

Item 9: Finance

9.1 Community Grants Program - May 2022

REPORT BY THE ACCOUNTANT REPORTING & ANALYSIS
TO 18 MAY 2022 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400088, FIN3000159, GOV400098

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Financial Planning Coordinator on the Community Grants Program - May 2022;**
2. **provide financial assistance to the following applications in accordance with the criteria and guidelines of the Community Grants Policy; and**

Back to Gulgong Inc.	\$2,000
Kanandah Retirement Ltd	\$2,459
Mudgee Valley Writers	\$1,000
The Business Concierge LTD	\$2,500
Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc.	\$1,125
Jarrold Emeny	\$1,000

3. **declined to provide financial assistance to the following applicants, for the reason provided in the report:**
 - **Cementa Inc.**
 - **Iford Public School**

Executive summary

This report considers requests for financial assistance under Council's Community Grants Program Policy.

Provision is made in Council's Community Grants Program Policy to provide financial assistance to not-for-profit community-based organisations, groups and individuals that offer a significant contribution to community outcomes and goals as provided in the Towards 2030 Community Plan.

All applications were first reviewed for eligibility and then assessed by a panel of three staff against the following criteria relative to the amount of funding requested:

- Degree of benefit to the community aligned with the community plan.

- Level of consultation and collaboration with other local groups.
- Organisational capacity to deliver the program or project.

Even though an application meets the criteria it may be judged that there is not a significant enough benefit to the community in order to fund or fully fund the request. A summary of each application is shown below, together with panel recommendations.

Applicant	Project/Activity	Funding Request \$	Total Score out of 9	Recommended Amount \$
Back to Gulgong Inc.	Back to Gulgong 150th Anniversary	2,000	8	2,000
Kanandah Retirement Ltd	Northern Wing Construction	4,918	8	2,459
Mudgee Valley Writers	Much More Than Words photographic prompt writing competition	2,000	6	1,000
The Business Concierge LTD	Survivor Life Skills	2,500	8	2,500
Ilford Public School	Replacing driver reviver van at Ilford	10,000	-	0
Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc.	Annual Dog Show and Obedience Trails 2022	1,500	7	1,125
Cementa Inc.	Council Support for Cementa Festival	5,000	-	0
Jarrold Emeny	University of Illinois Premier Camp	3,000	-	1,000
			Total	10,084

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

The information provided below gives more detail on each application and the scoring against the policy criteria. Copies of all applications are provided as attachments to the report.

Back to Gulgong Inc.

Back to Gulgong Inc. requests \$2,000 for Back to Gulgong 150th Anniversary. Gulgong 150th anniversary was 2020 and received \$5,000 funding from council which was refunded in full due to event being cancelled because of COVID. 2021 event was also cancelled. This year they are planning a smaller event with family fun day on Saturday at Red Hill with colonial games and foot races for the kids as well as music and food stalls, and on Sunday Grant Colonial Ball will be held.

Link to Community Plan: 1.2.1 Respect and enhance the historic character of our Region and heritage value of our towns 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community groups, 1.4.2 Support arts and cultural development across the Region.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Community Grants Category - Community Events: Cap \$ 5,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$2,000

The Panel scored the application as 8 and there appear to be significant benefits linked with the objectives of Councils Community Plan so the full amount requested was recommended.

Kanandah Retirement Ltd.

Kanandah Retirement Ltd requests \$4,918 for Northern Wing Construction. Kanandah is building a new wing of 11 residential rooms and undertaking an upgrade to the fire safety system throughout the whole facility. They are requesting funds to cover the cost of 2 aged care beds and mattresses which will be placed in the Isolation room in the event of an infectious disease outbreak.

Link to Community Plan: 1.1.2 Work with key partners and the community to lobby for effective health services in our Region 1.3.1 Provide infrastructure and services to cater for the current and future needs of our community, 1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Capital Grants Category: Cap \$25,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$2,459

The Panel scored the application as 8 and there appears to be significant link to the Council Community Plan so 50% of the project cost was recommended.

Mudgee Valley Writers

Mudgee Valley Writers requests \$2,000 for Much More Than Words photographic prompt writing competition. In this entrants submit a story, article or poem to 250 words on any subject to be accompanied by a photo. The top twenty entries will receive a free copy of printed anthology, at the exhibition or photos and written submissions in August 2022.

Link to Community Plan: 1.4.2 Support arts and cultural development across the Region.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Community Grants Category - Community Events: Cap \$ 5,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$1,000

The Panel scored the application as a 6 and so 50% of the requested amount was recommended.

The Business Concierge Ltd.

The Business Concierge LTD requests \$2,500 for Survivor Life Skills. The applicant provides programs to High Schools and Primary Schools in Mudgee, Kandos and Gulgong in order to teach Finance Literacy Skills, Interview and Employment and other Life Skills not covered in the School curriculum. There are 60 subjects Schools can choose from based on the needs of the School and students. The program for Schools has been run in the Mudgee Region for 15 years.

Link to Community Plan: 1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles 3.3.2 Build strong linkages with institutions providing education, training and employment pathways in the Region.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Community Grants Category - Specific Program/ Project: Cap \$10,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$2,500

The Panel scored the application as 8 and there appear to be significant benefits linked with the objectives of Councils Community Plan so the full amount requested was recommended.

Ilford Public School

Ilford Public School requests \$10,000 for replacing the driver reviver van at Ilford. The applicants aim is to provide a food service van for the community and the committee to raise funds for the kids at the school. The van will also be available to other community organisations such as the Rural Fire Service & Country Women's Association to deliver good quality food to the community in need in the most effective way, in times of emergency and natural disasters such as fires.

RECOMMENDATION: \$0

The Community Grants Program eligibility criteria states that Council does not provide grants for programs that typically fall under the responsibility of another level of government. This is seen as a state highway and NSW transport responsibility and therefore would fall within the responsibility of the NSW State Government.

Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc.

Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc. requests \$1,500 (2,500 – 1,000 Bond) for Annual Dog Show and Obedience Trails 2022. The operation of the Annual Championship Dog Shows, Obedience and rally trails on 5th, 6th and 7th August at Victoria Park Gulgong. This is an annual event that has taken place on these grounds for more than 30 years, although they were forced by COVID19 to cancel the events in 2020 and 2021.

Link to Community Plan: 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community groups 3.1.1 Support the attraction and retention of a diverse range of businesses and industries, 1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Community Grants Category - Community Events: Cap \$ 5,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$1,125

The Panel scored the application as 7 thus 75% of the requested amount was recommended. We removed \$ 1,000 from the original request as it was for Bond waver and the Community Grant's policy does not allow us to do it.

Cementa Inc.

Cementa Inc. requests \$5,000 for Council support for Cementa Festival. This festival engages local residents and groups with visiting and local artists to make artworks for this four day festival. They have over 40 artists with works involving over 12 local community groups and approximately 50 local people that will garner an audience of up to 2000 visitors from Sydney.

Link to Community Plan: 1.4.2 Support arts and cultural development across the Region 3.2.1 Promote the Region as a great place to live, work, invest and visit, 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community groups.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Community Grants Category - Community Events: Cap \$ 5,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$0

No amount was recommended because support should be applied for under the Events assistance program. The cap for the Event assistance program is \$2,500.

Jarroed Emeny

Jarroed Emeny requests \$3,000 for University of Illinois Premier Camp. This is a college camp for potential elite student athletes at the University of Illinois in Chicago. The university has funded for the cost of the camp however the airfares to this opportunity present the main financial challenge. The applicant have received an invitation from the head coach to attend this event with all camp costs other than airfares to the university.

Link to Community Plan: 1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Disability Representative Grants Category: Cap \$ 1,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$1,000

The Panel recommended the maximum cap amount of \$ 1,000 for this application.

Community Plan implications

Theme	Good Governance
Goal	An effective and efficient organisation
Strategy	Pursue efficiencies and ongoing business improvement

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

Not applicable

Council Policies

Recommendations are made under the Community Grants Program Policy

Legislation

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 Section 356 granting of financial assistance must be approved by a Council resolution.

Financial implications

Funding of \$110,000 is provided in the Operational Plan for financial assistance plus an additional budget of \$111,376 approved, which brings to the total of \$ 221,376. Out of which \$195,887 has already been allocated, leaving a balance of \$25,489. Based on the scoring system above, the recommendation of staff is to provide \$10,084 in financial assistance. Should Council approve the recommendations in the report, a balance of \$15,405 will remain.

Associated Risks

Not applicable

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ACCOUNTANT REPORTING & ANALYSIS

NEIL BUNGATE
ACTING CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

24 January 2022

Attachments: 1. Community Grant Applications. (separately attached)

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER