

## 9.4 Community Grants Program - October 2023

REPORT BY THE FINANCIAL PLANNING CO-ORDINATOR  
TO 18 OCTOBER 2023 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400103, GRA600009

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. receive the report by the Acting Financial Planning Co-ordinator on the Community Grants Program - October 2023;
2. provide financial assistance to the following applications in accordance with the criteria and guidelines of the Community Grants Policy:

<b>Mudgee Historical Society Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 750</b>
<b>Lions Club of Mudgee Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 2,500</b>
<b>Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 1,231</b>
<b>Mudgee Gulgong Wolves FC Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>

3. not provide financial assistance to the following applicants for the reason provided in the report:

<b>Mudgee Region Rail Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
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### 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 2040 Community Plan.

All applications except for those under the Youth Representative Grants and the Mudgee Sports Advisory categories 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 Region Rail Inc.	Financial Benefit analysis for Mudgee Regional Tourism & Business Community	10,000	n/a	0
Mudgee Historical Society Inc.	Mudgee Historical Society's Easy Self-Guided Historic Walk Brochure	1,000	7	750
Lions Club of Mudgee Inc.	Mudgee Lions Community Twilight Market and Festival 2023	2,500	9	2,500
Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc.	MWRC Rate Relief	1,231	8	1,231
Mudgee Gulgong Wolves FC Inc.	NSW Country Side for the National Youth Football Championships (Soccer)	2,432	n/a	500
<b>Total</b>				<b>4,981</b>

## 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 Region Rail Inc**

Mudgee Region Rail Inc requests \$10,000 to complete a financial benefit analysis for the Mudgee Regional Tourism & Business Community. This analysis will consider the benefits of reinstating the Rylstone to Gulgong rail line which will create substantial financial business opportunities, particularly for tourism and small business enterprises within the region. The analysis report will examine the benefits that the rail line reinstatement will have to tourism and small business, including benefits to sporting activities, the wine and cellar door tourism and many more.

Although, the application meets the requirements of a community grant, the work and outcomes of the study align with something that Councils Rail Committee would be advised to recommend for Council to complete directly. If Council is to cover the full costs of the consultants for this work, it is advised that it would be more appropriate for Council to complete, if they are of a mind to do so.

*Link to Community Plan: 1.3.1 Provide infrastructure and services to cater for the current and future needs of our community and 4.3.2 Support viable public transport options across the Region*

**COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

\$0

**Mudgee Historical Society Inc**

Mudgee Historical Society Inc requests \$1,000 for Mudgee Historical Society's Easy Self-Guided Historic Walk Brochure. Designing, printing and marketing a booklet for a self-guided short historic walk in the centre of Mudgee. The project aims to promote Mudgee's heritage and history to locals and visitors and features ten of Mudgee's important historic sites/buildings located within a walking distance of 500 metres in and around the intersection of Church and Market Street. This will benefit businesses in and around the subject area due to increased foot traffic and the Mudgee community as a whole as it will highlight Mudgee's heritage and historic appeal.

*Link to Community Plan: 1.2.1 Respect and enhance the historic character of our Region and heritage value of our towns and villages and 3.2.1 Promote the Region as a great place to live, work, invest and visit*

**COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

\$ 750

The Panel scored the application as 7 and there appear to be significant benefits linked with the objectives of Council's Community Plan so 75% of the requested amount was recommended.

**Lions Club of Mudgee Inc**

Lions Club of Mudgee Inc requests \$2,500 for Mudgee Lions Community Twilight Market and Festival 2023. Combined market and fun festival for the whole community with a festive, Christmas theme. Held each year since 2014, the principal focus is on fun and activities for the whole family while keeping costs low and involving as many community groups as possible. The event will bring significant community and social benefits based on its previous popularity. It will provide enjoyment to locals and an opportunity for community groups/causes to promote their programmes or raise funds.

*Link to Community Plan: 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:**

\$ 2,500

The Panel scored the application as 9 and there appear to be significant benefits linked with the objectives of Council's Community Plan so 100% of the requested amount was recommended.

## **Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc**

Kandos Rylstone Men's Shed Inc requests \$1,231 for MWRC Rate Relief. Rate relief to be used for day-to-day expenses incurred in the running of the shed. This will assist community work undertaken by the Men's Shed.

*Link to Community Plan: 1.4.1 Support programs which strengthen the relationships between the range of community groups and 1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles*

### **COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY**

Community Grants Category - In-kind Grant: Cap \$ 5,000

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

\$ 1,231

The Panel scored the application as 8 and there appear to be significant benefits linked with the objectives of Council's Community Plan so 100% of the requested amount was recommended.

## **Mudgee Gulgong Wolves FC Inc**

Mudgee Gulgong Wolves FC Inc requests \$2,432 for NSW Country Side for the National Youth Football Championships (Soccer). Costs for the National Youth Championships in Glenwood include travel to and from accommodation each day, accommodation and meals, player uniform and playing registration fees (participation in the championships). This would support the progression of Archie Clulow, a player who has been part of the Talented Sports Program for the past three years and who has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to Western NSW Football.

*Link to Community Plan: Not applicable for Mudgee Sports Advisory Group applicants*

### **COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY**

Mudgee Sports Advisory Group: Cap \$ 500

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

\$ 500

## Community Plan implications

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Good Government</b>
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. Based on the scoring system above, and the recommendation of Council officers, an amount of \$4,981 in financial assistance is proposed. Should Council approve the recommendations in the report, an amount of \$84,436 remains in the budget.

### Associated Risks

Not Applicable

MYOORAN VINAYAGAMOORTHY  
FINANCIAL PLANNING CO-ORDINATOR

LEONIE VAN OOSTERUM  
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

4 October 2023

*Attachments:* 1. Community Grants Attachment - October 2023. (separately attached)

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER