

Grants Program Guidelines

2025 / 2026

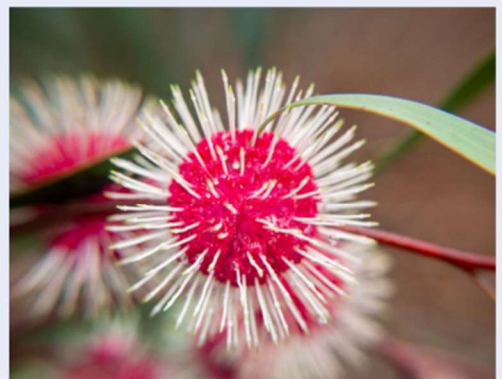
Council's Community Investment Funding



Content and design produced by Community Development Team

Acknowledgment of country

Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges the Bunurong people, who have been the custodians of this land for many thousands of years; and pays respect to their elders past and present. We acknowledge that the land on which we meet is the place of age-old ceremonies, celebrations, initiation and renewal; and that the Bunurong peoples' living culture continues to have a unique role in the life of this region.



Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines



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Introduction

The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (the Council) re-adopted the Community Investment Funding Policy and Framework in May 2025 to continue to invest in our community through grants, subsidies, sponsorships and the Mornington Peninsula Community Charitable Trust. Community Investment Funding (CIF) supports local organisations and community groups to deliver essential services, programs, community events and festivals to increase civic participation and strengthen community cohesion. Funding empowers local volunteering community-led projects that can make a real difference to responding to community needs across our villages.

The programs are aligned to themes within the Community Vision and the strategic directions of the **Council Plan 2025–2029, Our Place, Our People and Our Prosperity**.

Our Place Celebrate, protect and enhance our unique blend of coast, hinterland, green wedge and connected villages and townships.

Our People A safe, accessible, inclusive and engaged community that fosters our diverse culture, supporting health and wellbeing and a connected and compassionate society for all.

Our Prosperity Enabling balanced growth through innovation, empowering community groups and volunteers and fostering a resilient, thriving and vibrant local economy.

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The CIF Grants Program is highly competitive. Please ensure these guidelines are understood before applying. Assistance can be sought, if necessary, please refer to the Application Support section of these guidelines.

Community Investment Funding (CIF) is determined each financial year as part of Council's budget approval process. Council adopted funding for the 2025/2026 Grant Programs 6 May 2025. Grants open on the 13 July each year please note that grant programs have varying closing dates with some grants being open all year and/or until funding is exhausted.

Refer to [Table 1](#) below for an overview of Grant Funding Programs and Timeframes.

Table 1 – Grants Funding Programs and Timeframes

Our Place <i>Celebrate, protect and enhance our unique blend of coast, hinterland, green wedge and connected villages</i>			
Grants Programs Available	Value of Grants	Open	Close
Biolink Support Grants	Up to \$10,000	13 July 2025	17 September 2025

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Our People <i>Celebrate, protect and enhance our unique blend of coast, hinterland, green wedge and connected villages</i>			
Grants Programs Available	Value of Grants	Open	Close
Placemaking Grants	Up to \$15,000	13 July 2025	17 September 2025
Community Support Grants	Up to \$5,000	13 July 2025	4 June 2026 or until funds are exhausted.
Flexi Grants	Up to \$2,000	13 July 2025	4 June 2026 or until funds are exhausted.
Community Events Grants	Up to \$15,000 Local events and up to \$2,000 Local Christmas Carols/events	13 July 2025	4 June 2026 or until funds are exhausted.
Our Prosperity <i>Enabling balanced growth through innovation, empowering community groups and volunteers and fostering a resilient, thriving and vibrant local economy</i>			
Grants Programs Available	Value of Grants	Open	Close
Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants	Up to \$50,000	13 July 2025	4 June 2026 or until funds are exhausted.

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General Eligibility for Grants

Eligibility

1. Applicants must be an organisation based in the Mornington Peninsula Shire's Local Government Area and deliver funded projects, programs, services and activities within the Shire.
2. Eligible applicants must be;
 - a. a current incorporated association,
 - b. a current, registered Not-For-Profit, Charity, Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) or,
 - c. if unincorporated / *a community group, auspiced by another organisation (must be as per 2a or 2b above) for the proposed activity, program or project detailed in their application.*
 - d. Applicants may be required to upload model rules/constitutions to ensure the organisation's purpose aligns with the grant program priorities.
3. Organisations making an application must be solvent and have adequate level of public liability insurance relevant to the activity. *Note: unincorporated community groups must use an auspice organisation to apply.*
4. If an incorporated organisation is acting as an auspice organisation, it must only support two unincorporated organisations within a financial year. Exceptions may apply for Landcare organisations under Biolink Support Grants.
Note: auspice organisations are also able to apply independently for grants as per the guidelines.
5. The applicant or auspice organisation must not be in debt and must be compliant with and have acquitted all funding previously awarded by the Shire and/or have approval from the Program Manager and/or CIF Principal Program Manager for an acquittal extension.
6. Eligibility of applicants is also outlined in **Table 2** of this document.

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7. Successful applicants may be funded for one application in a financial year.
8. Eligible applicants can apply for a Flexi Grant in the instance of an unforeseen circumstance if they have had a successful grant. Flexi Grant applications for life saving equipment will be prioritised.
9. A school or learning institution may apply only where the project is not curriculum based, or where the activity or benefit is not confined to the learning institution but is for the primary benefit of the wider community.
10. Successful grant applicants must expend the funds for lawful use as per the Grant Funding Agreement.
11. Where additional approvals are required (by either Council or other State Government agencies) that fail to be obtained the grant may be revoked.
12. If the proposed project involves building, installing or modifying Council land or facilities, a Community Capital Infrastructure Projects proposal form must be completed prior to applying as permit approvals may be required.

Evidence of landowner permission must be provided (if applicable).

For more information go to Community Capital Infrastructure Projects (Our Project),
or

Public Art Information at Mornington Peninsula Shire (mornpen.vic.gov.au)
see links below:

- Landowner permission and permits email requests to:
E: property@mornpen.vic.gov.au
- Information regarding Public Art: [Public Art – Our Arts & Culture](#)
- Community Capital Proposal Form: [Our Project – Proposal Form –openforms.com](#)

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Ineligibility for Grants

1. Organisations not based on the Mornington Peninsula and activities not delivered in and/or do not directly benefit Mornington Peninsula Shire's communities.
2. Funding for an applicant's core business; including but not limited to: administration or operational costs, staff wages, staff equipment and staff training, utilities, regular rates/rent/room hire, insurance, personal or travel expenses, sporting uniforms, conference fees, fee-for-service, Director fees, subscriptions, annual and/or industry fees, alcohol, gifts, prizes, appeals and making donations to other organisations.
3. Commission Agents / fees, including agents seeking information on behalf of or for potential applicants.
4. Applications submitted by an individual on behalf of multiple organisations who subsequently benefit from the grant.
5. Donations to charities.
6. Activities that could be seen as divisive or harmful within the community eg funding for weapons and ammunition or having a potential to bring Shire into disrepute which is at the discretion of the Assessment Panel.
7. Funding for camps, school excursions, incursions and school-based playgroups.
8. Costs of fees charged by Local Government (e.g. planning/ building application fees, or similar charges).
9. Debt payment.
10. Damage and / or purchases covered by insurance.
- 11.

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11. Retrospective funding for programs/projects that have already started or have been completed are not eligible. ** Note 1: Exemptions may apply for Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants.*
12. Projects/programs funded by Mornington Peninsula Shire within a financial year.
13. Activities or programs that are the responsibility of another level of government ie education or health.
14. Projects and/or activities that are subject to a lease/license agreement with the Shire.
15. Organisations that have not complied with previous funding requirements as identified in the CIF Policy and Framework (2025) and Funding Agreements.
16. Installation of solar panels on Shire tenanted buildings that are connected to mains electricity.
17. Ineligible Applicants include:
 - a. Political parties registered with the Australian Electoral Commission or lobby / pressure groups.
 - b. Organisations associated with collection and use of funds by banned organisations as per Commonwealth Criminal Code Sect 103.1,
 - c. Applicants in receipt of gaming machine revenue and/or gambling.
 - d. Councillors and Shire staff
 - e. Sole traders (exceptions apply for sponsorships, refer separate Sponsorship Guidelines)
 - f. Private Schools (exceptions may apply for Biolink Support Grants, refer specific Grant Program additional eligibility in these guidelines)
 - g. For-Profit companies (exceptions apply for sponsorships, refer separate Sponsorship Guidelines)

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Table 2 – Eligibility for Grants Programs

Grants Programs	Organisations registered as ➤ Incorporated Associations ➤ Not-For-Profit (NFP) ➤ Charities ➤ Public Benevolent Institution or ➤ Auspices organisations for Un-Incorporated community groups are required to be organisations listed above
Our Place	
Biolink Support Grants (open competitive) Program Manager Clayton Fenech E: Clayton.Fenech@mornpen.vic.gov.au	✓
Our People	
Placemaking Grants (open competitive) Program Manager Tricia Folvig E: communityinvestfunding@mornpen.vic.gov.au or E: Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au	✓
Community Support Grants (open competitive) Program Manager Tricia Folvig E: communityinvestfunding@mornpen.vic.gov.au or E: Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au	✓
Flexi Grants (open competitive) Program Manager Tricia Folvig E: communityinvestfunding@mornpen.vic.gov.au or E: Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au	✓
Community Events Grants (open competitive) Program Manager Rebecca Levy E: Rebecca.Levy@mornpen.vic.gov.au	✓

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Our Prosperity	
Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants (open competitive) Program Manager Ryan Wilcox E: Ryan.Wilcox@mornpen.vic.gov.au	✓
Sponsorships (targeted) Program Manager Jayde Hayes E: economincdevelopmentleadershipteam@mornpen.vic.gov.au	Refer Expression of interest process and separate Sponsorship Guidelines.
Subsidies organisations adopted by Council.	Refer separate Subsidies Guidelines.
Mornington Peninsula Community Charitable Trust, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation (LMCF) (open competitive) registered DGR Status 1 applicants only.	Refer separate Trust Guidelines. Opens in November 2025 Funding available is the Trust annual corpus interest only. Eligible applicants must have DGR Status1
Tricia Folvig Team Leader Community Development Community Investment Funding Principal Program Manager E: communityinvestfunding@mornpen.vic.gov.au E: Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au	

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Application Support

Grant Program Managers are available to clarify information and advise the applicability of your proposed projects/program, activity. Please contact see a list of all Program Managers on our webpage and/or email communityinvestmentfunding@mornpen.vic.gov.au.

Should assistance be needed with submitting an application online in the **SmartyGrants** system please contact the Grants Administration Officer via email

E: community.grants@mornpen.vic.gov.au or call 5950 1819.

Assistance is available for applicants with disabilities and culturally and linguistically diverse applicants. Free interpreting services can be arranged for individuals with limited or no English language proficiency. Please contact us on E: access@mornpen.vic.gov.au or call 5950 1978.

The Community Development Team holds Grants Information Sessions throughout July and August to assist our community with their project ideas and relevant grant programs. Refer to the Shire's website for details

[Grants and Funding - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au/Grants-and-Funding)

The Community Development Team facilitates free Grant writing Workshops throughout the year and dates will be advised on the Shire's website

artsandculture.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Public-Art

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Application Program Management Process

Applications

Applications for grants, subsidies, sponsorships and the Trust must be completed and submitted on-line and in accordance with the timing and criteria of a specific Grant Program.

Application forms are available through the SmartyGrants online system accessed via [Grants and Funding – Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au)

- Applicants are responsible for selecting the most appropriate grant program for their project aligned to the grant priorities. An application must be eligible, address the assessment criteria and respond to any compliance questions with attachments as required.
- The Shire is a Child Safe organisation, applicants need to comply with their organisation's Child Safety Policy which is required to be attached to the application and/or agree to comply with the Shire's Child Safety Policy.
- Applications after the closing date will not be accepted and there will be no appeal process for late applications.
- A project/program that depends on a grant must not commence until an application has been approved and a Funding Agreement signed. Grants funding will not be made retrospectively.

Budget

- Budget income and expenditure must be GST exclusive.
- The budget must account for all income and expenses for the development and implementation of the project/program. The budget should also include the applicant's/organisation's financial co-contribution (if any), additional Grants (even if not confirmed), as well as in-kind volunteer support and/or other funding for each project.

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- Volunteer hours (if applicable) are to be entered separately to project income as in-kind support, calculated on the estimated hours each volunteer will contribute at \$46.92 per hour.
- Financial co-contributions are viewed favourably in assessment of applications but not mandatory.

Assessment of Grants

- Applications must align with the priorities of the Grant and the relevant assessment criteria.
- After the application is submitted, an eligibility check and financial check is conducted. The application is progressed to an Assessment Panel if deemed eligible.
- Grant Assessment Panels may reflect Officers' input as Subject Matter Experts across Council e.g., representatives of Natural Systems, Community Development, Economic Development, Urban Planning, Community Capital Infrastructure, Community Events as well as Arts and Culture, as required.
- An application will be assessed in consideration of permits, landowner permission, Public Art Proposal Form and/or Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form completion, if required. Refer links to below:
 - Landowner permission and permits email requests to: E:
property@mornpen.vic.gov.au
 - Information regarding Public Art: [Public Art - Mornington Peninsula](#)
 - Community Capital Proposal Form: [Our Project - Proposal Form \(openforms.com\)](#)
- Where additional approvals are required (by either Council or other State Government agencies) and fail to be obtained the grant may be revoked.
- Applicants may be requested to provide additional supporting information to assist with the assessment of the application.
- The scoring of applications by a Grants Assessment Panel must exceed a minimum score of 55% to be considered for a Grant. Scores over 55% doesn't guarantee funding will be awarded if applications exceed the funding pool, noting grants are competitive.

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- The level of assistance is limited by Council's budget allocation and its priorities. No applicant can be guaranteed of funding, nor can any applicant be guaranteed to receive the full amount requested.

Notification process

Applicants will be notified in writing of the result of their application as soon as possible after the panel assessment.

Funding agreements and payment

- Successfully funded projects/programs/events will receive a Funding Agreement for completion. Funding Agreements should be signed by all parties within 2 weeks of the date of issue. All projects /programs must be completed by the end of the financial year in which they received the funding or in accordance with their Funding Agreement.
- A funding agreement includes:
 - the applicant.
 - the Auspice Organisation (if applicable)
 - a description of the program/project/event for which the funding is being provided.
 - the amount of funding.
 - Information regarding the required acknowledgement of Council's support.
 - specific funding conditions/criteria against which data should be collected and reported on for Acquittal requirements.
 - the deadline for submission of the Acquittal.
- Once the Funding Agreement has been finalised, payments will be processed.
- Should the Funding Agreement fail to be completed by the due date, Council reserves the right to withdraw the grant funding.
- Extensions for project variations must be approved by the relevant Program Manager.

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Reporting and Monitoring

- Funded programs/projects/events must be reported on and acquitted as detailed in a Funding Agreement. Reports provide Council and the public with feedback on agreed outputs and desired outcomes, relevant data and lessons learned as a result of the funded program/project or event. While detailed financial reports are required, further documentation and evidence of expenses may also be sought.
- The Shire reserves the right to audit grant approvals and acquittals.
- Council may request audited financial statements on acquitting the project where grant funding to an organisation exceeds \$20,000.
- Final acquittal reports must be submitted no later than one month after agreed completion date of the funded program/project/events as stated in the Funding Agreement unless otherwise agreed.

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Community Investment Funding Principles and Ethics

Good Governance and Transparency

Council is committed to fair and transparent Community Investment Funding decision making in the public interest: Applications are:

- registered in the SmartyGrants system, which is subject to audit.
- reviewed for conflict of interest, which are declared by potential assessors and addressed as part of the process.
- assessed objectively against eligibility and priorities criteria listed in the applicants and guidelines.
- successfully funded grants are reported through publicly available reports and marketing and promotion materials required as a condition of the funding.

Achievement of the Best Outcomes

Priority is given to applications that will achieve the best outcomes for the municipal community including future generations. In doing so, all grant programs, projects or activities will be able to deliver one or more of the Grant Program's priorities, comply with legislation and align with the Council Plan's strategic directions the Community Vision themes, the Community Investment Funding Policy and Framework (2025) as well as other policies and strategies.

Collaborative Relationships

Collaborative relationships with applicants and recipients are built on mutual respect and transparency of Council decisions, actions and information. Council's grants must be visible and in accordance with the specific marketing approaches in the Funding Agreement highlighting Council's commitment to building the Shire's environmental, economic, social and community capital for public benefit.

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Diversity and Access

The Shire's diverse community extends across 44 villages and rural areas where people form bonds around place, identity and interests. Applications are encouraged from eligible organisations and community groups from diverse backgrounds and supporting people with diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds of all ages, gender identities and people with a disability.

Safety

The safe delivery of events, programs and projects is a Council priority and as such scrutiny of safety obligations may be undertaken for the protection of the environment and the public.

Value for Money

Council is committed to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the Mornington Peninsula Local Government Area. In meeting the eligibility and priorities of the Community Investment Funding Program, applications should represent strong financial and reputational value for Council.

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Biolink Support Grants

1. Purpose of Biolink Support Grants

To support the community to establish, protect and enhance biolinks on a landscape scale that will improve habitat values and facilitate wildlife movement across the Peninsula.

2. Eligibility Biolink Support Grants

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-10 of this document.

Additionally, the following are ineligible for Biolink Support Grant funding:

- A project on a property that is under 2 hectares in size.
- A project on private land that takes place on a single property.
- Projects where the service or works being delivered is the responsibility of State or Federal Government. *E.g., a project on land managed by Parks Victoria.*
- A project that takes place in the same location (i.e., same mapped project area) that has received funding in the last two Biolink Support Grant rounds. *E.g., A project received Biolink Support Grant funding in Round 2. The next time a BSG application can be submitted for the same project area is in Round 5.*
- A project that is located on more than one property, where the properties are not within reasonable distance to effectively link or create a viable biolink.
- A project that is unable to be assessed using the Biolink Decision Support Tool.

3. Funding Available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$10,000.

4. Desired Long-Term Outcomes of the Biolink Support Grant

Biodiversity Protection.

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5. Assessment Criteria – Biolink Support Grant

The following criteria table below will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

Biolink Support Grants Priorities	Criteria
- Engaging with the community and building stewardship - Facilitating biodiversity conservation on private land - Building a strong knowledge base - Demonstrating and leading best-practice land management - Building ecosystem resilience in a changing climate	Biolink Support Grants Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Biolink Support Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. Biodiversity Conservation Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners. Feasibility of the Project The project can be delivered. This includes permits, landowner permission and/or Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form completed if required. Our Project - Proposal Form (openforms.com) Capacity of Applicant The Applicant's demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project Budget Applicant's budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution

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All applications will go through a two-step assessment process consisting of:

- 1) initial feasibility assessment; and
- 2) detailed assessment using the Shire's Biolink Decision Support Tool.

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Placemaking Grants

1. Purpose of Placemaking Grants

To enhance place-based social, built and natural environments, increasing engagement and encouraging relationships to support the vibrancy of townships.

2. Eligibility Placemaking Grants

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-10 of this document and the specific grant program's priorities as per below.

3. Funding Available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$15,000.

4. Desired Long-Term Outcomes of the Placemaking Grants

A cohesive, resilient community

5. Assessment Criteria – Placemaking Grants

Applications achieve one or more of the priorities below.

The following criteria in table below will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

Note *

For information and guidelines on Murals please refer to the Shire's Public Art page via the link below:

[Public Art – Mornington Peninsula](#)

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Placemaking Grants Priorities	Criteria
1. Contributes to vibrant communities fostering social inclusion, participation and community cohesion. 2. Minor community capital projects that improve amenities/facilities and/or the natural environment. 3. Provides opportunities for new activities and initiatives in public places.	1. Placemaking Grants Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Placemaking priorities listed in this table in the left column. 2. Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit. 3. Feasibility of the project The project is feasible and able to be delivered. This includes permits, landowner permission, Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form and/or Public Art Proposal Form completed if required (refer 5.1 onwards below) 4. Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project. 5. Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution. Applicant demonstrates limited capacity to self-fund.

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

Community Support Grants

1. Purpose of the Community Support Grants

To support community groups and organisations to deliver key initiatives, programs and activities within the Shire.

2. Eligibility Community Support Grants

3. Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-10 of this document and the specific grant program's priorities as per below.

Fundraising events and public community events are ineligible for funding under this stream, refer funding for Community Events Grants Program (refer page 25).

Lifesaving and safety equipment is available for volunteer community groups/organisations not for private clubs.

3. Funding Available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$5,000. This program remains open for the financial year closing 4 June 2026 or until funds have been exhausted.

4. Desired Long-Term Outcomes of the Community Support Grants

A cohesive, resilient community

5. Assessment Criteria – Community Support Grants

Applications must achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria in table below will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with: 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

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Community Support Grants Priorities	Criteria
1. Lifesaving and safety equipment. 2. Strengthens the capacity of volunteering on the Mornington Peninsula through training and/or learning new skills. 3. Initiatives that contribute to the sustainability of community groups. 4. Increases social inclusion, participation and community cohesion. 5. Programs, activities and initiatives with broad community benefit. 6. Supports environmental priorities 7. Seed funding for new projects	1. Community Support Grants Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Community Support Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. 2. Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit. 3. Feasibility of the project The project is feasible and able to be delivered. This includes permits, landowner permission, Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form and/or Public Art Proposal Form completed if required (refer 5.1 onwards below) 4. Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project. 5. Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution. Applicant demonstrates limited capacity to self-fund.

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Flexi Grants

1. Purpose of the Flexi Grants

To provide a quick response to an essential one-off community need and initiatives within the Shire.

2. Eligibility Flexi Grants

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-10 of this document and the specific grant program's priorities as per below. If you are applying for a defibrillator or AED; it needs to be publicly accessible and registered with Ambulance Victoria.

3. Funding Available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$2,000. This program remains open for the financial year closing 4 June 2026 or until funds have been exhausted.

4. Desired Long-Term Outcomes of the Flexi Grants

A cohesive, resilient community

5. Assessment Criteria – Flexi Grants

Applications must achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria in table below will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with: 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

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Flexi Grants Priorities	Criteria
1. Lifesaving, as well as health and safety equipment includes defibrillators and AED. 2. Projects that support vulnerable members of the community. 3. Enhances community groups to support civic participation. 4. Essential and/or unforeseen purchase of equipment to support programs/community services/health and safety.	1. Flexi Grants Program Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Flexi Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. 2. Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit. 3. Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution. Applicant demonstrates limited capacity to self-fund.

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Community Events Grants

1. Purpose of the Community Events Grants

To support economic, cultural and social impact through local community festivals, events and activations.

2. Eligibility for Community Event Grants

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-10 of this document and the specific grant program's priorities as per below.

Previous applicants can apply. Please note initiatives demonstrating planning towards self-funding will be viewed favourably.

3. Funding Available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$15,000. Awarded for a one-year period.

4. Desired Long-Term Outcomes of the Community Events Grants

A vibrant community.

5. Assessment Criteria – Community Events Grants

Applications must achieve one or more of the priorities below.

The following criteria in table below will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

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Community Events Priorities	Criteria
- Events that create opportunities for community participation, cultural and social wellbeing while fostering civic pride in our local townships. - Celebrate cultural diversity and promote participation in local community events, festivals, Christmas events and activations. - Align to relevant priorities set out in the Council Plan and adopted strategies and plans.	- Community Events Grants Priorities Proposed event will contribute to one or more priorities listed in this table in the left column. - Vibrant Community culture - The degree to which the proposed project/program: participation and celebration of the Mornington Peninsula's local communities - offer activities / programming that is innovative, accessible, inclusive and culturally aware - increases economic activity and local employment opportunities - Feasibility of the project/program The event is able to be delivered. This includes event permits, permissions or licenses and involves local businesses and contributes to local employment. - Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated Event Management / production capacity, skills and experience to deliver the event with the involvement of the business community - Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project/program is realistic.

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines



Submission of an Event Opportunity Form (EOF) and other supporting documentation required. [Planning an Event - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au)

- Applications must support planned event activity that is open and advertised to the general public including, but not limited to, festivals, concerts, community and cultural gatherings. Events may be free to attend or ticketed.
- The applicant must hold a minimum of \$20 million public liability insurance relevant to their event application.

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Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants

1. Purpose of the Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants

To provide funding for projects that improve the built and natural environments within the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

2. Eligibility Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-10 of this document and the specific grant program's priorities as per below.

- Schools are not eligible for the natural and built environment projects on State Government land.

3. Funding available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$50,000. This program remains open for the financial year closing 4 June 2026 or when funds have been exhausted.

4. Desired Long-Term Outcomes of the Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants

- Well utilised community facilities

5. Assessment Criteria – Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants

Applications must achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria in table below will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with: 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

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Grants Program Guidelines

Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Priorities	Criteria
1. Renewal of community infrastructure and facilities. 2. Projects that improve the natural environment. 3. New and upgraded community capital infrastructure projects. 4. Projects that demonstrate an alignment to published Council Masterplans. 5. Applicants that have a demonstrated financial contribution to the project.	1. Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. 2. Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit. 3. Feasibility of the project The project is feasible and able to be delivered. This includes permits, landowner permission, Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form and/or Public Art Proposal Form completed if required (refer 5.1 onwards below). 4. Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project. 5. Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution. Applicant demonstrates limited capacity to self-fund.

Community Capital Proposal Form: [Our Project - Proposal Form \(openforms.com\)](#)



Service Centres

ROSEBUD

90 Besgrove Street, 3939

MORNINGTON

2 Queen Street, 3931

HASTINGS

21 Marine Parade, 3915



Contact 1300 850 600 (24 hours) or 5950 1000



Customerservice@mornpen.vic.gov.au
Private Bag 1000, Rosebud 3939 DX 30059



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Website – mornpen.vic.gov.au



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