

# Kingston Grants Program Policy

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## 1 Document Control

The electronic version of this document is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.

RESPONSIBLE GENERAL MANAGER	General Manager Community Strengthening
POLICY OWNER	Manager Inclusive Communities
APPROVED BY	Council on 21 November 2023
EFFECTIVE DATE (If different from approval date)	21 November 2023
SIGNATURE	
REVIEW DATE	30/06/2025
CM REF AND VERSION	23/251230
VERSION HISTORY	This Policy Replaces Version 20/122420

## 2 Purpose

This Policy sets out the approach to Council's provision of financial assistance to the community through *grants*, as offered through the Kingston Grants Program.

## 3 Scope

### 3.1 Grants

This Policy applies to the *grant streams* listed below and further detailed at Appendix A: 'Kingston Grants Program – Grants Streams Overview' of this Policy.

- Community Small Grants
- Community Bi-Annual Grants
- Operational & Partnership Grants
- Community Festivals, Events & Creative Activities Grants
- Individual Development Grants.

This Policy also applies to any additional *grants* to those listed above that Council approves provision of in response to community need at any given time.

### 3.2 Council Representatives

This Policy applies to all Council officers, Councillors and external personnel who have responsibility for planning, assessing, deciding, managing and/or evaluating *grants* for any *activities* of any dollar value for, or on behalf of, Council.

### 3.3 Community Representatives

This Policy applies to community members who apply for (*applicants*) and/or receive (*recipients*) a Council *grant* for any *activities* of any dollar value, or who at Council's discretion, are engaged by Council to contribute to assessing and making recommendations for *grants*.

## 4 Policy Details

The Kingston Grants Program plays an important role in enabling the delivery of *activities* for the benefit of the Kingston community, in alignment with Council's strategic directions, objectives and priorities (*strategic priorities*) as identified in the Council Plan and other strategic documents.

### 4.1 Strategic Context

Council provides *grants* consistent with the following Council *strategic priorities* under the Council Plan 2021-2025:

- **Liveable:** Our city will be a vibrant, enjoyable, and easy place to live.
- **Sustainable:** We prioritise our environment and reduce our impact on the earth.
- **Prosperous:** We will embrace the concept of a 20-minute neighbourhood, support the ongoing process of decentralisation and support people to live and work locally.
- **Healthy and Inclusive:** We are progressive, inclusive and prioritise wellbeing of all members of our community.
- **Safe:** Our community will feel safe, and be safe, in all aspects of their lives.
- **Well-Governed:** Council will be collaborative, accountable, transparent, well-informed and efficient.

The latest published Council Plan, together with supporting policies, strategies, and action plans can be found on Council's website at: [www.kingston.vic.gov.au/council/council-documents/plans-policies-and-reports](http://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/council/council-documents/plans-policies-and-reports).

### 4.2 Objectives

The Kingston Grants Program aims to:

- Assist the delivery of Council's *strategic priorities*
- Provide fair, inclusive, and equitable opportunity for the Kingston community to seek financial assistance through *grants* from Council
- Support a diverse range of *organisations*, individuals, and *activities*, that respond to identified local needs and achieve positive outcomes for the Kingston community
- Commit to processes that support sound management and governance of *grants*.

### 4.3 Guiding Principles

The following principles underpin Council's overall approach to the provision of *grants*:

- **Access:** Our community should be aware of *grant* opportunities. The *application* process should be easy, and *applicants* should have the resources and support to apply
- **Equity:** Our *grants* will meet the needs of those in the community who will get the greatest benefit from financial support
- **Inclusion:** *Application* and *assessment* processes should remove barriers and reduce discrimination for people with disabilities, young people, older people, women, LGBTQIA+, Indigenous people, and people from multicultural backgrounds
- **Diversity:** People from diverse backgrounds should be specifically made aware of *grants*, and *recipients* should represent the diversity of Kingston's community

- **Good Governance:** The administration of *grants* should provide equity of *grant* allocations and reduce risk to Council.
- **Strategic Alignment:** Grants programs should be aligned with Council's strategic direction.

#### 4.4 Funding Priorities

Council supports the best use of funds through *grants* to maximise benefits for the Kingston community. Council may establish funding priorities from year-to-year for consideration in the *assessment* process across the Kingston Grants Program and available *grant streams*. Any applicable funding priorities will be set out in published Program Guidelines.

#### 4.5 Eligibility

*Grants* provided by Council have minimum eligibility requirements set out below. Detailed guidance on who can apply and what can be applied for in each applicable *grant stream* is set out in published Program Guidelines.

##### 4.5.1 Minimum eligibility for organisations

Organisations must:

- Be legally constituted as an incorporated association, company limited by guarantee, or Aboriginal Corporation, or auspiced by another legally constituted organisation (*auspice*) for the *activity* proposed in the *application*
- Be not-for-profit and managed by a volunteer board/committee of management or auspiced by a not-for-profit organisation managed by a volunteer board/committee of management
- Be financially solvent
- Be physically located within the City of Kingston geographical boundaries or if located outside the City of Kingston geographical boundaries, have a majority number of Kingston residents (e.g. more than 50% of active members or participants) or be able to demonstrate significant benefit to the Kingston community
- Provide current public liability insurance with a level of cover appropriate to the activity/program (new community group *applicants* seeking start-up support are exempt)
- If a Council tenant, be in compliance with all requirements within the tenancy agreement
- Have no overdue *grant acquittals* and have successfully acquitted previous *grants* received
- Have no outstanding debts owing to Council, or have entered into a payment plan
- Have no active breaches against the obligations of Consumer Affairs Victoria, the Australian Not-for-Profit and Charities Commission, or the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, as applicable
- Have not received a *grant* for the same or similar *activity* from another Kingston Grants Program *grant stream* or other Council funding source in the same financial year running July to June
- Submit a complete *application* within the advertised application opening period, including attachments or other supporting information requested by Council. Late

applications due to exceptional circumstances can be assessed by the Manager Inclusive Communities. Further information is outlined in the in published Program Guidelines

- Meet any nominated co-funding requirement set out in published Program Guidelines

#### **4.5.2 Minimum eligibility for individuals**

Individuals must:

- Be a resident of the City of Kingston, meaning anyone who lives in Kingston
- Have no overdue *grant acquittals* and have successfully acquitted previous *grants* received
- Have no outstanding debts owing to Council, or have entered into a payment plan
- Have not received a *grant* for the same pursuit or *activity* from the Kingston Grants Program or other Council funding source in the same financial year running July to June.

#### **4.5.3 Ineligibility for organisations and individuals**

Council will not consider:

- *Applications* to different *grant streams* by any one *applicant* for the same *activity* in any one financial year running July to June
- *Applications* that do not comply with public health directions, and human rights and responsibilities
- Religious or political organisations for core operating and administration costs not directly related to the *activity*
- Religious or political organisations for *activities* related to worship, congregation, secular promotion, protest, or campaigns
- Schools for curriculum-based *activities* or where the outcome is confined to the school property or school community
- Operational funding for Organisations where this is considered the core responsibility of State or Commonwealth Government or non-government entities, or that seek to replace or substitute discontinued or decreased funding from State or Commonwealth Government or non-government entities
- Activities for Organisations where this is considered the core responsibility of State or Commonwealth Government or non-government entities, or that seek to replace or substitute discontinued or decreased funding from State or Commonwealth Government or non-government entities
- Organisations that receive a direct income from gambling activities, undertake or promote gambling
- Activities that undertake or promote gambling
- The lease/hire or use of a venue with gaming machines or other forms of gambling, unless the venue offers a unique setting and there is no viable alternative
- The purchase of fireworks, alcohol, tobacco, or e-cigarettes
- Costs incurred by an *applicant* in preparing an *application* or due by an *applicant* if

their *application* is successful, including professional grant writer fees<sup>1</sup>

- Recurrent or ongoing building maintenance costs
- Capital works for assets that are of a commercial nature, not accessible to the community, or outside the geographical boundaries of the City of Kingston
- Major capital works
- Permanent public art installations
- The purchase of trophies, prizes, awards or items related to fundraising activities
- Hire of venues that are inappropriate for the nature of the *activity*, owned by the *applicant*, or outside the geographical boundaries of the City of Kingston
- Funding requests above the published amount available
- Retrospective funding i.e. spending of funds for *activities* that have already occurred before notification of a *grant* being approved and a *funding agreement* entered into
- *Applications* not made through the official Council *application* process.

#### 4.6 Good Governance

Council will ensure high standards of governance are upheld in the provision of *grants*. Our approach to *grants* governance activates the Guiding Principles at [section 4.3](#) of this Policy, and is guided by Australian Standard AS 8000 that sets standards in relation to governance, including probity assurance.

- **Transparency and accountability**
  - All *grants* available will be promoted to the community.
  - Approved *grants* will be published to the community<sup>2</sup>.
  - Program Guidelines will be developed and published for all *grant streams* and *grant categories* determined by Council.
  - Program Guidelines will provide information about:
    - All *grant streams* and *grant categories* available
    - The *application* process
    - Eligibility requirements as to who can apply and the types of *activities* and expenses that can be considered
    - *Assessment* criteria and process
    - Funding priorities
    - Timelines
    - General conditions that apply to *grants*
    - Reporting and *acquittal* requirements
    - Support available for *applicants*.
  - Unsuccessful *applicants* will be able to seek feedback on the reasons their *application* was unsuccessful.
  - *Recipients* must enter into a *funding agreement* with Council before any

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<sup>1</sup> Council officers can provide support to interested *applicants* with writing an *application* to the Kingston Grants Program.

<sup>2</sup> Council will not publish the names or other details of individual *recipients* without permission, for privacy and safety reasons.

monies are released.

- Any variation to a *grant* approved by Council must be requested in writing by the *recipient* and approved by Council officers. A variation may relate to time, value or scope.
- *Recipients* must acquit their *grant* to ensure that the *grant* received has been spent in accordance with this Policy, the published Program Guidelines, and in accordance with the *funding agreement*.
- Unspent funds must be returned to Council.
- **Fairness and equity**
  - Council will ensure that *grants* are equitably available to a diverse range of *organisations* and individuals across a broad range of *activities* that are consistent with Council's *strategic priorities*.
  - Available *grants* will be widely promoted to the community using multiple channels to reach as many people as possible. This includes (but is not limited to) Council's website, Council's eNews, Council's social media, advertisement in local newspapers, direct e-mail to previous *applicants* and *recipients*, notices across Council's community hub locations, and provision of information sessions.
  - Council will provide *application* development support and links to language and accessible services to assist *applicants* who are from non-English speaking backgrounds, or have a vision or audio impairment.
  - Council will make its best efforts to remove barriers and discrimination in the *grants* process. This includes (but is not limited to) where barriers arise due to language, culture, mobility, disability, age, gender, safety, and technology access and literacy.
  - *Application*, *assessment*, *funding agreement*, and *acquittal* requirements will be proportionate to the monetary value and risk level of a *grant* requested or received.
  - All *applications* will be considered using the same eligibility and *assessment* criteria for the applicable *grant stream* set out in published Program Guidelines.
  - *Applicants* and *recipients* must demonstrate that their *activity* is made available to the community without discrimination on the basis of access, equity, and human rights and responsibilities.
  - Whilst Council's funding decisions are final, *applicants* can choose to contact Council to appeal a funding decision, to be dealt with in accordance with Council's Complaints Policy.
- **Impartiality and ethical conduct**
  - Council will offer *grants* without bias to maintain trust in the *application* and *assessment* process.
  - Council will ensure that collusive or otherwise unethical behaviours that may lead to bias or undue influence are well-managed by ensuring that *applications* are considered on their merits consistent with published Program Guidelines.
  - The *assessment* process will ensure separation between those that assess and make recommendations on *applications* and those that decide on *applications*.
  - Council will establish a Grants Assessment Panel to assess and make

recommendations on *applications* that are determined to be higher value/higher risk (i.e. *applications* to Operational & Partnership Grants, Community Bi-Annual Grants, and Community Festivals, Events and Creative Activities Grants). This panel will operate to a documented Terms of Reference.

- Council will appoint an independent probity representative to observe meetings of Council's Grants Assessment Panel, where this panel is used in the *assessment* process and in accordance with the Terms of Reference of this panel.
- All funding decisions will be recorded. If a funding decision is inconsistent with a funding recommendation, the reason for this difference will also be recorded.
- Letters of support from Councillors submitted with an *application* by *applicants* will not be considered during the *assessment* process.
- No funding recommendations will be presented to Councillors for decision at the time of Council elections, in accordance with Council's Election Period Policy.
- As recommended in the VAGO Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants report, Council will develop mandatory training for staff and Councillors that covers:
  - Declaring and managing conflicts of interest
  - Fraud risks specific to grant programs
  - The council's relevant policies and procedures.
- **Value for money**
  - Council will obtain best value in the use of public funds in the way it provides *grants*. This will be done in accordance with Council's *strategic priorities* set out in the Council Plan, and in alignment with published Program Guidelines and agreed processes set out in Council's Grants Practice Manual.
  - *Applications* will be considered against financial and non-financial value-for-money considerations, expressed in formula funding approaches and as *assessment* criteria set out in published Program Guidelines.
  - Council will consider the monetary value of *grants* in its expectations of community benefit that can reasonably be delivered through the *activity*.
  - Council will ensure that periodic evaluation of the benefits and outcomes achieved from *grants* is undertaken.
- **Conflict of interest management**
  - In line with expected conduct standards for Councillors and Council officers, Council will proactively manage actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest when assessing, making recommendations, and deciding on *applications*.
  - Any person involved in assessing, making recommendations, and deciding on *applications* will be subject to Council's conflict of interest declaration and management process for *grants* set out in Council's Grants Practice Manual and in accordance with Council's Conflict of Interest Policy.
  - Councillors will be subject to standing conflict of interest declaration and management processes where recommendations are presented to a meeting of Council for decision.

- **Confidentiality management**

- Notwithstanding Council's commitment to transparency, some information collected, developed and held in relation to *applications*, *applicants*, *recipients*, and *acquittals*, needs to remain confidential as per the *Local Government Act 2020* (VIC), to uphold *grants* process integrity.
- Council will use appropriate systems and procedures, including access permissions and controls, to ensure the security and disposal of *grants* information.
- Information about *grants* will only be shared on a need-to-know basis with time limits imposed to access certain information, as appropriate.
- Any person involved in assessing, making recommendations, and deciding on *applications* or otherwise having access to *grants*-related information will be subject to Council's conduct and policy requirements for handling Council information.

#### **4.7 Budget**

Council allocates an annual funding pool for distribution across the nominated *grant streams* in accordance with Council's annual budget planning process.

For nominated multi-year *grant streams*, Council makes a multi-year budget commitment for allocation through the annual funding pool for distribution.

Council will reserve the right to target funding to areas that align with its *strategic priorities* or other identified emerging need. The community will be notified of such preferences through published Program Guidelines.

#### **4.8 State of Disaster, State of Emergency or Critical Incidents**

Council will reserve the right to adopt streamlined and flexible *grants* processes to facilitate an immediate response to an emergency, crisis or disaster.

This includes, but may not be limited to, instances where a State of Disaster or a State of Emergency is declared under the *Emergency Management Victoria Act 2005* (Vic) or *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* (Vic).

For all such events and incidents, Council officers are required to deliver *grants* as directed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, or their delegate, and in accordance with Council's Instruments of Delegation.

#### **4.9 Relationship to Other Funding Programs**

##### **4.9.1 Kingston Charitable Fund**

Established in 2006, the Kingston's Charitable Fund operates as a not-for-profit independent organisation from Council. Its purpose is to raise and distribute funds to community organisations with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) and Tax Concession Charity (TCC) status (i.e. charitable organisations).

The Kingston Charitable Fund is responsible for setting its own guidelines regarding its funding priorities, application methods, assessment and approval processes, and final distribution of funds. While Council is represented on the Charitable Fund Committee and

plays an integral supporting role including promotion of funding opportunities available, it does not have direct management over the use and distribution of the funding pool.

#### **4.9.2 Other Funding Sources**

Where appropriate, Council at its discretion may:

- Transfer or delegate a funding request to another Council program for consideration
- When assessing a request for any Council *grant*, consider and advise an applicant of alternative means of funding or in-kind support that may be appropriate for the nature of the application submitted. This support may be within or external to Council.

#### **4.10 Review and Evaluation**

From time to time, circumstances may require minor administrative changes to this Policy. Changes to this Policy that are not considered material, will be made administratively, such as updates to Council department or position title names, legislative amendments affecting the name of the legislation, updates to *strategic priorities* aligned to the latest Council Plan, or operational details relevant to *grant streams* or *grant categories* including (but not limited to) names and funding amount thresholds. Any other changes that materially impact this Policy's intent must be considered by Council.

The Kingston Grants Program and its *grants streams* will undergo periodic review to ensure they remain responsive to Council's *strategic priorities* and the community's needs. Council uses information collected in the *grants* process and through targeted consultation as required to inform continuous improvement in how *grants* are provided. The information will be considered against the objectives for the Kingston Grants Program outlined in this Policy.

Every four years, in line with Council Plan timeframes, Council will undertake a formal review of its *grants* against an evaluation framework. This evaluation will help guide future decisions about *grants* by Council.

### **5 Delegation Authority and Decision Guidelines**

Authority for any decisions in relation to this Policy vests with:

- General Manager Community Strengthening.

#### **5.1 Delegations/Authorisations**

Operational & Partnership Grants, Community Bi-Annual Grants, and Community Festivals, Events and Creative Activities Grants will be assessed by a Grants Assessment Panel who make recommendations to Council for their authorisation by way of funding decision.

Council delegates the making of funding decisions to:

- The Manager Inclusive Communities, Team Leader Community Capacity and partnerships, and Coordinator Community Capacity for Individual Development Grants; and as per below for Community Small Grants:
  - Successful funding outcomes by Council officer(s)
  - Not recommended funding outcomes to be by decision at a meeting of Council.
- The Chief Executive Officer, or their delegate, in the event of a State of Disaster, State

of Emergency or Critical Incidents in accordance with section 4.8 of this Policy.

Where funding decisions differ from Assessment Panel recommendations, Council will provide their reasons for amending recommendations.

## 5.2 Exemptions

Exemption to this Policy must be requested in writing to the Manager Inclusive Communities, with information outlining:

- The requesting Council officer and department
- The nature of the *grants*
- Reason(s) as to why an exemption required
- Sign-off by the Manager of the requesting department.

Requestors should note that exemption is not automatic and is subject to consideration in accordance with Council's Grants Practice Manual and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

## 5.3 Human Rights Charter

This policy has been reviewed against and complies with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006.

## 6 Related Documents and Resources

### Legislation / External Documents

Key relevant legislation and external documents include (but are not limited to):

- *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic), with specific reference to:
  - s47 – Delegations by Chief Executive Officer
  - s49 – Code of conduct for members of Council staff
  - s53-54 – Audit and risk committee
  - s55-58 – Community accountability
  - s70 – Prohibition of Councillor discretionary funds
  - s107 – Complaints policy
  - s123-125 – Improper conduct
  - s126-131 – Conflict of interest
  - s137-138 – Gifts
  - s139-140 – Councillor conduct
- *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic)
- Australian Standard AS 8000
- *Charities Act 2013* (Cth)
- Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities
- Child Safe Standards
- *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)

- *Emergency Management Victoria Act 2013 (Vic)*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)*
- *Gender Equality Act 2020 (Vic)*
- *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*
- *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic)*
- *Privacy Act 1988 (Vic)*
- *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)*
- *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (Vic)*
- *Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001 (Vic)*

### **Internal Documents**

Key relevant internal documents include (but are not limited to):

- Child Safe Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Council Plan 2021-2025 and supporting policies, strategies and action plans
- Election Period Policy
- Fraud and Corruption Policy
- Grants Practice Manual
- Grants Assessment Panel Terms of Reference
- *Grant stream:*
  - Application form
  - Eligibility check form
  - Assessment form
  - Funding agreement
  - Acquittal form
  - Conflict of interest declaration
- Instruments of Delegation
- Leasing Policy
- Program Guidelines

### **Resources**

For all Kingston Grants Program information including this Policy, the Program Guidelines, and supporting guidance, please refer to Kingston's website:

<https://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/community/grants>

This Policy is available in a variety of formats including hard copy, electronic, and large print from Council's website and Community Grants Officers - 1800 635 356. For translation services please call TIS on 131 450.

## **7 Definitions**

<b>Activity</b>	A service, program, project, festival, event, or other pursuit that is the subject of an <i>application</i> or <i>grant</i> .
<b>Acquittal</b>	Information provided by a <i>recipient</i> that ensures that funds have been spent and administered in line with the conditions of the <i>grant</i> .
<b>Applicant</b>	An organisation or individual who applies for a <i>grant</i> .
<b>Application</b>	The formal documented request for a <i>grant</i> submitted by an <i>applicant</i> , typically in response to a set of questions and information requested.
<b>Auspice</b>	An agreement where one organisation agrees to apply for and manage a <i>grant</i> on behalf of another organisation. The auspice is responsible for financial and <i>acquittal</i> requirements.
<b>Funding agreement</b>	Sets out the general terms and conditions, additional terms and conditions and schedules relevant to the funded <i>activity</i> .
<b>Grant</b>	Money given to organisations or individuals for a specified purpose that is consistent with and helps achieve priority objectives and outcomes of both Council and the organisation or individual.
<b>Grant category</b>	Refers to a specific offering under a <i>grant stream</i> . At times, they may have further specified objectives.
<b>Grant stream</b>	A specific offering under an umbrella <i>grants</i> program tied to specific objectives.
<b>Incorporated</b>	Incorporated under the <i>Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012</i> (Vic) or other relevant legislation.
<b>Major capital works</b>	In the context of this Policy, includes any one-off new, extension, or improvement works to buildings or grounds assets where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the value of the works is more than 5% of the value of the asset that would be received at the time of disposal by Council, and/or</li> <li>• Council has already committed budget for the works in Council's forward Capital Works Program.</li> </ul>
<b>Minor capital works</b>	In the context of this Policy, Minor Capital works includes the renewal of fitted or fixed equipment or furnishings for community use (such as netting behind goal posts, goal post installation, fencing, carpet replacement, lighting upgrades, playing surface upgrades, kitchen upgrades, electronic scoreboards, painting a hall, and seating), where the total project value is less than \$50k.
<b>Organisation</b>	An entity consisting of a group of people that has a shared purpose and carries out <i>activities</i> in support of the shared purpose. In context of this Policy, it includes community groups and clubs.
<b>Recipient</b>	An organisation or individual who receives a <i>grant</i> .

**Strategic priorities**

Collective term referring to Council's strategic directions, objectives and priorities as set out in the Council Plan and supporting policies, strategies, and action plans.

Appendix A: Kingston Grants Program - Grant Streams Overview					
Grant stream	Operational & Partnership Grants	Community Bi-Annual Grants	Community Small Grants	Individual Development Grants	Community Festivals, Events & Creative Activities Grants
<b>Focus</b>	Operational/activity support	One-off activity support	One-off activity support	One-off activity support	Festival/event support
<b>Description</b>	Support provision and development of key community services, programs and other initiatives that align with Council's strategic priorities.	Support delivery of projects and activities that align with Council's strategic priorities.	Support smaller scale projects and activities that strengthen community participation, help the environment, improve group sustainability.	Support individuals to compete, perform or represent at a State, National or International level in their chosen discipline, or to support access for individuals experiencing financial hardship to access community institutions and clubs.	Support event organisers to establish and deliver safe, successful, and sustainably operated festivals events in Kingston that showcase Kingston's diversity, talents, and uniqueness.
<b>Who the grants are for</b>	Incorporated not-for-profit organisations	Incorporated, not-for-profit organisations; & Incorporated artists/creative businesses	Not-for-profit organisations; & community groups seeking Incorporation	Individual residents	Incorporated, not-for-profit organisations
<b>Categories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Centres &amp; Neighbourhood Houses</li> <li>Multicultural / Seniors (all groups will be invited)</li> <li>Specialist Community &amp; Welfare Service Organisations</li> <li>Community Interest Organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Projects &amp; Programs</li> <li>Small Community Festivals &amp; Events</li> <li>Minor Capital Works</li> <li>Arts Projects &amp; Programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Projects &amp; Programs</li> <li>Community Celebrations</li> <li>Small Equipment</li> <li>Capacity Building</li> <li>Start-up Support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achievement</li> <li>Participation</li> </ul>	No categories but can support larger community festivals, events and creative activities.
<b>Amount (ex GST unless specified)</b>	Council will commit 3 years of funding to be paid annually. No Annual Indexation will be applied to the funding amount granted. Funding amounts will be determined by category.  The following categories will be based on funding formula: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Centres &amp; Neighbourhood Houses</li> <li>Multicultural / Seniors (all groups will be invited)</li> </ul> The following categories will be based on the amount requested and assessment against funding criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Welfare Service Organisations</li> <li>Community Interest Organisations</li> </ul>	\$2,001-\$10,000	Up to \$2,000	Up to \$600 incl. GST (+25% financial hardship benefit, if applicable)	Up to \$25,000 per annum. No Annual Indexation will be applied to the funding amount granted.
<b>Term</b>	3 years in the first year, 2 years in the second year, 1 year in the third year of the 3 yearly funding cycle.	1 year	1 year	On activity completion	3 years in the first year, 2 years in the second year, 1 year in the third year of the 3 yearly funding cycle.
<b>Frequency offered</b>	Always open (assessed once a year)	Bi-annual (assessed every 6 months)	Always open (assessed every month until monthly funding pool is exhausted)	Always open (assessed every 2 weeks or until funding pool is exhausted)	Always open (assessed once a year)

<b>Application process</b>	<b>Invited, formula-based funding allocation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Centres &amp; Neighbourhood Houses</li> <li>Multicultural &amp; Seniors</li> </ul> <b>Open, merit-based assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specialist Community &amp; Welfare Services</li> <li>Community Interest Organisations</li> </ul> Application form, online. Assistance by request.	<b>Open, merit-based assessment</b> Application form, online. Assistance by request.	<b>Targeted, merit-based assessment</b> Application form, online. Assistance by request.	<b>Open, merit-based assessment</b> Application form, online. Assistance by request.	<b>Targeted, merit-based assessment</b> Application form, online. Assistance by request.
<b>Assessment process</b>	Council officer(s) assessment and Panel recommendation. Decision by Councillors at a meeting of Council.	Council officer(s) assessment and Panel recommendation. Decision by Councillors at a meeting of Council.	Council officer(s) eligibility due diligence check. Successful funding outcomes by Council officer(s) per delegations. Not recommended funding outcomes by Councillors at a meeting of Council. Report provided to Council on funding all outcomes.	Council officer(s) eligibility due diligence check. Decision by Council officer(s) per delegations. Report provided to Council on funding outcomes.	Council officer(s) assessment and Panel recommendation. Decision by Councillors at a meeting of Council.
<b>Contract type</b>	Funding Agreement	Funding Agreement	Letter of Offer	Letter of Offer	Funding Agreement
<b>Report type</b>	Yearly Report Financial Acquittal	Final Report Financial Acquittal	Final Report (Light) Financial Acquittal (Light)	Final Report (Light) Financial Acquittal (Light)	Yearly Report Financial Acquittal
<b>Responsible department</b>	Inclusive Communities	Inclusive Communities	Inclusive Communities	Inclusive Communities	Inclusive Communities
<b>Note:</b> The <b>Kingston Charitable Fund</b> is a separate, related funding source administered under independent governance arrangements to the above <i>grant streams</i> .					