

COMMUNITY GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEME

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1. OBJECTIVE

To offer community, sporting, cultural, service groups, associations and individuals (via auspice) either based or operating within the City of Karratha, financial assistance to foster high quality programs, community events, facilities and services that provide a return benefit to the City of Karratha community.

This policy represents the following community grants and contributions, available from the City of Karratha:

1. City of Karratha Bi-Annual Community Grant Scheme;
2. Quarterly Grants Scheme;
3. End of Year School Awards Contribution; and
4. Computers for Communities.

2. PRINCIPLES

2.1 Introduction

In recognition of the important role that community organisations and sporting groups play in developing vibrant communities, Council is committed to providing support and assistance through the various Community Grants and Contribution Schemes each financial year.

2.2 Eligibility

1. The applicant/s must reside or operate within the City of Karratha. Applications that are not connected or concerned with the City of Karratha community will not be considered.
2. Organisations shall include, but are not limited to, sporting clubs, schools (parents and citizens' associations ONLY***) and community groups or individuals (via auspice) that have a focus on community needs with a social benefit.
3. Corporate and Government organisations are ineligible to apply through this grant unless applying in collaboration with a not-for-profit (auspice).*** These organisations may be eligible to apply for sponsorship via Policy CS22: Major Events Sponsorship and Attraction Scheme (MESAP).
4. Individuals or Non-Incorporated Organisations are required to apply via an auspice organisation directly associated with their project/initiative (i.e. an Individual Sport Scholarship application pertaining to Cricket should be auspiced via a local Cricket Club/Association)
 - Organisations that are applying for equipment must be incorporated and provide evidence of current incorporation status and a copy of their constitution's wind up clause. Where an organisation applies via auspice, the auspice body will need to provide this documentation.
5. Religious groups/organisations may be funded for community based activities/programs ONLY. Funding towards religious specific activities will not be considered.

*** Schools are eligible for the End of Year School Awards Contribution (defined under Section 3.3)

Applications for projects that have already been funded through alternate City of Karratha grant schemes are ineligible.

2.3 General Conditions

The City of Karratha will endeavour to provide support to projects, activities and events that:

1. Are consistent with the values and strategies contained within the City of Karratha's Community Strategic Plan;
2. Meet the specific funding program guidelines, eligibility and associated criteria (further described in Section 3);
3. Demonstrate the applicant's capacity to manage the financial accountabilities of the project; and
4. Demonstrate the applicant's capacity to manage and deliver the overall project.

Council will not:

- Fund deficit funding of an organisation;
- Fund retrospectively;
- Fund the cost of purchasing alcohol or associated licenses.

Applications are to be received by the advertised closing date. Applications received after the advertised closing date will not be considered.

Decisions regarding funding applications are final and are not reconsidered. Applicants may choose to resubmit their applications in future funding rounds (including those in the same financial year) or alternate schemes.

Any approved funds are to be spent on the purpose detailed in the original application. Assistance will not be provided to applicants in instances where this does not occur. Community Grants and Contributions Schemes are competitive. It is recommended that all information requested and/or required, is provided at time of application so as not to jeopardise eligibility.

The City of Karratha reserves the right to request Audited Financial Statements from any organisation for any project or activity that receives funding under this Policy. Community organisations will be advised prior to funding approval if an audit is required. If an audit is required, the project budget/s may be amended to include reasonable audit costs.

2.4 Criteria

Applications shall be considered via a combination of any or all of the following (dependant on the applicable Scheme):

1. Volunteer hours contributed
2. Leverage of funds
3. Event impact, novelty, wow factor
4. Extent of investment in local business
5. Partnership and relationship development between residents, the community and the City
6. Demonstrated evidence of need - benefit to the community
7. Successful performance and acquittal of previous grant allocations
8. Level of engagement and connection between residents
9. Sustainability of the activity
10. Capacity for self-delivery
11. Type of organisation / service;
12. Priority against other applications;
13. Prior funding from City of Karratha (specific project and/or organisation);
14. Available funding (budget); and
15. Return benefit to the City of Karratha and any associated partners.

2.5 Allocation of Funds

Council will allocate funds for the Community Grant and Contributions Scheme as part of the City of Karratha annual budget process.

Allocation of funds, specific to a grant scheme, is detailed below under the individual headings.

Funds **will not be approved** to any applicant that has not successfully acquitted previous grants or holds outstanding debts with the City of Karratha.

2.6 Unspent Funds

Funds which are unspent at the conclusion of the project or activity are to be returned to Council within 60 days of the completion of the project, activity or event.

Funds that remain unaccounted for, remain unspent or are not acquitted within the relevant timeframes will be considered forfeited and shall be treated as for any Council debt. The recipient is required to return all funds unless a written request for extended time is received **and approved prior to the acquittal date**.

2.7 Variations

- Generally, variations to the approved application will not be accepted unless projects are impacted by circumstances beyond the applicants' control.
- Approved applicants must request any variation via the Variation Request Form.
- Variations that do not change the overall intent of the approved application may be considered.

2.8 Return Benefits to the City of Karratha

Applicants that successfully receive funds via these schemes agree to acknowledge the assistance provided by the City of Karratha (and any other associated partners) via the following mediums, including, but not limited to:

1. Public address announcements;
2. City of Karratha banner displayed at the event, program or service;
3. City of Karratha logo displayed on posters, pamphlets, sign boards etc.;
4. City of Karratha logo displayed as appropriate on other promotional materials (posters, pamphlets, signboards etc.);
5. Where relevant, joint media promotion with the City of Karratha.

Proof of the above acknowledgements and photographs for funded activities, events and outcomes must be included with the final evaluation report.

3. COMMUNITY GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEMES

3.1 City of Karratha Bi-Annual Community Grant Scheme

Aim: To offer financial assistance to community groups to encourage high standards of community service and program delivery in areas such as arts and culture, health and wellbeing, welfare, training, sport and recreation and general interest.

To promote a positive public image of the City of Karratha, assistance **may** be used to cover costs such as:

- Operating costs including, but not limited to:
 - salaries / wages
 - advertising
 - rent (considered in context of whole community benefit).
 - Insurance (capped at 50% of the total insurance costs).
- Events.
- Building maintenance or facility upgrades
- Service / program delivery.

Note: Capital works projects or capital improvement projects that exceed \$15,000 will be undertaken by City Officers. These projects will be subject to consideration through Council's "New Initiatives" process and not directed through the grants scheme.

Amount: Up to \$50,000 per application, per round. Total pool is approximately \$280,000 per round.

Funding Rounds: Call for applications to be advertised for a minimum 2-month period (prior to the advertised closing dates of each round) for Council consideration at the May and November Ordinary Council Meetings.

Budget: Applications shall be assessed, listed in order of priority and placed in Council's budget process for consideration.

Outlying townships: there will be a quarantined amount of \$25,000 for the townships of Dampier, Roebourne, Wickham and Point Samson, per round. That is, up to \$200,000 per year. The quarantined amount will be reviewed at the time of policy review to ensure funding is still being utilised based on demonstrated community need.

Specific grant considerations:

Acquittals are due at the completion of the project, no later than 12 months after approval. A specific date will be included in a successful applicant's funding agreement.

Successful applicants receive lump sum payments for each approved project as follows:

- 50% upfront payment.
- 30% progress payment with written evidence/update on status of project.
- 20% upon completion of the project, receipt of all financial acquittal documentation and completed evaluation report.

Recipients can access up to half of the final payment without an evaluation report if they can acquit previous project payments (80%). Final 10% will only be released upon receipt of all other documentation.

Scoring Criteria: Applications will be assessed based on the following scoring criteria and weighting

- Volunteer hours contributed (15)
- Leverage of funds (15)
- Event impact, novelty, wow factor (10)
- Extent of investment in local business (10)
- Partnership and relationship development between residents, the community and the City (10)
- Demonstrated evidence of need - benefit to the community (10)
- Successful performance and acquittal of previous grant allocations (10)
- Level of engagement and connection between residents (10)
- Sustainability of the activity (5)
- Capacity for self-delivery (5)

Applications that score lower than 60% will not be eligible to receive funding.

Annual Events: Council will consider requests from community organisations to apply for a Memorandum of Understanding, for funding for a maximum of three years, for established annual events that meet the weighted criteria as stated above. These events will be limited to two events per township at any one time.

3.2 Quarterly Grants Scheme

Aim: Refer Sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 below.

Amount: Up to \$1,000 for individuals (via auspice), up to \$5,000 for organisations.

Funding Rounds: Applications for funding should be submitted to the City of Karratha by the advertised closing date, to ensure the application is evaluated in the appropriate funding rounds each year.

Budget: Council shall make an annual budgetary provision for the purpose of the Quarterly Grant Scheme.

Approval Process: All requests for the Quarterly Grants Scheme shall be administered by Community Services in consultation with:

- Director Community Services
- Community Engagement Representatives
- Other departmental representatives as required (subject to the nature of the application).

To assist the community with timely support, all applications submitted under the Quarterly Grants Scheme shall be assessed against pre-determined criteria by City of Karratha staff and referred to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for approval, in accordance with the budget allocations.

Where the CEO declares a conflict of interest, approval can be redirected to (a) Director Community Services; (b) another member of the Executive Management Team (should a conflict likewise exist with (a)).

Specific Grant Considerations:

- Acquittals are due 6 months from the 'approved' notification date.
- Successful applicants eligible to receive upfront payment for their approved project/initiative.

3.2.1 Sports and Recreational Grant Scheme

Aim: Sports and Recreation Grants provide financial assistance to individuals (via auspice), groups, clubs or associations that seek to foster skills development, provide high quality programs, improve facilities and services, and/or increase participation of individuals, groups and the wider community in social and sporting activities.

3.2.2 Community & Cultural Grant Scheme

Aim: Community and Cultural Grants provides financial assistance to individuals, groups and organisations that seek to foster skills development, provide high quality programs, improve facilities and services, and/or increase the participation of individuals, groups and the wider community in social and cultural activities and events.

3.3 End of Year School Awards Contribution

Aim: To assist local educational institutions with end of year presentations to be held within the City of Karratha.

Funding Rounds: An annual contribution to the Public Training Provider (North Regional TAFE), as well as all local primary and secondary schools within the City of Karratha at the end of each calendar year. Applicable recipients to be advised September/October each year.

Budget: Council shall make an annual budgetary provision to assist with end of year presentations:

- \$100/primary school
- \$175/high school and Public Training Provider

Approval Process: Community Services will administer the annual donation to each local educational institution that consents to the contribution.

3.4 Computers for Communities

Aim: Computers for Communities aims to provide assistance to any incorporated art, sporting, community club or association, operating within the City of Karratha, to assist with day-to-day administration and functions of that group.

Periodically, the City of Karratha will make computers available that are surplus to its needs (at no cost) to eligible applicants.

Occasionally, printers may become available under the same program and will be advertised accordingly.

All items provided under this scheme are distributed as-is and without warranty.

Funding Rounds: Call for applications will be advertised as computers and/or printers become available for dissemination.

Approval Process: All requests received via the Computers for Community Scheme shall be assessed and administered by Community Services and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for approval.

3. CONSEQUENCES

This policy represents the formal policy and expected standards of the Council. Appropriate approvals need to be obtained prior to any deviation from the policy. Elected Members and Employees are reminded of their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to give full effect to the lawful policies, decisions and practices of the Council.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of **All Staff** to ensure that they adhere to the policy, direction and legislation.

It is the responsibility of the **Community Services Directorate** to administer funds within relevant guidelines and ensure community organisations successful in obtaining funds, are compliant with this policy.

Council is responsible for the application of the policy. **Council** is responsible for the review of the policy.

5. REFERENCES TO RELATED DOCUMENTS

- City of Karratha Bi-Annual Community Grant Scheme Guidelines; Application; Evaluation Forms.
- Quarterly Grant Scheme Guidelines; Application; Evaluation Forms.
- Computers for Communities Guidelines and Application Form.
- Policy CS-22 Major Events Sponsorship Scheme.
- Variation Request Form

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Responsible Officer:	Manager Partnerships and Engagement

This Policy takes effect from the date of adoption by Council and shall remain valid until it is amended or deleted.