

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES POLICY (STATUTORY POLICY)

1. Scope

The Community Assistance Programmes Policy (this 'Policy') applies to all Livingstone Shire Council grants, sponsorship, funding, and/or in-kind support to community organisations and/or individuals.

This Policy is independent of the *Rates Rebate and Remissions Policy* (which is a separate policy and budget allocation).

2. Purpose

This Policy fulfils Council's obligations pursuant to section 195 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and establishes a commitment to the process of providing grants, sponsorship, funding, and/or in-kind support to eligible community organisations and individuals within the Livingstone Shire.

3. References (legislation/related documents)

Legislative reference

Crime and Corruption Act 2001
Local Government Act 2009
Local Government Regulation 2012
Public Sector Ethics Act 1994

Related documents

Code of Conduct
 Event Sponsorship Programme Procedure
 Financial Delegations Directive
 Livingstone Community Grants Procedure
 Procurement Policy
 Regional Arts Development Fund Procedure

4. Definitions

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

Grant	A financial payment from Council for non-commercial projects, activities, or items which meet specific criteria within a formal application, assessment, and acquittal process.
In-Kind	Products or services provided by Council in lieu of or in addition to, cash grants.
Once-Off Funding	Financial or in-kind assistance which is provided a single time for a specific purpose, without time limitations.

Recurrent Funding	An agreement to provide repeat financial or in-kind assistance on an annual (or cyclical) basis over a specified time to achieve specific outcomes.
Sponsorship	A mutually beneficial contract involving the purchase of intangible and exploitable potential, which is associated with an event, organisation or project, and results in tangible benefits to Council as the sponsoring organisation.

5. Policy Statement

Council recognises the positive impact social, cultural, and environmental initiatives deliver to communities across the Shire and is committed to providing worthwhile support and meaningful assistance through its various grants programmes including:

- Livingstone Community Grants;
- Regional Arts Development Fund;
- Events Sponsorship Programme; and
- In-kind Support Programme.

These programmes will provide funding to eligible organisations and/or individuals in support of initiatives which deliver benefits to the Livingstone community, enabling them to work towards realising their individual desires and aspirations.

Council's Community Assistance Programmes will be established and maintained to ensure that the provision of funding is achieved in the most efficient manner and to provide the most effective outcomes for eligible organisations, the Livingstone community, and Council.

Council's grant programmes consist of the following classifications of assistance:

5.1 Livingstone Community Grants

This once-off funding will be administered in line with the allocation specified by Council's annual budget process and may be augmented with financial support from external parties.

Applicants need only apply where a submission can demonstrate the following:

- (a) relevance to the goals and strategies within the *Livingstone Community Plan – Towards 2050*;
- (b) a clear focus on protecting or enhancing the environmental, social, or cultural values of Livingstone Shire; and
- (c) compliance with the categories and associated requirements of a formal application.

5.2 Regional Arts Development Fund

This funding is delivered in partnership between the Queensland Government's Arts Queensland and Livingstone Shire Council.

Applicants need only apply where a submission can demonstrate the following:

- (a) a clear focus on investment in quality locally determined arts and cultural experiences and priorities;
- (b) relevance to the explicit objectives and priorities stipulated annually in the advertisement and promotion of the Fund; and
- (c) compliance with the categories and associated requirements of a formal application.

5.3 Events Sponsorship Programme

This programme provides recurrent funding through a negotiated agreement, for major and minor non-political events, festivals, fetes, and celebrations up to the allocation specified by Council's annual budget.

Applications can be made at any time and support will be provided to applications which showcase the Shire and attract economic and/or tourism opportunities, and enhance community identity and provide community benefit and/or fundraising opportunities.

Support can be provided as cash, in-kind, or a combination of cash and in-kind.

Applicants are considered eligible where a submission can demonstrate the following:

- (a) relevance to the goals and strategies within the *Livingstone Community Plan – Towards 2050*;
- (b) alignment with the goals, strategic focus and actions outlined in the *Capricorn Coast Region Event Strategy*; and
- (c) the services and/or activities must benefit residents and improve the overall liveability of the Shire.

5.4 In-Kind Programme

Council can provide non-cash contributions to organisations applying under 5.1.3 or 5.1.4. Such in-kind contributions could include, but are not limited to, waiving of fees.

Applications for such assistance will be considered where requests can demonstrate they meet the specified criteria for in-kind assistance.

6. Changes to this Policy

This Policy is to remain in force until any of the following occur:

- 1) The related information is amended/replaced; or
- 2) Other circumstances as determined from time to time by Council.

7. Repeals/Amendments

This Policy repeals the Livingstone Shire Council Policy titled 'Community Assistance Programme Policy (v2.1)'.

Version	Date	Action
1.0	08/04/2014	Adopted
2.0	21/08/2018	Amended Policy Adopted
2.1	02/10/2018	Administrative Amendments – removal of repeated definitions
3.0	20/09/2022	Amended Policy Adopted - removal of reference to Mayor's Discretionary Fund provisions and general updates to content

CALE DENDLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER