transparent manner.

This Policy aims to ensure:

- Fairness, equity and transparency in providing grants.
- Funds are used for purposes intended.
- Appropriate process and authorisation of grants.
- Eligibility criteria are met.
- Provision and proof of outcomes of approved grants are received and documented.
- Opportunity for creation of mutually beneficial partnerships between Council, residents and community groups.

These grants aim to encourage and develop local community projects, events, activities and support community groups that make a positive contribution to community and cultural life and recognise the personal achievement of individual residents in the Coorong District Council.

2. Policy

Council recognises community groups provide important and valued community and social benefits to the district. Council also recognises the importance of supporting local individuals in pursuing personal achievement in their chosen field.

Funding community, cultural and recreational activities, events and services enables individuals and groups to work in partnership with Council in meeting community needs. The program also supports communities that value creativity, innovation, access and participation, as well as supporting individual residents striving in their field.

- 2.1 Community Grants support groups and individuals within the Coorong district and are intended to:
 - Promote participation in local community activities of recreation and sport, cultural activities, community development, lifelong learning, social cohesion and social and welfare activities.
 - Financially assist community groups and eligible individual residents based in the Coorong district.
 - Promote community pride and participation in the Coorong district.
 - Support community groups in local events.
 - Support individuals participating in either a sporting, music, art or cultural activity/event, or other activities eligible in accordance with the Community Grants Sponsorship and Funding Procedure.

- 2.2 In preparing the Annual Budget, Council will consider budgeting an amount to fund Community Grants, sponsorships and funding requests under this Policy.
- 2.3 The Community Grants, Sponsorship and Funding Program will be promoted across the district encouraging community groups and eligible individuals to apply.
- 2.4 Grants may be allocated to programs based within the Coorong District Council that do not duplicate existing services and respond to a demonstrated need.
- 2.5 Grants will be divided into Classifications, with each application to be assessed against the prescribed criteria for the Classification, as set out in the Policy and guided by the Procedure.
- 2.6 Community groups may choose to apply for grant funding from Classification 1, 2,3, 5 and 6 in a financial year. Successful applications will only be granted once per financial year per Classification.
- 2.7 One successful application per financial year may be granted under the Individual Sport & Cultural Grants Classification. Should the applicant become eligible to participate at a higher level (in another event within the same field), consideration may be given for an additional grant (ie. gymnast wins state title and progresses to interstate final).
- 2.8 Incorporated and not-for-profit groups only may apply for community grants under this Policy (Classification 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6).
- 2.9 Each classified program has a documented process for the assessment of applications within Council's Community Grants, Sponsorship and Funding Procedure.
- 2.10 All eligible applications will be considered based on satisfying required criteria within the Procedure.
- 2.11 Grants must be utilised in accordance with the approved application only (ie. not used as 'seed funding').
- 2.12 Sponsorship requests will be considered by the Chief Executive Officer up to \$500 for an eligible group. Sponsorship up to this amount will only be approved once per annum, per group. Requests above \$500 will require a resolution of Council.
- 2.13 Water provisions will be subject to satisfying required criteria within the Procedure.
- 2.14 Provisions for public toilets will be subject to satisfying required criteria within the Procedure.

3. Grant Classifications

Grants available are divided into the following classifications, and relevant criteria for each classification is documented within Council's Community Grants, Sponsorship, and Funding Procedure.

Classification 1 Small Community Grants \$1,000 maximum

- Applications open six (6) weeks prior to closing date
- Applications close last Friday of September

Classification 2 Community Event Grants \$2,000 maximum

- Applications open six (6) weeks prior to closing date
- Applications close last Friday of September

Classification 3 Community Project Grants \$5,000 maximum

- Applications open six (6) weeks prior to closing date
- Applications close last Friday of September

Classification 4 Individual, Sport & Cultural Grants

Applications open year round

Within South Australia \$100Interstate \$500Internationally \$1,000

Classification 5 Water Provisions

- Applications open year round
- o Available amounts:

Sporting OvalBowling Green6,500kL pa\$1,000

- Applications renewed annually and subject to usage review
- Existing recipients receiving a water service under this category are not entitled to apply

Classification 6 Provisions for Public Amenities

- Applications open year round
- Multi (3) year applications accepted
- Annual limits:

Community HallsSporting Ovals\$1,000\$2,000

Classification 7 Sponsorship Requests \$500 maximum

Applications open year round

- 3.1 Proposed projects, activities, or events under Classifications 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 must be based within the district. Applicants maybe based outside of the Coorong District Council, however much demonstrate that the community will receive direct benefits and outcomes.
- 3.2 Proposed projects, activities or events under all classifications must be held, attended or completed within twelve (12) months of grant funding approval. Should an extension be required, a written request must be provided for the Chief Executive Officer's consideration to be assessed on merit.
- 3.3 Projects not commenced within twelve (12) months of receiving funding must be returned in full to Council.

NOTE: Applications may be made for a review of this requirement based on extenuating circumstances only. A written request must be provided for Council's consideration to be assessed on merit.

- 3.4 Funding for infrastructure projects (ie. plaques, seating), will be subject to the approval of Council and to the following requirements:
 - Should the project require development approval, all associated fees are payable in full by the applicant and requests for a fee waiver will not be considered. As such, an applicant should consider including these fees within their application.

NOTE: Any requests for fee waiver (in or outside of Council's <u>Fee Waiver</u> (Community Groups) Policy will not be considered;

- Community Grant funding will not be released until the requisite development application has been approved by Council; applicants are encouraged to liaise with Council planning staff prior to submission of application.
- All ongoing maintenance costs associated with a project will be the sole responsibility of the community group. Council will take no responsibility for the ongoing maintenance, upgrade or costs associated with a community grant project.

4. Applications and Conditions

- 4.1 Applications for all classifications will only be accepted on the approved application form.
- 4.2 No grants will be issued retrospectively, and no late applications will be accepted.
- 4.3 If the project, activity or event is cancelled, all funding granted must be reimbursed to Council in full within thirty (30) days of official cancellation.

NOTE: Application may be made for a review of this requirement based on extenuating circumstances only (ie. extreme weather event forces the cancellation of event). A written request must be provided for Council's consideration to be assessed on merit.

4.4 If the project, activity or event is postponed longer than three (3) months from original scheduled project commencement date/event, all funding granted must be reimbursed to Council in full within thirty (30) days of official postponement.

NOTE: Applications may be made for a review of this requirement based on extenuating circumstances only (ie. unexpected circumstance forces postponement). A written request must be provided for the Chief Executive Officer's consideration to be assessed on merit. If the project, activity or event requires an event permit from Council (ie. markets, shows), an Event Permit Application will need to be submitted within the required timeframes.

Please see event application forms in link below: Special Events

- 4.5 If an event application is not received within the required timeframes, the grant monies will not be paid and a request for a grant extension may be required.
- 4.6 Applicants under ALL Classifications will be advised of the outcome of their application within two (2) weeks of the confirming Council meeting.
- 4.7 Funding for infrastructure projects will be subject to the approval of Council.
- 4.8 The following list indicates activities, projects and events that are ineligible for the receipt of Classification 7 Sponsorships:
 - Events, activities, or projects conducted outside of the Coorong District Council.
 - Request from individuals, businesses and sporting clubs.
 - Request for funding that would ordinarily be applicable under the Community Grants Program (Classifications 1, 2 & 3).

- 4.9 The following list indicates activities, projects and events that are ineligible for the receipt of Community Grants (Classifications 1, 2, and 3):
 - Funding, existing debts or shortfalls.
 - Day to day operating expenses, including rent.
 - Ongoing salary costs.
 - Support of activities outside the Coorong District Council area.
 - Costumes and uniforms.
 - Commercial undertakings.
 - General fundraising.
 - Completed activities/projects.
 - Requests from State and Federal Government departments and services.
 - Activities targeted at students in a school setting.
 - Grants for team participation in sporting or recreational events.
 - Groups not based within the Coorong District Council.
 - Upgrading/maintaining Government (State/Federal) buildings/facilities.
 - Seed funding.
 - Projects that are clearly a duplication of an existing service.
 - Retrospective funding where a project or activity has already occurred.

5. Payments

5.1 Payment of approved grants will be made into a nominated bank account within six (6) weeks of the date of the grant approval, with the exception of the following:

Classifications 1 & 3	Projects that require a development approval subject to	
	clause 3.3, and/or approval for any infrastructure on	
	Council land (ie. memorial, plaques, seating), must be	
	approved by Council prior to payment being made.	

Classification 2 Payment will be made once all event permits and supporting documentation has been received and

approved by Council

6. Acquittal and Reporting

- 6.1 At the conclusion of the project/activity, all successful grant applicants will be required to report to Council in the manner documented within the Community Grants, Sponsorship and Funding Procedure.
- 6.2 Applicants will be required to submit their acquittal and supporting documentation within three (3) months of project completion. Failure to submit an acquittal in a timely manner may result in future grant funding applications being rejected (unless there are extenuating circumstances).

6.3 Community groups must provide evidence of full expenditure of funds. Any unspent funds of more than 5% of the funded amount, must be returned to Council at the time of submission of the Community Grant Completion Record.

7 Delegations

- 7.1 The Chief Executive Officer has delegation to approve sponsorship applications only, and up to a maximum amount of \$500 per group per annum.
- 7.2 Delegation has been given to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Policy.

8 Policy Responsibility

The Senior Community & Tourism Officer is responsible for ensuring the proper operation of this Policy.

9 Availability/Accessibility

This Policy is available for inspection at Council's offices during normal business hours and Council's website and will be emailed to interested parties on request (please lodge request in writing via email to council@coorong.sa.gov.au).

10 Document History

This Policy will be reviewed within six (6) months following a periodic election or more frequently if legislation or Council requires.

Version	Adopted	Minute No	Description of change(s)
1	19 March	053/24	New policy (incorporates elements
	2024		of former Community Grants
			Policy and Individual Achievement
			Policy – both to be revoked at 16
			April 2024 Ordinary Council
			meeting).

Community Grants, Sponsorships and Funding - Procedure

Purpose

To support the Community Grants, Sponsorships and Funding Policy framework in allocation and assessment of Community Grants and Individual - Sport & Cultural Grants, Sponsorships and funding requests in an effective, equitable and transparent manner.

This Procedure provides clarity and understanding for prospective applicants and the criteria required to ensure eligibility for grants. It maintains fairness, equity and transparency in the approving of grants whilst supporting community, cultural and recreational activities, events and services within the district. Funding support, sponsorship requests and support for individuals partaking in sport and cultural events is also provided through a grant.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The Community Grants, Sponsorships and Funding Program will be promoted across the district encouraging community groups and eligible individuals to apply. Promotion will be via Council's website, social media, relevant Council newsletter and notice boards.
- 1.2. Community groups may apply for grant funding from each Classification. Successful applications will only be granted once per financial year per Classification.
- 1.3. One successful application per financial year may be granted under the Individual Sport & Cultural Grants classification. Should the applicant become eligible to participate at a higher level, in another event within the same field, consideration may be given for an additional grant (ie. gymnast wins state title and progresses to interstate final).
- 1.4. Incorporated and not-for-profit groups only may apply for community grants under this Policy (Classification 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6).
- 1.5. Applications will only be accepted on Council grant application forms provided.
- 1.6. Late applications will not be considered.
- 1.7. Retrospective applications will not be considered.
- 1.8. Consideration will be given to applicants applying for grants that:
 - Do not duplicate existing services.
 - Respond to a demonstrated need.
 - Benefit the wider community.

- Demonstrate active promotion of Coorong District Council's contribution to community.
- Demonstrate financial stability.

1.9. Overarching ineligibilities

The following list indicates ineligible activities/projects/events to receive Community Grants:

- Funding existing debts or shortfalls.
- Day to day operating expenses, including rent.
- Ongoing salary costs.
- Support of activities outside the Coorong District Council area.
- · Costumes and uniforms.
- Commercial undertakings.
- · General fundraising.
- Already completed activities/projects.
- Requests from State and Federal Government departments and services.
- Activities targeted, and students in a school setting.
- Grants for team participation in sporting or recreational events.
- Upgrading/maintaining Government (State/Federal) buildings/facilities.
- Seed funding.
- Activities taking place outside of the Coorong District Council area.
- Activities/maintenance covered by lease conditions.
- Activities/maintenance/projects supported by Council through other funding/inkind contributions (events not included).
- Upgrading/maintaining commercial buildings/facilities.
- 1.10. Preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate other sources of funding (cash or in-kind) are contributing to the overall cost of the project/event.

Small Community grants nominated contribution
 Community Event grant 50% contribution

• Community Project Grants 50% contribution

Individual Sport & Cultural Grants
 50% contribution

1.11. Grant Classifications

Grants available are divided into the following classifications and relevant criteria for each classification is documented within Council's Community Grants, Sponsorship, and Funding Procedure.

Classification 1 Small Community Grants\$1,000 maximum

- Applications open six (6) weeks prior to closing date
- Applications close last Friday of September

Classification 2 Community Event Grants \$2,000 maximum

- o Applications open six (6) weeks prior to closing date
- o Applications close last Friday of September

Classification 3 Community Project Grants \$5,000 maximum

- Applications open six (6) weeks prior to closing date
- Applications close last Friday of September

Classification 4 Individual, Sport & Cultural Grants

Applications open year round

Within South Australia \$100Interstate \$500Internationally \$1,000

Classification 5 Water Provisions

- Applications open year round
- Available amounts:

Sporting OvalBowling Green6,500kL pa\$1,000

- Applications renewed annually and subject to usage review
- Existing recipients receiving a water service under this category are not entitled to apply

Classification 6 Provisions for Public Amenities

- Applications open year round
- Multi (3) year applications accepted
- Annual limits:

Community Halls \$1,000Sporting Ovals \$2,000

Classification 7 Sponsorship Requests \$500 maximum

Applications open year round

2. Classification 1 - Small Community Grants

Coorong District Council's small community grants aim to encourage and support local community groups/clubs that make a positive contribution to community and cultural life. It is offered to support and assist community-based organisations in the provision of a service to the community that will encourage participation and social inclusion.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The proposed project/activity must be based within the Coorong District Council district.
- The proposed project must be completed within twelve (12) months of grant funding approval.
- By accepting Community Grant funding, applicants agree to the following:
 - Applicants will provide a photograph of the project for possible inclusion in Council articles/media when acquitting the grant
 - Provide a written report/feedback of the project to Council for possible inclusion in report to Council when acquitting the grant
 - o Provide **ALL** receipts/invoices of expenditure of funds
 - Confirmation and proof of public acknowledgment either though media or social media

Examples of eligible activities:

- Equipment or materials such as furniture, kitchen and whitegoods, office administration equipment and tools (ie. gardening or workshop, sports equipment).
- Skills development (as per wider community benefit criteria).
- Costs associated with training/up-skilling of volunteers.
- Signage/advertising if Coorong District Council Logo included.

3. Classification 2: Community Event Grants

Community Event Grants aim to support local community groups/clubs that make a positive contribution to community and encourage tourism and social inclusion within the Coorong Council District.

Event organisers must demonstrate that proceeds from the event will remain in the Coorong Council District (ie. proceeds from service club event remains with the local service club and benefits locals).

Eligibility Criteria:

- In addition to the considerations set out in clauses 1.8, 1.9 and 1.10 of this procedure, preference will be afforded to applications that:
 - The proposed project will benefit the communities and businesses that reside and occupy the township/area.
 - o If the event is proposed to be held on Council Community Land, applicants must complete an Events Permit application and provide all relevant information accordingly, including but not limited to a risk management plan, temporary food applications for stall holders selling food, traffic management plans (if relevant), road closure requirements etc.
 - Demonstrate a clear plan of how they will promote Council through social media posts/media.
- The proposed activity/event must be held/attended within twelve (12) months of grant funding approval. Should an extension be required, a written request must be provided and Council will consider each request on merit.
- By accepting Community Grant funding, applicants agree to the following:
 - Applicants will provide a photograph of the event for possible inclusion in Council articles/media when acquitting the grant.
 - Provide a written report/feedback of the event to Council for possible inclusion in report to Council when acquitting the grant provide all receipts/invoices of expenditure of funds.

Examples of eligible activities:

- Festivals/celebrations
- Cultural activities and events
- Arts activities

4. Classification 3: Community Project Grants

Community Project Grants aim to support local community groups/clubs that make a positive contribution to community through projects that develop and enhance their group's facilities.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The proposed project/event must be based within the Coorong District Council district.
- The proposed project must be completed within 12 months of grant funding approval.

- In addition to the considerations set out in clauses 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7 of this procedure, preference will be afforded to applications that:
 - Own or currently lease land and associated facilities for a further minimum of a five (5) years from time of grant application.
 - Land/facilities are based within the Coorong Council District.
 - Applicants may be required to attend Council as a speaker to update Council (to be determined at conclusion of project).
 - Demonstrate a clear plan of how they will promote Council through social media posts/media.
- By accepting Community Grant funding, applicants agree to the following:
 - Applicants will provide a photograph of the project for possible inclusion in Council articles/media when acquitting the grant.
 - Provide a written report/feedback of the activity/event to Council for possible inclusion report to Council when acquitting the grant.
 - Provide all receipts/invoices of expenditure of funds.

Examples of eligible activities:

- Upgrading/improving facilities or infrastructure
- Landscaping
- Signage/advertising if Coorong District Council Logo included

5. Classification 4: Individual – Sport and Cultural Grants

Individual – Sport and Cultural Grants are offered to support and encourage local individuals participating in either a sporting, music, art or cultural activity/event, or another activity/event at a state, national or international level. The intent of this grant is to support local community members who display individual talent within their field.

Eligibility Criteria:

In addition to the considerations set out in clauses 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7 of this procedure, preference will be afforded to applications that:

- All applicants' principal place of residence must be within the Coorong District Council.
- Applications MUST be received a minimum of six (6) weeks prior to the activity/event. Applications received less than six (6) weeks prior to the activity/event will not be accepted. Special circumstances may be considered.
- Applicants must provide references and/or supporting letters from executives, organisers, leaders associated with the activity/event.

- Applicants (if under 18 years of age with written permission from parent/guardian) will provide a photograph of the activity for possible inclusion in Council articles/media, including social media.
- Provide a written report/feedback of the activity/event to Council for possible inclusion in report to Council.
- Promote Council through social media posts/media.
- Applicants may be required to attend the Council as a speaker (to be determined at conclusion of the activity/event).
- If the recipient cannot participate in the activity/event for any reason, all funding granted must be paid back to Council in full within thirty (30) days of withdrawing.

Examples of eligible activities:

- Gymnast attending finals in state, interstate or international basis
- Artist invited to exhibit their work

6. Classification 5: Water Provisions

Council's Water Provisions program aims to support local sporting and recreation clubs to assist with providing greener community spaces and appropriate playing surfaces to support the community utilising these assets.

Eligibility Criteria:

The following eligibility criteria will apply:

- Currently lease Council owned or managed land and associated facilities
- Land/facilities are based within the Coorong Council District
- Facilities are openly accessible for the whole community to use
- Existing recipients receiving a water service under this category are exempt
- In the instance of bowling greens, they are not of synthetic material

7. Classification 6: Provisions for Public Amenities

Council's Provisions for Public Amenities program aims to support community groups and sporting clubs on the provisions to sustain and provide access to public toilets.

Eligibility Criteria:

The following eligibility criteria will apply:

- Toilet facilities are based within the Coorong Council District.
- Currently lease Council owned or managed land and associated facilities: OR
- Are a non-council public facility owned by an incorporated Community group or organisation.

- Facilities are located as a stand-alone building or are externally accessible.
- Facilities are accessible and to general public seven days a week.
- Public amenities are currently maintained by the eligible organisation.
- Applicants will assume full responsibility for cleaning, purchase of supplies and general maintenance.

8. Classification 7: Sponsorship Requests

Council's sponsorship program aims to support local community groups/clubs that make a positive contribution to community and encourage tourism and social inclusion within the Coorong Council District.

- Sponsorship maybe approved by the Chief Executive Officer up to \$500 for an eligible group. Sponsorship up to this amount will only be approved once per annum per group.
- Sponsorship requests above \$500 will be considered as part of Council's annual Community Grants program or at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, who will be present the request to at an Ordinary Council meeting for consideration.

Eligibility Criteria:

- In addition to the considerations set out in clauses 1.8, 1.9 and 1.10 of this procedure, preference will be afforded to applications that:
 - Demonstrates the proposed project will benefit the communities and individuals that live in the Coorong District Council.
 - Events, activities, or projects are undertaken within the Coorong Council District.
 - Supports End of Year school awards.
 - Demonstrate a clear plan of how they will promote Council through social media posts/media and include Council's logo on promotional and marketing material.

• Examples of Ineligible activities:

- Requests received from individuals, businesses, and sporting clubs' annual sponsorship program.
- Request for funding that would ordinarily be applicable under the Community Grants Program (Classifications 1, 2, & 3).

Application:

- Applications for all classifications will only be accepted on the approved application form which can be found on Council's website.
- No late applications will be accepted.

Assessment Criteria - Community Grants Classifications 1, 2 & 3:

- The Community Grants, Sponsorship and Funding program is a competitive application process. Applications are assessed against the following assessment criteria. Council receives more funding applications than it can support, therefore, successful applications are those that best respond to the essential criteria.
- Council reserves the right to reject any application that does not meet the eligibility criteria.

Alignment to Strategic Outcomes 25% weighting

- Does the application support the Community Vision Plan outcomes?
- Are the applications aims and outcomes clearly identified?
- How is the project/event evaluated how will they know if the project has achieved the aims and outcomes.

Community Need

25% weighting

- Does the application demonstrate clearly identify and demonstrate local need?
- Can the applicant demonstrate appropriate engagement with the local community?

Community Benefits

25%

- Does the application demonstrate clear and direct benefits to the community?
- Does the application address issues of social exclusions and barriers to participation?

Project Delivery

10%

- Is the application well planned and achievable within the timeframes?
- Does the application identify stakeholder contribution to the project?

Budget

15%

- Does the budget accurately demonstrate how funds will be used?
- Does the project clearly identify stakeholder or applicant's additional cash and in-kind contributions? (excluding contributions from the Coorong District Council)

Other factors that influence the final decisions for funding include:

- Other funding provided to organisations by Coorong District Council.
- Supporting a variety of organisations, community outcomes and community target groups.

Acquittal of funding:

- To acquit a grant, applicants must complete an electronic Community Grant Completion Record available via Council's Community Grant webpage. Acquittals must be received within three (3) months of project completion or prior to applying for funding within the same category, whichever comes first.
- Supporting documentation including financial reports, invoices evidence of promotional activity and Council acknowledgment must be included with the acquittal.
- Applicants who have neglected to provide a Community Grant Completion Record AND all supporting documentation within the required time frame WILL NOT be eligible for any further grants pursuant to the Policy until all documentation has been completed and provided.

Application assistance:

• Community groups requiring assistance with applications are encouraged to contact the Community Development Team on 1300 785 277.

Schedule of amendments (for Procedure):

This Procedure will be reviewed in conjunction with the policy and within six (6) months following a periodic election, or more frequently if legislation or Council requires.

Schedule of amendments (for Procedure)		
2020	Original document created August 2020.	
2023	New Procedures (incorporates elements of former Community Grants	
	Procedure) and includes details on Water subsidies and Public Toilet	
	Provisions.	
	Only one round per financial year	
	Weighting added for Community Grants	
	New format and numbering added	