

9.4 Community Grants Program - July 2023

REPORT BY THE ACCOUNTANT REPORTING & ANALYSIS
TO 19 JULY 2023 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400103, FIN3000159

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. receive the report by the Accountant Reporting & Analysis on the Community Grants Program - July 2023; and
2. provide financial assistance to the following applications in accordance with the criteria and guidelines of the Community Grants Policy:

Western Region Academy of Sport Inc. (WRAS)	1,590
Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc.	1,005
Mudgee Readers Festival	480
Mudgee Lions Club	255
Rotary Club of Mudgee Inc and Rotary Club of Mudgee Sunrise Inc.	9,824
Gulgong Memorial Hall Committee	3,000
Mid-Western Region Community Music Association Incorporation	1,500
Gulgong Show Society Inc.	5,000
Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc.	10,000

3. decline to give financial assistance to Mudgee Regional Rail for the reasons provided in the report.

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 Regional Rail	Reactivate Rylstone - Gulgong Rail Line	7,000	0	0
Western Region Academy of Sport Inc. (WRAS)	Annual Operation of the Western Region Academy of Sport	1,590	8	1,590
Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc.	Annual Dog Shows and Obedience Trials 2023	1,340	7	1,005
Mudgee Readers Festival	Annual Readers Festival Events	480	8	480
Mudgee Lions Club	Family Fun Day	255	8	255
Rotary Club of Mudgee Inc. and Rotary Club of Mudgee Sunrise Inc.	Mudgee Showground Carols 2023	9,825	8	9,825
Gulgong Memorial Hall Committee	Gulgong Christmas Celebration	3,000	8	3,000
Mid-Western Region Community Music Association Incorporation	Mid-West Music Quest	2,000	7	1,500
Gulgong Show Society Inc.	Gulgong Show 2024	5,000	8	5,000
Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc.	Monthly Community Capers Newsletter	12,000	8	10,000
Total				32,655

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 Regional Rail

Mudgee Regional Rail requests \$7,000 for Reactivate Rylstone-Gulgong Rail Line. They require the funding to develop a business, social & environmental case to have the Rylstone - Gulgong line reactivated by state Government for passenger service and general freight.

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Decline

The recommendation is to decline as there are no current rail transport actions in the Council's Delivery Program.

Western Region Academy of Sport Inc (WRAS)

Western Region Academy of Sport Inc (WRAS) requests \$1,590 for Annual operation of the Western Region academy of Sport. WRAS provides regional athletes and coaches with pathways to progress to higher levels of sports representation. Athletes receive intensive training sessions, education, sports performance support and elite level competition. WRAS member receive opportunities not necessarily available to other regional sportspeople.

Link to Community Plan:1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles 1.1.4 Work with key partners and the community to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and improve community health and safety

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

Business Association Category: Cap \$10,000

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 1,590

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 & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc

Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club Inc requests \$1,340 for Annual dog shows and Obedience Trials 2023. Operation of the district's Annual Championship Dog Shows, Obedience and rally Trials, with setup of rings on 11th August and competition on 12th and 13th August. This Event has taken place at Victoria Park Gulgong for over 33 years and it is the only provider in the whole MWRC area of dog training, from basic obedience for socialisation to achieve acceptable social behaviour of dog in the community.

Link to Community Plan:1.1.3 Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles 1.1.4 Work with key partners and the community to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and improve community health and safety, 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:

\$ 1,005

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.

Mudgee Readers Festival

Mudgee Readers Festival requests \$480 for Annual readers festival events. The volunteer led Mudgee Readers festival organises author talks and sessions over two days. It helps to contribute to the Mid-Western region's Cultural identity. They collaborate with the local Aboriginal Land council, local cultural groups and bring best-selling authors to the region to ensure events across the weekend attract locals and visitors alike.

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, 1.4.2 Support arts and cultural development across the Region

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 480

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 Lions Club

Mudgee Lions Club requests \$255 for Family Fun Day. They are organising the Family fun day at the Rugby Clubhouse Grounds. The Purpose of the activity is to provide a fun filled, inexpensive day for children in the Mudgee area. As well as the games, giveaways, food etc. They would like to have a lucky draw for the entrants, thus the reason for the season pool ticket request.

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, 1.1.4 Work with key partners and the community to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and improve community health and safety

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 255

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.

Rotary Club of Mudgee Inc. and Rotary Club of Mudgee Sunrise Inc

Rotary Club of Mudgee Inc and Rotary Club of Mudgee Sunrise Inc requests \$9,825 for Mudgee Showground Carols 2023. This is an annual celebration of Christmas for Mudgee community. The event gives Mudgee families and other the opportunity to come together to celebrate Christmas in an alcohol-free family environment. Santa lands on showground in a sponsored Commercial Helicopter. The event comes to a conclusion with a fantastic fireworks.

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

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 9,825

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.

Gulgong Memorial Hall Committee

Gulgong Memorial Hall Committee requests \$3,000 for Gulgong Christmas celebration. This is a community family event to celebrate Christmas for the residents of Gulgong and surrounding areas.

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

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 3,000

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.

Mid-Western Region Community Music Association Incorporation

Mid-Western Region Community Music Association Incorporation requests \$2,000 for Mid-West Music Quest. This event will encourage all local musicians to be a part of the Mid-West Music Quest which is designed to give coming music performers a chance to perform in front of a crowd and display their skills. We will hold auditions in Gulgong, Rylstone & Mudgee with the final in the form of a public concert at Mudgee Town Hall Theatre.

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

\$ 1,500

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.

Gulgong Show Society Inc

Gulgong Show society Inc requests \$5,000 for Gulgong show 2024. Yearly Agricultural show, showcasing the talent and potential of the Patrons of the Community in Gulgong and the Mid-Western regional Council area. This events brings many patrons from outside the region to participate in events or to view events.

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

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 5,000

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.

Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc.

Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc. requests \$12,000 for Monthly Community Capers newsletter. 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 1.1.4 Work with key partners and the community to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and improve community health and safety

COMMUNITY GRANT CATEGORY

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

RECOMMENDATION:

\$ 10,000

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

Community Plan implications

Theme	Good Government
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 \$32,655 in financial assistance is proposed. Should Council approve the recommendations in the report, an amount of \$77,345 remains in the budget.

Associated Risks

Not Applicable

SUMEDHA UPRETI
ACCOUNTANT REPORTING & ANALYSIS
3 July 2023

LEONIE VAN OOSTERUM
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Attachments: 1. Community Grants Attachment - July 2023. (separately attached Book 1)

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER