

POLICY NUMBER	-	3.19
POLICY SUBJECT	-	3.19 Community Funding

Council often receives requests for funding from local groups for a variety of projects. Council seeks to support these groups and in doing so acknowledges the vast contribution made by local volunteers and not for profit groups to the social, cultural and economic fabric of our community.

This policy coordinates Council's response to community requests for financial support. It ensures that the Shire funding resources are allocated in a way that are transparent, legal and equitable and that funded projects further the aims and objectives of the Shire and represent responsible use of public monies.

POLICY

The aims of the Shire of Merredin's Community Funding Program are:

1. to encourage the development of services, facilities and events that meet identified community needs;
2. to promote active participation of local residents in community initiatives and the development of skills, knowledge and opportunities;
3. to provide assistance to the community to develop initiatives and services that support the Shire of Merredin's own objectives;
4. link to the community vision and strategic goals for a liveable, inclusive, naturally resourceful and developing Merredin; and
5. to enhance the image of the Shire of Merredin within the community.

The following groups are eligible for funding support:

1. incorporated not-for-profit organisations based within the Shire of Merredin;
2. incorporated not-for-profit organisations undertaking projects for the benefit of the Shire of Merredin's residents and whose primary aim is the improvement of the quality of life of the community; and
3. non-incorporated community groups under the auspices of an incorporated organisation.

It should be noted that not all applications will be successful. Funding will be dependent upon Council's Budget, whether the application meets the requirements of this Policy and whether Council sees the project as a high priority. Council may partially fund an application.

Council Policy requires all Shire funding opportunities to be promoted widely, using various mediums including websites, newspapers, newsletters and email networks. All funding recipients are required to publicly acknowledge Shire support of funding through one or more of the following strategies:

1. signage at events/opening/launches;
2. Shire logo placed on all advertising material related to the project;
3. Shire mentioned in all speeches and press releases relating to the project;
4. invitation of Councillors to project related events/activities where appropriate; and
5. any other means as and where appropriate.

All groups in receipt of Shire funds will be required to submit an acquittal report and attach copies of invoices and/or receipts. It is expected that this report will include photographs of events or equipment purchased and a written account of the project signed by an authorised committee member.

Document Control Box				
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Reviewer:	Governance Officer			
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Document Management				
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