



POLICY NUMBER	-	3.19
POLICY SUBJECT	-	3.19 – Community Funding

1. POLICY PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the Shire of Merredin with direction and framework for the community funding program, which is consistent, transparent, and equitable.

2. POLICY SCOPE

To assist with requests for funding received by the Shire, this policy provides Council with a response to ensure resources are allocated appropriately, consistently and in a manner that meet the objectives of the Shire's Strategic Community Plan.

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act S5.42 and S6.12(1)(c).

4. POLICY STATEMENT

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 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 objectives;
4. Link to the community vision and strategic goals listed in the Strategic Community Plan; and
5. To enhance the image of the Shire of Merredin within the community.

The Community Funding Program is comprised of three categories:

1. Recurring Annual Community Funding Commitments
2. Annual Grants
3. Quick Grant

4.1 Community Funding Program Conditions

The conditions of the community funding program are outlined in the Shire's 'Community Funding Program Guidelines'.

All grants and sponsorships are subject to reporting and accountability requirements, and acquittals are required to ensure the funds expended and associated activities meet the purpose for which they were granted.

~~All grants include the inclusion~~ Grants may consist of cash, in-kind contributions, or and waivers.

4.1.1 Recurring Annual Community Funding Commitments

The Shire has many ongoing community funding initiatives which continue to receive support. To reduce red tape and community burden, there are identified annual funding commitments which the Council include as an individual budget line each year.

Organisations which have itemised individual budget lines in the Shire of Merredin's endorsed Annual Budget, are only required to correspond with the Shire via written request, and do not have to submit an application.

4.1.2 Annual Grant

The Annual Grant may consist of is a cash, in-kind contributions and/or waivers provided to a recipient for a specific and eligible purpose.

The Annual Grant program is conducted once per financial year, aligns with the building of the Annual Budget, and is approved by Council.

Applicants apply through the grant program, which is aligned to the Shire of Merredin's Strategic Community Plan. Applicants must demonstrate how the funding will provide an outcome or benefit to the community.

4.1.3 Quick Grant

The Quick Grant may consist of a is a cash, in-kind contributions and/or waivers provided to a recipient for a specific and eligible purpose.

The Quick Grant program is available throughout the financial year, is subject to available budget and is approved by the Chief Executive Officer through delegation.

Applicants will apply through the grant program, which is aligned to the Shire of Merredin's Strategic Community Plan. Applicants must demonstrate how the funding will provide an outcome or benefit to the community.

5. KEY POLICY DEFINITIONS

Community Funding Program: the program encompasses the three different categories of community funding. These include; Annual Community Funding Commitments, Annual Grant, and Quick Grant.

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Executive Manager Strategy and Community is responsible for managing the Community Funding Program. The Chief Executive Officer has Delegated Authority to approve relevant waviers, or contributions for successful applications, as per the policy and guidelines.

7. MONITOR AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually. The associated guideline will be reviewed concurrently.

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