

9.5 Community Grants Program - October 2021

REPORT BY THE FINANCIAL PLANNING COORDINATOR
TO 13 OCTOBER 2021 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400088, FIN3000159

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. receive the report by the Financial Planning Coordinator on the Community Grants Program - October 2021;
2. provide financial assistance to the following applications in accordance with the criteria and guidelines of the Community Grants Policy;

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Mudgee Triathlon Club | 1,113 |
| Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc. | 1,138 |
| Mudgee Lions Club | 2,500 |
| Gulgong Chamber of Commerce | 7,500 |

3. decline to provide financial assistance to the following applicants, for the reasons provided in the report;
 - Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc.
4. amend the following fee description as written to additionally allow a fee waiver for Little Wings, and place on public exhibition for 28 days; and

Service Type /Fee

Fee Amount (\$)

Mudgee Airport – Landing Fees – CareFlight, Child Flight, Sydney SLSA, Air Ambulance, Angel Flight or RFS nSW or charity flights

No charge

5. endorse the amended fee following the 28 days exhibition period if no submissions are received.

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 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mudgee Triathlon Club | Mudgee Pool Fees Wavier | 1,113 | 7 | 1,113 |
| Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc. | Rylstone-Kandos District Newsletter-Community Capers | 2,000 | 6 | - |
| Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc. | Reimbursement of council rates | 1,138 | 6 | 1,138 |
| Mudgee Lions Club | Mudgee Lions Community Twilight Market and Festival | 2,500 | 8 | 2,500 |
| Gulgong Chamber of Commerce | Gulgong Chamber of Commerce administration | 11,000 | 7 | 7,500 |
| Total | | | | 12,251 |

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.

Mudgee Triathlon Club

Mudgee Triathlon Club requests \$1,113 for Mudgee Pool Fees Wavier. The requested amount above is based on pool hire. We hold 7 club races a year including 1 interclub race (against Bathurst, Cowra, Dubbo and Orange).

Link to Community Plan: 1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community groups, 1.4.3 Provide equitable access to a range of places and spaces for all in the community.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 1,113.

The Panel scored the application as a 7 and as it was not a large amount the full amount was recommended.

Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc.

Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc. requests \$2,000 for Rylstone-Kandos District Newsletter-Community Capers. Publish and distribute monthly community newsletter Community Capers across the region.

Link to Community Plan: 1.1.1 Maintain the provision of high quality, accessible community services that meet the needs of our community 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community group.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 0.

The Panel scored the application as a 6 but no amount was recommended as they have reached their CAP of \$ 10,000 for the financial year.

Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc.

Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc. requests \$1,138 for Reimbursement of council rates. Obtaining the rate relief will free up funds to assist day to day running of the shed. Seeking Rate relief as per previous years.

Link to Community Plan: 1.1.1 Maintain the provision of high quality, accessible community services that meet the needs of our community 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 lifestyle.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 1,138.

The Panel scored the application as a 6 and as it was not a large amount the full amount was recommended.

Mudgee Lions Club

Mudgee Lions Club requests \$2,500 for Mudgee Lions Community Twilight Market and Festival. Combined market and fun festival for the whole community with a festive, Christmas theme. Held each year since 2014 (the 2020 event was held in April 2021 due to COVID restrictions), the principal focus is on fun and activities for all of the family while keeping costs as low as possible and also to get the involvement of as many community groups as possible.

Link to Community Plan: 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community groups 1.1.1 Maintain the provision of high quality, accessible community services that meet the needs of our community

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

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.

Gulgong Chamber of Commerce

Gulgong Chamber of Commerce requests \$11,000 for Gulgong Chamber of Commerce administration. Gulgong Chamber of Commerce administers, finances and operates 5 major community activities. It assists many community groups in our area to help ensure the smooth running of their events staged in the Mid-Western Regional Council area. Administration of the Gulgong Gossip, Mid-Western Mail, Community bus services and Heart of Gulgong are underpinned by program admin and financial input.

Link to Community Plan: 1.1.1 Maintain the provision of high quality, accessible community services that meet the needs of our community 1.3.1 Provide infrastructure and services to cater for the current and future needs of our community, 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community groups.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 7,500.

The Panel scored the application as 7 and as the amount requested was above the policy's Cap, we recommended 75% of the cap.

Little Wings

In July Council approved \$1,200 in airport landing fee waiver to Little Wings. To recap the organisation summary is provided below and an organisation summary provided as an attachment.

Little Wings provide free air and ground transport for chronically ill and seriously injured children and their family that live in rural and regional NSW, ensuring consistent and long-term access to life saving medical treatment that is only available in city based hospitals. Little Wings is an 89% volunteer led organisation and supports approximately 6 families in the Mudgee region.

In September Little Wings responded thanking Council and requesting to discuss options for future landings at Mudgee Airport. A copy of this correspondence is attached.

Upon review of this situation and the Council's fees and charges, it is noted that there are similar organisations approved to land at Mudgee Airport free of charge for non-emergency charitable medical transportation. It is therefore recommended to extend this type of support to Little Wings. The proposal to amend the fees and charges shall be placed on public exhibition for 28 in order for Council to consider submissions. If submissions are received they will be presented to the next available meeting. If no submissions are received the amended fee is endorsed.

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. \$18,826 has already been allocated, leaving a balance of \$91,174. Based on the scoring system above, the recommendation of staff is to provide \$12,251 in financial assistance. Should Council approve the recommendations in the report, a balance of \$78,923 will remain.

Associated Risks

Not applicable.

AMANDA COVER
FINANCIAL PLANNING COORDINATOR

LEONIE JOHNSON
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

22 September 2021

Attachments: 1. Community Grant. (separately attached)
2. Little Wings - Landing Fee Waiver Request.
3. Little Wings.

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER

Neil Bungate

From: Flight Coordinator <flights@LittleWings.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 8 September 2021 2:55 PM
To: Council
Subject: Little Wings - Landing Fee Waiver Request

Good afternoon,

I would just like to start by saying a very big thank you for providing us with your generous grant to cover our landing fees at Mudgee Airport. We have paid all outstanding debts related to our Avdata Statement. We are able to use these funds to directly help more children receive treatment within the Sydney Children Hospitals Network.

For future movements in and out of Mudgee Airport, I would like to discuss the option of being granted ongoing landing fee waivers, once approved, is organised through Avdata. I believe this would be of great benefit to both of us in greatly reducing work load. We are currently providing transport fortnightly for a mother and daughter who is attending the Oncology Department at Westmead, so we are expecting several movements over the coming months.

If you would like to discuss further, please do reach out at any time on the below contact.

Hope to talk soon and again, a big thank you for supporting our service.

Best regards,



BROCK BADMAN FLIGHT COORDINATOR
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[Redacted content]

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL | 2021



CONTACT | CLARE PEARSON
CEO

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OUR STORY

Little Wings is a nonprofit organization that provides free, professional and safe flight and ground transport services for sick children in rural and regional NSW. We strive to ease the journey and help sick children access specialised medical services and treatments that are only available in major cities or towns. We do everything we can to support families by easing the financial burden, emotional strain and travel fatigue that they experience due to the long-distance travel associated with receiving vital medical treatment.

Established in 2012, Little Wings started by providing services to children undergoing cancer treatment at The Children's Hospital in Westmead, Sydney.

Since then, our services have extended to assist other seriously ill children receiving treatment at The Sydney Children's Hospital Network and The John Hunter Children's Hospital in Newcastle. It is our privilege to help families with regular, ongoing medical appointments to travel with ease, and we offer a welcome break to children during their treatment, by bringing them home for some much-needed quality time with family and friends. We believe in keeping families together during some of the most testing times of their lives. Together with our supporters and partners' assistance and generosity, we will persevere with our mission of making a difference in the lives of sick children in regional New South Wales.

OUR PASSION AND GOALS | EASING THE JOURNEY

Little Wings is a children's charity operating in New South Wales with one simple yet important mission; to provide support and care to sick children and their families by minimising the physical, emotional and financial strain of receiving lifesaving medical treatment.

Little Wings

- Support children, youth & families experiencing financial hardship, disadvantage and isolation across regional NSW
- Ensure access to life saving medical treatment regardless of postcode across NSW
- Work to assist the seriously ill child but to also to nurture families, keeping them united and thriving. In turn, supporting healthy and connected regional communities.

OUR SERVICE

Little Wings pilots collect families from their closet regional airport, flying them into Bankstown Aerodrome or Cessnock Airport, where they will then be greeted and transported to their treating hospital by a Little Wings volunteer driver and in our branded vehicles; transporting families to their treating hospital.

This door-to-door service works to both provide a hygienic and controlled environment for those patients that are immune compromised, but also, eases the journey in the instant but long-term as financial burdens are eased and families have more time together.

Being a 100% donor sponsored service, receiving zero government funding, we rely heavily on the support of community. Allowing us to assist families in need without hesitation. So today, we are seeking your help.

WHAT WE NEED

We are currently supporting a number of families from the Mudgee region, seeing Little Wings fly in and out of Mudgee Airport on a fortnightly basis. Further, one of these children is terminally ill, and subsequently, is flying routine to Westmead Children's Hospital for medical intervention and end-of-life care.

Therefore, we are requesting that all ongoing landing fees be waived. In doing so, you allow us redirect funding into flights, helping us ensure a stable service for families in great need.

YOUR INVESTMENT REALISED

In return for your generous support, you can expect the following:

- Original content provisions and impact reporting to share with your internal and external stakeholders;
- Bi-Annual social tags across various social platforms, highlighting your partnership and support;
- Access to the CEO for presentations and events if required;
- Content and branding in the Little Wings newsletter and annual report.





When families utilise the Little Wings service,
heathy siblings have a 77% increase in school attendance
families remain financially independent
marriages are more stable and home routines more consistent

HELP US SUPPORT FAMILIES ACROSS REGIONAL NSW

1500



The cost of every Little Wings flight. Ensuing that serious ill children with compromised immune systems are transported in safe, comfortable and controlled environments.

89



The percentage of volunteers leading Little Wings every day. Every pilot. Every driver. All volunteers.

55



The number of regions that Little Wings service across NSW. Further supporting children from ACT, NT, VIC and QLD if they are participating in medical trails or accessing specialist treatment at Westmead Children's Hospital.

550



The number of flights conducted annually. With demand increasing, we anticipate this reaching up to 800 flights per year in 2022. We desperately need assistance to respond to growing demand.



3



The number of aircraft that Little Wings own and centrally maintain at Bankstown Aerodrome. All aircraft are Beechcraft Barons; Twin engines, all fitted with modern avionics.

100



The number of children per week receiving support via our Medical Wings program. Seeing specialist teams conduct remote clinics to reach the most isolated.

3MILLION



The number of kilometres safely completed in the air, maintaining a zero harm standard for all. Because we value & prioritise safety in all aspect of the Little Wings service.

4



Our partners. Little Wings have formal MOU agreements in place with The Sydney Children's Hospital Network, Royal Far West, Manly and John Hunter Children's Hospital, Newcastle.