

# COMMUNITY INVESTMENT POLICY

Policy Owner:	Community and Lifestyle
Adoption:	<a href="#">15 August 2023</a>
Version:	<a href="#">P-2023-1015</a>
Link to Corporate Plan:	<a href="#">Accountable Council – We are providing good stewardship built on a foundation of trust.</a> <a href="#">Connecting Communities – We work with you and for you, supporting the success of our communities.</a> <a href="#">Resilient Economy – We play our part in supporting the success of our region.</a>
Head of Power:	<a href="#">s195 Local Government Regulation 2012</a>
Review Date:	<a href="#">5 August 2027</a>

## 1 PURPOSE

Council recognises the value provided by local community organisations towards the wellbeing and liveability of the region and aims to increase these organisation's capacity to deliver activities and services more effectively, while helping council deliver on its objectives and vision. not-for-profit organisations, individuals, and businesses in delivering initiatives, projects, and services that contribute to a liveable, sustainable, and vibrant community.

~~This~~The purpose of this policy is to ~~outline~~ set out the principles and criteria that will be applied when giving a community organisation or individual a consistent, equitable, transparent, and efficient framework under which all donations, funding, in-kind contributions, and sponsorships are made to organisations delivering initiatives within the Gladstone region ~~funding (a grants)~~. Furthermore, this policy demonstrates Council's compliance with ~~It ensures Council conforms to the legislative requirements prescribed under sections 194 and 195 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 as the decision-making authority disseminating Council funds through donations, funding, in-kind contributions, and sponsorships.~~

## 2 SCOPE

~~Parts of this policy (and funding streams and categories) apply to the following organisations and individuals based in or servicing the Gladstone Regional Council area:~~~~This policy is effective from 01 July 2023.~~

- ~~1. not-for-profit community organisations (including Australian Registered Charities);~~
- ~~2. not-for-profit sporting clubs;~~
- ~~3. educational institutions; and~~
- ~~4. religious or worship groups.~~

~~Council is committed to ensuring our communities thrive. Through this policy Council provides funding, expertise, and support to organisations that deliver outcomes aligned to Council's plans and strategies.~~

The Community Investment Policy enables Council to:

- support our communities in attaining the resources and skills to identify and respond to local areas of need;
- partner with organisations to deliver community led and shared outcomes;
- activate community participation amongst residents;
- support the community sector with planning, risk mitigation, and capacity building initiatives; and
- contribute to the development of local students and sportspersons.
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The following funding programs are outside the scope of this policy:

1. Council policies that make provision for funding, exemptions, or concessions as adopted from time to time; and
2. funding provided to organisations and/or individuals under the Regional Arts Development Fund and Council's Biosecurity Plan 2021-25 or any other program, grant, or scheme delivered by Council from time to time.
- 2.

### **3 POLICY STATEMENT**

This policy must be read in conjunction with the Community Investment Program Funding Guideline (guideline).

#### **3.1 Principles**

Council recognises the contribution of local community organisations towards the wellbeing and liveability of the region and aims to increase these organisation's capacity to deliver projects, activities, and services more effectively, while assisting Council in delivering its objectives and vision.

This policy enables Council to offer access to donations, funding, in-kind support, and sponsorships under Council's Community Investment Program. Recognising the need to be responsive to our community and proactive in building community capacity, Council will provide support for local initiatives, projects, and community related activities through the Community Investment Program where Council considers it is in the public interest by:-

- supporting our communities in attaining the resources and skills to identify and respond to local areas of need;
- partnering with Council organisations to deliver community led and shared outcomes;
- activating community participation amongst residents;
- supporting the community sector with planning, risk mitigation, and capacity building initiatives;
- supporting the community to be stronger, healthier, and more resilient; and
- contributing to the development of local students and sportspersons.

Due to the limited budget available to Council and the competitive nature of accessing community funds, organisations should not rely on the Community Investment Program as recurrent funding.

#### **3.2 Funding Opportunities**

The Community Investment Program provides opportunities for financial assistance and in-kind support within [the following categories](#)~~funding streams~~a number of funding streams and fund categories.

### **3.2.1 Mirco Grants Fund**

[The Micro Grants Fund supports local projects and initiatives for a community purpose that provide a demonstrated benefit](#)~~the development of the applicant's skills in preparing, delivery, and acquitting~~of funds and/or the delivery of an initial stage or smaller scale project.

### **3.2.2 Connected Communities Fund**

[The Connected Communities Fund provides support for new initiatives and projects which contribute to the wellbeing and liveability of the region.](#)

### **3.2.3 Community Events Funding Stream**

[The Community Events Funding Stream enables the development and delivery of events that facilitate community connection in the following fund categories::](#)

<b><u>Fund Category</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>
<a href="#">Community Events</a>	<a href="#">Support for community-led events, celebrations, and commemorations that are delivered by community organisations for broad public benefit.</a>
<a href="#">Ignite Events</a>	<a href="#">Support for events that contribute to social and community benefit, community pride, social outcomes, and/or regional economy.</a>
<a href="#">Impact, Destination and Signature Events</a>	<a href="#">Support for well established and well designed events with demonstrated return visitation, regional profile, economic stimulus, and overnight visitor expenditure.</a>

### **3.2.4 Community Support Funding Stream**

[The Community Support Funding Steam fosters stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities by enhancing connection and building social cohesion in the following fund categories:](#)

<b><u>Fund Category</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>
<a href="#">Community Hall</a>	<a href="#">To provide financial assistance to local organisations who own, lease, or manage a Community Hall in meeting operating costs.</a>
<a href="#">Charity Waste Waiver</a>	<a href="#">To alleviate the burden of organisations in the processing and disposal of general waste where the charitable organisation accepts pre-loved household belongings.</a>
<a href="#">Waste Donation</a>	<a href="#">To supports not-for-profit organisations, First Nations groups, and businesses that coordinate non-commercial litter clean up from foreshores, land owned/managed/leased/under the control of Council, or land otherwise approved by Council.</a>
<a href="#">Public Toilet Subsidy</a>	<a href="#">To provide financial assistance to incorporated associations who own, lease, or manage a Community Hall within the Gladstone region with operating costs in providing a toilet facility to the community.</a>

### **3.2.5 Bursary and Scholarships Funding Stream**

[The Bursary and Scholarships Funding Stream recognises the excellence and achievements of students, trainees, and apprentices and contributes to their development in the following fund categories:](#)

<b><u>Fund Category</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>
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<a href="#"><u>Regional Schools Bursary</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>To recognise and reward excellence in the areas of academic success, attitude, attendance, and community contributions.</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Col Brown Memorial Award</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>To recognise excellence and achievement for a local apprentice or trainee engaged through Apprentices and Trainees Queensland.</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>CQ University Scholarships</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>To encourage Gladstone region students to remain in the region and further their education at a CQ University Campus, with the objective of strengthening the future regional workforce.</u></a>

### **3.2.6 Councillor Discretionary Fund**

[The Councillor Discretionary Fund provides support for a community purpose by building community capacity and encouraging participation, partnership, and collaboration.](#)

[Each Councillor will receive an equal fund to be allocated at their discretion, subject to the approval requirements outlined in section 202 of the \*Local Government Regulation 2012\* \(and set out in Attachment 2\). The decision to allocate funding must have regard to the Corporate Plan, long-term asset Management plan, and the annual budget.](#)

[An applicant will only receive funding for one \(1\) application per year across all Councillor Discretionary Funds. An applicant cannot make an application under the Councillor Discretionary Fund where the application has been unsuccessful under another funding stream by achieving an evaluation score of 50% or less.](#)

[Regardless of whether or not funding is allocated, Councillors must declare any conflict of interest \(actual/ potential/ perceived\) or declare that no conflict of interest exists for each application received.](#)

[In accordance with the requirements of the \*Local Government Regulation 2012\*, Council will:](#)

- [• make publicly available the total amount budgeted for Councillor Discretionary Funds in the financial year; and](#)
- [• maintain a publicly available register of all funding approved which includes the name of the recipient, the amount received, and the purpose of the funding.](#)

- ~~[— Micro Grants Fund](#)~~
- ~~[— Connected Community Fund](#)~~
- ~~[— Community Events Fund \(including\)](#)~~
  - ~~[— Community Events Fund](#)~~
  - ~~[— Ignite Events Fund](#)~~
  - ~~[a. Impact, Destination and Signature Events Fund](#)~~
- ~~[— Community Support Fund \(including\)](#)~~
  - ~~[— Community Hall Fund](#)~~
  - ~~[— Charity Waste Waiver](#)~~
  - ~~[— Waste Donation Fund](#)~~
  - ~~[— Public Toilet Subsidy](#)~~
- ~~[— Bursaries and Scholarships Fund \(including\)](#)~~

- [Regional Schools Bursary and Scholarships](#)
- [Col Brown Memorial Award](#)
- [CQ University Scholarships](#)
- [Grassroots Fund](#);
- [Elevator Fund](#);
- [Community Celebration Fund](#);
- [Community Hall Fund](#);
- [Waste Fund](#);
- [Bursary and Scholarships Fund](#);
- [Strategic Projects Fund](#); and
- 2. [Community Donations Fund](#) [Councillor Discretionary Fund](#).

### **2.13.3 Eligibility Criteria**

The eligibility criteria for each [category funding stream and category](#) is ~~identified in Attachment 1 and within set out in~~ the [Community Investment Program Funding Guideline](#) (guideline [and Attachment 1](#)) ~~published on Council's website~~. Applications ~~will~~ [may](#) only be considered if:

1. the application complies with this policy [and the guideline](#);
- the application is accompanied by the mandatory information outlined in the guideline;
- ~~3.2.~~
- ~~4.3.~~ the minimum criteria are demonstrated; and
- ~~5.4.~~ the application is received in the form requested by Council (i.e. online submission), is complete, and is received prior to the closing date of the funding round (where applicable).

[An applicant may make an application in more than one \(1\) funding stream per year. However:](#)

- [an applicant cannot make an application in a funding stream where the applicant has been successful in obtaining funding under that funding stream in the same financial year \(excluding Connected Communities Fund\); and](#)
- [an applicant cannot make an application in the Connected Communities Fund where the applicant has been successful in obtaining funding under the Connected Communities Fund in the same or prior financial year.](#)

Applications which are late or received outside of a funding round may be ~~considered~~ [accepted](#) by the Chief Executive Officer in exceptional circumstances (i.e. online submission portal unavailable).

## **2.3 Application Rounds**

~~A minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the opening date of a funding round, the opening and closing dates (where applicable) for the round shall be published on Council's website and other media sources as appropriate. All rounds shall be open for a minimum of four (4) weeks.~~

## **2.6 Grassroots and Elevator Funds**

### **~~3.3.1 Grassroots Fund~~ [Micro Grants Fund](#)**

~~The Grassroots Fund is intended for lower risk and lower cost proposals of up to \$10,000 excluding GST. Grassroots Micro Grants proposals can may assist in the developing the skills of the applicant in preparing, delivering, and acquitting funds and/or deliver an initial stage or smaller scale project for the applicant.~~

### 6.3.2—Elevator Fund

The Elevator Fund is intended for higher risk, higher cost proposals of over \$10,000 excluding GST (maximum \$30,000 excluding GST), which will involve a more detailed application and acquittal process. Applicants will need to demonstrate a high level of competency, capacity, and planning capability to deliver the stated proposal outcomes.

### 6.3.3—Grassroots and Elevator Funding Objectives

The Grassroots and Elevator Funds are divided into five (5) funding objectives of which applications must meet at least one (1) of the objectives:

Objective	Criteria
Capacity	The Capacity objective aims to foster community led collaboration and partnerships that help communities develop their own solutions to local areas of need. Initiatives and activities under this objective will generally strengthen and build the skills, knowledge, and capacity of community members and groups which can then be applied and shared. One (1) of the key outcomes of the Capacity objective is to advance the community aspiration of collective action, cooperation, and shared goals.
Place	The Place objective aims to foster the development of accessible, fulfilling, and engaging places and spaces for the community. This will be achieved through supporting the delivery of community led initiatives, projects, and activities that activate Council controlled or community owned and operated facilities, parks, and open spaces to provide safe and accessible social infrastructure that meets the community's diverse needs.
Connect	The Connect objective aims to foster community led initiatives and projects that strengthen relationships, community connection, civic participation, and understanding across all sectors of the community.
Wellbeing	The Wellbeing objective aims to foster healthy, safe, and supported communities through the delivery of community led partnerships, programs, activities, and resources that promote healthy lifestyles, positive wellbeing, and safe communities.
Planning	The Planning objective aims to foster and support the development of programs, plans, and strategies that strengthen the community's ability to deliver well planned and sustainable organisations, facilities, and activities across the region.

### 2.47—3.4—Community Celebration Fund

The Community Celebration Fund enables the development and delivery of initiatives and projects that facilitate community connection through events. Applications will be considered under the following categories and may include a cash component and/or an in-kind contribution:

Category	Focus Area
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Community Event—up to \$1,500 ex GST	Support for community led events that are run by community organisations for broad public benefit.
Ignite Event—up to \$10,000 ex GST	Support for events that contribute to community pride/social outcomes and regional economy that attract up to 2,500 participants.
Impact Event—up to \$25,000 ex GST	Support for events that demonstrate tourism and regional economy benefits and attract 2,500 to 5,000 participants, with 10% out-of-region visitors.
Destination Event—up to \$50,000 ex GST	Support for events that are well-established, well-designed, and clearly demonstrate return on investment, building community pride, return visitation, regional profile, economic stimulus, and attract over 5,000 participants, with 15% out-of-region visitors.
Signature Event (no limit per application, subject to Council budget)	Support for events that drive the primary criteria of destination profile, economic impact, and overnight visitor expenditure. Attract visitors that invest in the region and over 25% out-of-region visitors.

For the Impact, Destination, and Signature categories, an Expression of Interest will be invited. This will enable partnership with applicants to deliver outcomes that align with Council's Corporate Plan and strategies within budget allocation/s.

### **3.5.6.1 Community Hall Fund**

The Community Hall Fund provides an annual donation of up to \$2,000 excluding GST to assist local organisations who own, lease, or manage a Community Hall within the Gladstone region with operating costs. The hall must meet the definition of Community Hall as set out in this policy.

### **3.6.2 Waste Fund**

The Waste Fund alleviates the burden of organisations in the processing and disposal of general waste. Applications will be considered under the following categories and may include a cash component and/or an in-kind contribution:

Category	Criteria
Charity Waste Waiver	Charitable organisations that accept pre-loved household belongings and have been issued with an exemption code from the Department of Environmental Science.
Waste Donation	Not-for-profit organisations, First Nations groups, and businesses that coordinate non-commercial litter clean up from foreshores, land owned/managed/leased/under the control of Council, or land otherwise approved by Council.

There will be no donation limitation applied per application. H; however, once the annual budget allocation has been exhausted no further concession or funding will be applied.

## **2.87 3.7 Bursary and Scholarships Fund**

### **3.7.1 Regional Schools Bursary Fund**

The Regional Schools Bursary Fund provides Gladstone region educational institutions with donations funding to recognise and reward excellence in the areas of academic success, attitude, attendance, and community contributions. Donations in the following amounts will be provided directly to the educational institution to administer and award:



- ~~2. Primary \$200 excluding GST;~~
- ~~2. Secondary \$500 excluding GST;~~
- ~~2. Combined (primary/secondary) \$500 excluding GST;~~
- ~~2. Technical College \$500 excluding GST;~~
- ~~2. CQ University Gladstone \$500 excluding GST; and~~
- ~~2. CQU TAFE Gladstone \$500 excluding GST.~~

### **~~3.7.2 Col Brown Memorial Award~~**

~~The Col Brown Memorial Award recognises excellence and achievement for a local apprentice or trainee engaged through Apprentices and Trainees Queensland. Annually, Council will donate \$1,000 excluding GST directly to Apprentices and Trainees Queensland to administer and decide the award.~~

### **~~3.7.3 CQ University Gladstone Campus Scholarships~~**

~~The purpose of these scholarships is to encourage Gladstone region students to remain in the region and further their education at a CQ University Gladstone Campus with the objective of strengthening the future regional workforce. Seven (7) scholarships of \$2,000 excluding GST will be awarded annually to one (1) Year 12 student from each of the seven (7) participating regional secondary schools to contribute to the cost of studying on a CQ University Gladstone Campus. Donations will be provided directly to CQ University to administer and award the scholarships.~~

## **~~6.8 Strategic Projects Fund~~**

~~The Strategic Projects Fund strengthens not for profit organisations through the provision of financial support to upgrade existing or build new facilities where the organisation has suitable land tenure as defined in the guidelines. Applicants must contribute a minimum of 20% to the project with funding of up to \$100,000 excluding GST may be granted by Council.~~

## **~~3.9 Community Donations Fund~~**

~~The Community Donations Fund supports initiatives that contribute positively to the community that may not align with other funding provided for in this policy. Funding of up to \$1,500 excluding GST may be granted.~~

- ~~• Funding of up to \$1,500 excluding GST may be granted.~~
- ~~•~~

## **~~2.1203.4~~ ~~3.10~~ Assessment and Decision of Applications**

Attachment 2 provides the method of assessment and decision maker for eligible applications.

All applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria, this policy, and the guideline, and alignment with Council's Community Development Strategy.



~~Council~~ The Chief Executive Officer may request further information from applicants to substantiate the application at any time during the assessment process with all requests to be made in writing. ~~Council~~ The Chief Executive Officer may also seek advice from a competent Council employee having regard to the nature of the advice being sought (i.e. a qualified accountant may provide advice on financial matters).

Where the ~~funding category~~ guideline requires, a meeting with the applicant may also be held. In these circumstances, a record of the meeting shall be documented in writing.

In circumstances where a panel assessment is made:

- all panels will be comprised of a minimum of three ~~three (33)~~ trained members, comprising of:- comprising and
  - ~~all panels will be comprised of~~ at least one (1) Manager or Specialist level employee position; and
  - one (1) Councillor; and
  - ~~balance of Community Investment Program trained assessors~~ another employee position;
- the panel will assess all applications received for a funding category for a round; and
- the panel will individually review and assess each application independent of the other applications; and
- all panel members must not have declared a conflict of interest ~~tt~~ (actual/ potential/ perceived) for any application/s received for a funding category for a round.

### **3.104.1 Moderation**

For panel assessments, the Chief Executive Officer may also appoint a moderator who:

- will remain neutral to ensure assessments are fair and transparent;
- must not have been a panel member for the panel assessment being moderated; and
- must not have declared a conflict of interest for any application/s being moderated.

The role of the moderator is to:

- review panel assessments to ensure:
  - scores are objective, fair, and without bias;
  - standards of scoring (weighting) have been applied consistently between applications in consideration of the assessment matrices;
- ensure compliance with this policy, the guideline, and associated procedures; and
- award final scores and provide commentary for presentation as the officer recommendation to Council for decision on the outcome of applications.

### **~~2.1213.5~~ 3.11 Budget and Funding**

Funding must not be used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it has been approved unless written consent has been obtained from Council.

Due to the limited budget available to Council and the competitive nature of accessing community funds, organisations should not rely on the Community Investment Program as recurrent funding.

~~The funding limits that apply to each round will be published on Council's website annually following budget adoption.~~

~~In~~ circumstances where the value of applications exceeds the budget allocation for ~~the a fund~~ category (and where applicable, funding round), funding will be provided based on the assessment score (highest to lowest).

~~Council will not retrospectively fund projects and initiatives that have already been undertaken or commenced.~~

### **3.1110.1 Partial Funding**

Council reserves the right to partly fund any application. ~~Applicants may also be required to make a co-contribution as set out in Attachment 2 in the guideline.~~ The maximum amount of funding that may be provided to a successful applicant is:

Rating	Description	Funding
75%	An overall score of 75% and above demonstrates that the application has met or exceeded all assessment criteria. The <del>panel decision maker</del> may choose to fund the application up to 100% of the requested amount.	up to 100%
<del>65</del> 50% - 74%	An overall score between <del>65</del> 50% and 74% demonstrates that the application has met <del>the most</del> assessment criteria <del>and has alignment with Council's Community Development Strategy.</del> The <del>panel decision maker</del> may choose to fund the application up to <del>85</del> 75% of the requested amount.	up to <del>87</del> 5%
<del>55</del> —64%	<del>An overall score between 55% and 64% demonstrates that the application meets some assessment criteria and has alignment with Council's Community Development Strategy. The panel may choose to fund the application up to 75% of the requested amount.</del>	<del>up to 75%</del>
<del>0%</del> - <del>54</del> 49%	An overall score of <del>54</del> 9% or below demonstrates that the application does not meet <del>any the relevant</del> assessment criteria <del>and will not be recommended for funding to the decision maker.</del>	0%

### **3.1110.2 Funding Agreements**

Successful applicants may ~~be~~ required to enter into a Funding Agreement with Council ~~and/or may be subject to an acquittal process.~~

~~The Funding Agreement will include (but not limited to) the conditions agreed to, payment terms, performance required, acknowledgements of funding, and evaluation methods.~~

~~The Funding Agreement will be drafted at Council's expense, although any costs incidental to the Funding Agreement will be at the successful applicant's cost.~~

### **2.127 3.12 — Decision on Applications**

The outcome decision for all applications received for a funding category assessed and decided at an officer level shall be communicated in writing to the applicant within four (4) weeks of the closing date of the round for the respective funding category.

The outcome of decisions for applications decided via resolution of Council for a funding category shall be communicated in writing to the applicant within 12 weeks of the closing date of the round for the respective funding category.

In circumstances where funding categories do not have an advertised closing date, the outcome decision for such applications shall be communicated in writing to the applicant within four (4) weeks of the date the application was received.

### **2.1343.6 3.13 — Review of Decision**

There is no review available for decisions made by resolution of Council.

In circumstances where a decision has been made by an officer, the applicant may lodge an Administrative Action Complaint in accordance with the Complaint Management Policy.

### **2.135 3.14 — Acquittal**

Funding must not be used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it has been approved unless written consent has been obtained from Council.

Attachment 2 identifies the funding categories for which an acquittal must be submitted. Acquittals must be submitted in the form required by Council within eight (8) weeks after the identified project is completed end date.

Failure to submit an acquittal and any information requested will impact future eligibility and/or may result in some or all of the funding to be paid back to Council. Applicants will also be restricted from further eligibility for a period of at least two (2) years.

### **2.1363.7 3.15 — Governance Principles to Apply to Extraordinary Requests Applications**

It is acknowledged that from time to time, Council may need to consider community funding requests applications or circumstances that require agility in funding provided to the community that have not been captured through this policy or the guideline. In these circumstances, good governance principles and processes must still apply with officers to conduct a documented assessment of extraordinary requests applications against the principles and objectives contained in this policy.

Decision making on extraordinary requests are to align with the requirements set out in Attachment 2. Approval to The decision to accept an extraordinary requests/applications is at the discretion of the General Manager Lifestyle and Community Chief Executive Officer with the decision of such applications to be made in accordance with Attachment 2. The Assessment and decision making of such approved extraordinary applications are must to align with the requirements set out in this policy.

## 34 RELATED LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2009  
Local Government Regulation 2012  
Human Rights Act 2019  
Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011

## 45 RELATED DOCUMENTS

Code of Conduct Policy;  
Councillor Conduct Code Policy;  
[Community Development Strategy 2021–2026](#);  
Community Investment Program Funding Guideline;  
Community Investment Program Business Manual;  
[Gladstone Regional Events Strategy 2019–2024](#);  
Privacy Policy.

## 6 CONSIDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Gladstone Regional Council has considered the human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019 (Qld)* when adopting and/or amendment this policy. When applying this policy, Council will act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and give proper consideration to any human rights relevant to the decision.

## 7 ATTACHMENTS

1. Eligibility Criteria Matrix
- 1.
2. Summary of Funding Assessment Requirements

## 8 EVALUATION OF POLICY

This policy is successful when community led projects, activities, and services realise the objectives and vision of Council and support the success of our communities through a reduced reliance on the funding opportunities available under this policy. This will be measured through:

- social, cultural, and economic benefit;
- the financial sustainability of community organisations;
- the capability of community organisations to deliver projects, activities, and services; and
- the diversity of applications.

## 9 DEFINITIONS

To assist in interpretation of this policy the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition
Australian Registered Charity	An organisation that is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

Term	Definition
Community Hall	A facility owned and/or operated by a not-for-profit community organisation where the primary purpose of the facility is for general community use (via a hire or other authorised use arrangement) where members of the public gather for group activities, social support, public information, entertainment, education, and other social purposes. It excludes those facilities where community use is not the primary purpose and may be only a minor ancillary use of the facility.
Community Organisation	An entity that carries out activities for a public purpose or an entity whose primary objective is not directed at making a profit and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it does not distribute its income and property among members; and</li> <li>• it does not pay dividends to members.</li> </ul>
<u>Discretionary Funds</u>	<u>As defined in s109 of the Local Government Regulations Act 2012/2009 and are funds in Council's operating fund that are:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>budgeted for community purposes; and</u></li> <li>• <u>allocated by a councillor at the councillor's discretion.</u></li> </ul>
Donation	A contribution of goods or cash to an organisation without an expectation of direct counter-supply or serviceable deliverables, given unconditionally and voluntarily.
Educational Institution	Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• primary schools, secondary schools, universities, and TAFE / Technical Colleges as recognised by the State and Federal Government; or</li> <li>• childcare centre, early learning centre, kindergarten; or</li> <li>• any group or association created for the purpose of achieving the educational institution's objectives (i.e. Parents and Citizens/Friends Association).</li> </ul>
Funding	A financial payment from Council for non-commercial projects, activities, or items which meet specific criteria within a formal application, assessment, and acquittal process (where applicable), and any financial or other assistance given is conditional upon agreed terms and conditions. <u>Includes donations, sponsorship, and in-kind contributions.</u>
<u>Funding Stream</u>	<u>means The categories of funding including Community Support Fund, Bursaries and Scholarships Fund, Micro Grants Fund, Connected Communities Fund, Events Fund and Councillor Discretionary Fund available under this policy.</u>
Incorporated Association	An organisation incorporated under the <i>Association Incorporation Act 1981</i> or other relevant legislation.
In-kind contribution	The provision of any service, product, or use of facility that would normally attract a fee and includes services procured by Council from external suppliers at its costs. This contribution may be provided in lieu of and/or in addition to a monetary contribution.
Local	A not-for-profit organisation, individual, or business that makes a significant contribution to the Gladstone Region by way of having a physical presence in the Gladstone Regional Council local government area.

Term	Definition
Not-For-Profit	An organisation which does not operate for the profit, personal gain, or benefit of a particular person, people, or members.
Project	A service, event, <a href="#">commemorative service</a> , activity, initiative, or equipment purchase for which an organisation might seek assistance.
Public Interest	The extent to which the community will be enhanced through funding the delivery of perceived benefits (social, educational, economic, environmental, cultural, and sport and recreational) of proposed projects and activities, having regard to competing interests or priorities.
Religious or Worship Group	(For the purpose of this policy) An organisation or group which is based on or otherwise connected with the practice, teaching, observance, or belief in a Religion. The definition of Religion as defined by the High Court of Australia: <i>'means first, belief in a supernatural being, thing or principle; and second, the acceptance of canons of conduct in order to give effect to that belief, though canons of conduct which offend against the ordinary laws are outside the area of any immunity, privilege or right conferred on the grounds of religion'.</i>
Sponsorship	A mutually negotiated arrangement entailing the provision of funds and/or in-kind contribution associated with an event, organisation, or project and results in tangible benefits (advertising, publicity, or other) to Council as the sponsoring organisation.
Sporting Club	Sporting bodies that are not-for-profit and provide sporting facilities and opportunities for the public to engage in sport.

## 10 REVIEW

This policy is to be reviewed upon the earlier of:

1. [One-Two](#) years from the date of adoption of the most recent version;
2. Any relevant statutory review periods;
3. The related legislation or governing documents are amended or repealed; or
4. A request from the Chief Executive Officer or Council.

## 11 DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Reason/Change	Date	Council Resolution
0	Adoption	16/09/2008	08/538
1		1/09/2009	09/482
2		5/07/2011	G/11/621
3		7/08/2012	G/12/1162
4		2/07/2013	G/13/1624
5		15/7/2014	G/14/2087
6		25/8/2015	G/15/2528
7		1/09/2015	G/15/2544
8		2/08/2016	G/16/2860
9		20/12/2016	G/16/2950
10		18/07/2017	G/17/3124
11	Combination of previous Policies: P-2017-39, P-2014-37 & P-2105-03. New policy adopted 7 May 2019 but not to commence until 1 July 2019.	7/05/2019	G/19 /3768
12	Formerly P-2019-08 – Introduces changes to align with Community Development Strategy.	6/07/2021	GM/21/4550

Version	Reason/Change	Date	Council Resolution
13	Introduces Donations Fund and removes Mayors Discretionary fund and Community Led Investment fund.	4/10/2022	GM/22/4846
14	Amendment to funding limits per application and inclusion of such where not previously provided, introduction of expression of interest for Impact, Destination, and Signature Events, introduction of additional category to Waste Fund, inclusion of sections from CS-2022-15 Community Investment Corporate Standard to facilitate repeal of that document, further wording amendments including the reordering of content to improve readability.	15/08/2023	GM/23/5076
<a href="#"><u>15</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Removal of operational content. Amendment to funding streams, eligibility criteria, and partial funding amounts. Inclusion of Councillor Discretionary Fund and Public Toilet Subsidy.</u></a>		

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ATTACHMENT 1 – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA MATRIX

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA  To apply for funding the following MUST be met:		MICRO GRANTS FUND	CONNECTED COMMUNITIES FUND	COMMUNITY EVENTS FUNDING STREAM			COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUNDING STREAM				BURSARY & SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING STREAM			COUNCILLOR DISCRETIONARY FUND
		Micro Grants Fund	Connected Communities Fund	Community Events Fund	Ignite Events Fund	Impact, Destination, and Signature Events Fund	Community Hall Fund	Charity Waste Waiver	Waste Donation Fund	Public Toilet Subsidy	Regional Schools Bursary Fund	Col Brown Memorial Award	CQ University Gladstone Campus Scholarship	Councillor Discretionary Fund
ELIGIBLE IF CRITERIA MARKED ✓	Not-For-Profit Community Organisation based in or servicing the Gladstone Regional Council area and may be an Australian Registered Charity but not a Religious or Worship Group	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
	Not-For-Profit Sporting Club based in or servicing the Gladstone Regional Council area	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓
	Educational Institution in the Gladstone Regional Council area										✓		✓	✓
	Religious or Worship Group							✓						✓
	Individuals													✗

EXCLUSIONS – THE ENTITIES SHOWN BELOW ARE INELIGIBLE FOR ALL FUNDS

Political Organisations and Political Parties
Organisations that have access to funds generated from <del>permanently licensed premises or</del> onsite gaming machines
Educational Institutions as defined in this policy (does not include Councillor Discretionary Fund, Regional Schools Bursary Fund and CQ University <del>Gladstone Campus</del> Scholarship Fund)
Local, State or Federal Government Agency (examples: air travel, hospitals, main roads, railways and public transport, public works, industrial relations, police, and prisons)
Organisations that have had an unsuccessful acquittal within the prior two <u>(2)</u> years, an overdue acquittal, or not acquitted funds by the approved due date for prior Gladstone Regional Council Community Investment Policy funding

Additional information on eligibility is contained in the Community Investment Program Funding Guideline

CATEGORY	ASSESSMENT LEVEL	MAXIMUM FUNDING	CO-CONTRIBUTION	ACQUITTAL REQUIRED
<b>Grassroots Fund</b> <u>MICRO GRANTS FUND</u>				
<a href="#">Grassroots Micro Grants Fund</a>	Officer	<a href="#">\$10,000</a>	<a href="#">Not Required</a>	Yes
<b>Elevator</b> <u>CONNECTED COMMUNITIES FUND</u>				
<a href="#">Elevator Connected Communities Fund</a>	<a href="#">Expression of Interest</a> → <a href="#">Panel</a> → <a href="#">Interview/Presentation</a> → <a href="#">Council General Meeting</a>	<a href="#">Not Specified</a>	<a href="#">Minimum 30%</a>	Yes
<b>COMMUNITY Celebration Fund</b> <u>EVENTS FUNDING STREAM</u>				
<a href="#">Community Events Fund</a>	Officer	<a href="#">\$1,500</a>	<a href="#">Not Required</a>	Yes
<a href="#">Ignite Events Fund</a>	Officer	<a href="#">\$10,000</a>	<a href="#">Minimum 30%</a>	Yes
<a href="#">Impact, Destination, and Signature Events Fund</a>	<a href="#">Expression of Interest</a> → <a href="#">Panel</a> → <a href="#">Council General Meeting</a>	<a href="#">Not Specified</a>	<a href="#">Minimum 30%</a>	Yes
<a href="#">Destination Event</a>	<a href="#">Expression of Interest</a> → <a href="#">Panel</a> → <a href="#">Council General Meeting</a>			Yes
<a href="#">Signature Event</a>	<a href="#">Expression of Interest</a> → <a href="#">Panel</a> → <a href="#">Council General Meeting</a>			Yes
<b>COMMUNITY HALL &amp; WASTE FUND</b> <u>SUPPORT FUNDING STREAM</u>				
<a href="#">Community Hall Fund</a>	Officer	<a href="#">\$2,000</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<a href="#">Waste Fund</a> <a href="#">Charity Waste Waiver</a>	Officer	<a href="#">Not required</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<a href="#">Waste Donation Fund</a>	<a href="#">Officer</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<a href="#">Public Toilet Subsidy</a>	<a href="#">Officer</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<b>BURSARY AND SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDING STREAM</b>				
<a href="#">Regional Schools Bursary Fund</a>	Officer	<a href="#">Various</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<a href="#">Col Brown Memorial Award</a>	Officer	<a href="#">\$1,000</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<a href="#">CQ University Gladstone Campus Scholarship</a>	Officer	<a href="#">\$2,000</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<b>Strategic Projects Fund</b>				
<a href="#">Strategic Projects Fund</a>	<a href="#">Panel</a> → <a href="#">Council General Meeting</a>			Yes
<b>Community Donations Fund</b> <u>COUNCILLOR DISCRETIONARY FUND</u>				
<a href="#">Community Donations Fund</a> <a href="#">Councillor Discretionary Fund</a>	<a href="#">Mayor</a> → <a href="#">Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive Officer</a> <a href="#">Officer</a> <a href="#">Councillor</a> → <a href="#">Mayor and Chief Executive Officer</a>	<a href="#">Not specified</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No Yes

## ATTACHMENT 2 – SUMMARY OF FUNDING ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

CATEGORY	ASSESSMENT LEVEL	DECISION MAKER	CO-CONTRIBUTION	ACQUITTAL REQUIRED
<del>Grassroots Fund</del> <b>MICRO GRANTS FUND</b>				
<del>Grassroots Micro Grants Fund</del>		Officer	<a href="#">Not Required</a>	Yes
<del>Elevator</del> <b>CONNECTED COMMUNITIES FUND</b>				
<del>Elevator Connected Communities Fund</del>		<a href="#">Expression of Interest</a> → Panel → <a href="#">Interview/Presentation</a> → Council General Meeting	<a href="#">Minimum 30%</a>	Yes
<b>COMMUNITY <del>Celebration Fund</del> EVENTS FUNDING STREAM</b>				
Community Events <a href="#">Fund</a>		Officer	<a href="#">Not Required</a>	Yes
Ignite Events <a href="#">Fund</a>		Officer	<a href="#">Minimum 30%</a>	Yes
Impact, <a href="#">Destination, and Signature Events Fund</a>		Expression of Interest → Panel → Council General Meeting	<a href="#">Minimum 30%</a>	Yes
<del>Destination Event</del>		<del>Expression of Interest → Panel → Council General Meeting</del>		<del>Yes</del>
<del>Signature Event</del>		<del>Expression of Interest → Panel → Council General Meeting</del>		<del>Yes</del>
<b>COMMUNITY <del>HALL &amp; WASTE FUND</del> SUPPORT FUNDING STREAM</b>				
Community Hall Fund		Officer	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<del>Waste Fund</del> <a href="#">Charity Waste Waiver</a>		Officer	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<a href="#">Waste Donation Fund</a>		<a href="#">Officer</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	<a href="#">No</a>
<a href="#">Public Toilet Subsidy</a>		<a href="#">Officer</a>	<a href="#">Not required</a>	<a href="#">No</a>
<b>BURSARY AND SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDING STREAM</b>				
Regional Schools Bursary Fund		Officer	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
Col Brown Memorial Award		Officer	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
CQ University <del>Gladstone Campus</del> Scholarship		Officer	<a href="#">Not required</a>	No
<del>Strategic Projects Fund</del>		<del>Panel → Council General Meeting</del>		<del>Yes</del>
<del>Community Donations Fund</del> <b>COUNCILLOR DISCRETIONARY FUND</b>				

<del>Community Donations Fund</del> <del>Councillor Discretionary Fund</del>	Mayor ➡ Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive Officer <del>Officer</del> Councillor ➡ Mayor and Chief Executive Officer	<u>Not required</u>	<del>No</del> <u>Yes</u> <sup>1</sup>
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<sup>1</sup> An acquittal is required where the funding received is more than \$1,500.