



MORNINGTON
PENINSULA
Shire

Council's Community Investment Funding

Grants Program Guidelines

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges and pays respects to the Bunurong people, the Traditional Custodians of these lands and waters.



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 people's 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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Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

Introduction

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (the Council) has adopted a Community Investment Funding Policy 2022 (The Policy) guiding the funding of grants and subsidies to support initiatives and projects that build the social, cultural, environmental and economic life of the Shire.

Applications to the Grants Program must demonstrate alignment with;

- the Council and Wellbeing Plan Themes and strategic objective (**refer Table 1 overleaf**) and
- the Community Vision 2040; and
- the draft Community Strengthening Policy 2023 (listed for Council consideration April 2023).

The Community Investment Funding Policy (2022) (The Policy) defines the types of investment funded by the Shire, including Grants, Subsidies, Sponsorship and Trusts. The Policy and the Grants Program Guidelines govern the determination of grant funding.

The Policy defines grants as: *“A single instance of funding given to an organisation or individual for a specified purpose, directed at achieving outputs and outcomes consistent with organisational policy, where the recipient is selected on merit against a set of criteria”.*

As such, all available Grant Program funding streams are listed in **Table 2** and are applied to foster and promote:

- the health and wellbeing of the Shire's natural environment and townships
- the strength and diversity of the Shire's economy; and
- the health, inclusivity and connectivity of communities within the Shire.

Mornington Peninsula Shire is committed to strengthening the community through a range of initiatives to foster thriving, inclusive and resilient communities.

The draft Community Strengthening Policy and Strategy further highlights desired outcomes, services, programs and initiatives to foster community strength including but not limited to Community Investment Funding.

The Community Strengthening Policy and Strategy aligns and refers to

- Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021 -25 and Community Vision 2040
- The Community Investment Funding Policy (2022)

The Grants Program is highly competitive. Please ensure these guidelines are understood before applying. Assistance can be sought, if necessary, refer to Application Support on pages 11 and 12.

Table 1: Council and Wellbeing Themes and Strategic Objectives

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>THEME 1:</p> <p>Healthy, natural environment and well-planned townships.</p> | <p>Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and community are seeking vibrant and unique townships balanced with a natural environment protected now and into the future accelerating climate action and celebrating cultural heritage, which includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 An accessible and unique natural environment that helps our community to be healthy and well. 1.2 A healthy ecosystem, in which our coastline, bushland, wildlife and green wedge is resilient to the climate emergency and development. 1.3 A sustainable built environment that respects the natural environment and protects the community from the impacts of the climate emergency. 1.4 An accessible built environment that supports diverse, current, and future community needs. |
| <p>THEME 2:</p> <p>A robust, innovative and diverse economy</p> | <p>Mornington Peninsula Shire Council is seeking a community with abundant and varied education and local employment opportunities. We are open to new ideas and work with our partners to grow strong, diverse and future focused economy, which includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 A community that has access to world class local learning opportunities through all stages of life. 2.2 A strong food economy, promoting growth to enhance community access. 2.3 A thriving entrepreneurial economy, with a vibrant tourism sector, that provides accessible employment to our diverse community. 2.4 A diverse economy, with green and renewable opportunities, encouraging entrepreneurship, investment and innovation. |
| <p>THEME 3:</p> <p>A flourishing, healthy and connected community</p> | <p>Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and community are seeking an inclusive and creative community that values safety, physical and mental health and wellbeing. A community with accessible services and transport keep us connected.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 A healthy and self-determined community where everyone feels valued, supported and safe. 3.2 A resilient and confident community where everyone connects and is supported. 3.3 A community in which people from all generations, backgrounds and abilities can access local services. 3.4 A community with vibrant arts, culture, sport and recreational opportunities that foster connections and participation across generations, backgrounds and abilities. 3.5 A community that is well connected through sustainable, accessible and integrated transport options. |

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Grants Program Funding

The total funding pool for the Grants program is determined as part of Council's budget approval process for Community Investment Funding for the financial year. The Grants Program subsequently opens in July of each financial year (but may have varying closing timeframes) to eligible community groups/organisations and businesses, refer Table 2 below for overview of Grant Funding Streams Eligibility and Timeframes.

**Table 2: Grants Funding Streams and Timeframes
by Council and Wellbeing Plan Themes**

| Theme | Grants streams available | Value of Grants | Open | Close |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Theme 1 A healthy, natural environment and well-planned townships | Climate Action Grants | Minor: up to \$5,000 Major: up to \$10,000 | 13 July 2023 | 7 September 2023 |
| | Biolink Support Grants | Up to \$10,000 | 13 July 2023 | 7 September 2023 |
| | Heritage Grants | Up to \$5,000 | 13 July 2023 | 5 March 2024 |
| Theme 2 A robust, innovative and diverse economy | Business Development Grants | Up to \$5,000 | 13 July 2023 | 7 September 2023 |
| | Creative Grants | Up to \$10,000 | 13 July 2023 | 4 June 2024 or until funds are exhausted |
| | Performing Arts Development Grants | Open ended amount, however successful applicants who request \$30,000 or more will need to present to the panel. | 13 July 2023 | 4 June 2024 or until funds are exhausted |
| | Community Events Grants | Up to \$10,000 | 13 July 2023 | 4 June 2024 or until funds are exhausted. Awarded for a one or two year period. |
| | Destination Events Grants | Up to \$25,000 | 13 July 2023 | 7 September 2023 Awarded for a one or two year period. |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Theme | Grants streams available | Value of Grants | Open | Close |
|---|--|-----------------|--------------|---|
| Theme 3 A flourishing, healthy and connected community | Placemaking Grants | Up to \$10,000 | 13 July 2023 | 7 September 2023 |
| | Community Support Grants | Up to \$5,000 | 13 July 2023 | 4 June 2024 or until funds are exhausted |
| | Flexi Grants | Up to \$2,000 | 13 July 2023 | 4 June 2024 or until funds are exhausted. |
| | Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants | Up to \$50,000 | 13 July 2023 | 4 June 2024 or until funds are exhausted |
| | Access and Social Inclusion Grants | Up to \$500 | 13 July 2023 | 4 June 2024 or until funds are exhausted |

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 and activities within the Shire.
2. Organisations making an application must be registered, solvent and have adequate level of public liability insurance relevant to the activity. (Note: unincorporated community groups must use an auspice organisation to apply).
3. If an incorporated organisation is acting as an auspice organisation, it must only support two unincorporated organisations within a financial year.
4. 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 for an extension.
5. Eligibility of applicants (community groups/organisations, businesses and individuals) for specific grant programs is further outlined in Table 3 of this document.
6. Successful eligible applicants may be funded for a maximum of two successful grants applications in a financial year for separate projects in any of the three Council and Wellbeing Plan themes 1, 2 and 3. In addition, eligible applicants can apply for a Flexi Grant in the instance of an unforeseen circumstance if you have had two successful grants. Flexi Grant applications for life saving equipment will be prioritised.
7. 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.

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8. Successful grant applicants must apply the funds for lawful use as per the Grant Funding Agreement.
9. If the proposed project involves building, installing or modifying Council land or facilities, please complete the Community Capital Infrastructure Projects proposal form prior to applying as permit approvals may be required. You must provide evidence landowner permission has been granted (if applicable). Go to Community Capital Infrastructure Projects (Our Project) - Mornington Peninsula Shire (mornpen.vic.gov.au)

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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; as per their constitution or model rules, 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, annual and/or industry fees, alcohol, gifts, prizes, appeals and making cash donations to other organisations as well as organisations who charge fee for service. ***See note 1 below**
3. Commission Agents / fees and seeking information on behalf of or for potential applicants.
4. Applications submitted by an individual on behalf of multiple organisations who subsequently receive a payment for services and/or benefit from a successful grant.
5. Donations to charities.
6. Activities that could be perceived as benefiting a political party or political campaign.
7. Activities that could be seen as divisive or harmful within the community.
8. Funding for weapons and ammunition.
9. Funding for camps or school incursions.
10. Costs of fees charged by Local Government (e.g. planning/ building application fees, health inspection fees or similar charges).
11. Debt payment.
12. Damage and / or purchases covered by insurance
13. Retrospective funding for programs/projects that have already started or have been completed will not be eligible. ***See note 2 below**
14. Projects/programs funded by Mornington Peninsula Shire within a financial year.
15. Activities or programs that are the responsibility of another level of government (such as education or health) or are the responsibility of a group under their incorporation or lease/license agreement.
16. Installation of solar panels on Shire tenanted buildings that are connected to mains electricity.
17. Outside the priorities of the Shire's Infrastructure Management Plan and annual budget.
18. Applications that might bring Mornington Peninsula Shire's reputation into disrepute, which is at the discretion of the Grants' assessment panel.
19. Ineligible Applicants include:
 - a) Political parties registered with the Australian Electoral Commission or lobby / pressure groups
 - b) Applicants in receipt of gaming machine revenue and/or gambling
 - c) Councillors and Shire staff

1. Note: Exemptions may apply for Flexi Grant; National or International representation of the Mornington Peninsula and for the Performing Arts Development Grants and Creative Grants.

2. Note: Exemptions may apply, refer to specific guidelines for Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants on page 42 and 43.

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Table 3 – Grant Eligibility by Applicant

| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Organisations:</i> • <i>Incorporated Associations</i> • <i>Not-for-Profit (NFP)</i> • <i>Registered Charities</i> • <i>Un-incorporated community groups are required to be auspiced.</i> • <i>Schools for activities outside the curriculum</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Commercial Business / Sole Trader</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Resident</i> |
|--|---|--|--|
| Climate Action Grants | X | X | |
| Biolink Support Grants | X | | |
| Heritage Grants | X | X | X |
| Business Development Grants | | X | |
| Creative Grants | X | X | |
| Performing Arts Development Grants | X | X | |
| Community Events Grants | X | | |
| Destination Events Grants | X | X | |
| Placemaking Grants | X | | |
| Community Support Grants | X | | |
| Flexi Grants | X | | |
| Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants | X* | | |
| Access and Social Inclusion Grants | X | | X |

***Note - Schools are ineligible for built and natural environment**

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Application Support

Grant Program Managers (**refer to Table 4 below**) are available to clarify information and advise the applicability of your proposed projects/program, activity.

Table 4: Program Manager: Contact details

| Grants Funding Stream | Program Manager & Contact |
|---|--|
| 1. Climate Action Grants | Jacqui Salter E: Jacqueline.Salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 2. Biolink Support Grant | Clayton Fenech E: Clayton.Fenech@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 3. Heritage Grants | Claire Dougall E: Heritage@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 4. Business Development Grants | Katherine Cooper E: Katherine.Cooper@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 5. Creative Grants 6. Performing Arts Development Grants | Grant Queries – Julia Young E: Julia.Young@mornpen.vic.gov.au Program Manager – Tori Hayat E: Tori.Hayat@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 7. Destination Events Grants 8. Community Events Grants | Joanne Fyfe E: Joanne.Fyfe@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 9. Placemaking Grants | Tricia Folvig E: Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 10. Community Support Grants 11. Flexi Grants | Grant Queries – Davina Greene E: CommunityInvestFunding@mornpen.vic.gov.au Program Manager - Tricia Folvig E: Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 12. Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants | Grant Queries – Davina Greene E: CommunityInvestFunding@mornpen.vic.gov.au Program Managers - Tricia Folvig and Paul Bampton E: Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au |
| 13. Access and Inclusion Grants | Program Manager – Lauren Carlomagno E: Lauren.Carlomagno@mornpen.vic.gov.au |

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Should assistance be needed with submitting an application online in the SmartyGrants system please contact the Grants Administration Officers at
E: community.grants@mornpen.vic.gov.au or Ph: 5950 1425.

"Assistance is available for applicants with disabilities and culturally and linguistically diverse applicants". Please email: access@mornpen.vic.gov.au or call 5950 1978 Lauren Carlomagno.

Free interpreting services can be arranged for individuals with limited or no English language proficiency. Please contact our Inclusion Team at E: access@mornpen.vic.gov.au or Ph: 03 5950 1978.

To assist our community with their project ideas and which grant to apply for Grants Information Sessions will also be held prior to Grants opening in July annually refer the Shire's website for details [\(\[Grants and Funding - Mornington Peninsula Shire \\(mornpen.vic.gov.au\\)\]\(http://mornpen.vic.gov.au\)\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au)

Free Grant writing seminars are available throughout the year and will be kept up to date on the Shire's website [\(\[Grants and Funding - Mornington Peninsula Shire \\(mornpen.vic.gov.au\\)\]\(http://mornpen.vic.gov.au\)\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au).

Grants Program Management Process Applications

Applications for grants or subsidies must be completed and submitted on-line and in accordance with the timing and criteria of a specific grant. Application forms are available through the SmartyGrants online system accessed via www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Grants.

- Applicants are responsible for selecting the most appropriate grant program. An application must be eligible, address the assessment criteria and respond to any compliance questions with attachments as required.
- Where an application involves working with children or young people, a copy of the organisation's child safety policy must be attached to the application. If there is no formal child safety policy there must be an outline of how it is intended to comply with the child safety and working with children legislation.
- 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 sponsorships.

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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 \$46.87 per hour (2022); estimates are approximated.
- Co-contributions are viewed favourably in assessment of applications but not mandatory.
- Assessment of Grants
- Applications must align with the priorities of the Grants Program and the relevant assessment criteria
- After the closing date of Grant, an eligibility check is conducted for each application and progressed to a Grants Assessment Panel if deemed eligible
- Program Managers may advise an applicant organisation if the proposed program/project is better suited to a different grant or alternatively a sponsorship. Sponsorships have a separate set of guidelines. Program Manager for Sponsorships Email Tricia.Folvig@mornpen.vic.gov.au.
- Grant Assessment Panels may reflect officers' input across Council e.g. representatives of Natural Systems, Community Development, Economic Development, Urban Planning, Community Capital Infrastructure and 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 and adherence to the Shire's Single Use Plastics Policy, if required. Refer links to below:

Landowner permission and permits email requests to: property@mornpen.vic.gov.au

Public Art Form: [Public Art - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au)

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

Single Use Plastics Policy: [Phasing out single-use plastics - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au)

- 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.
- 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 within 10 days after the panel assessment.

Funding Agreements and payment

- Successfully funded projects/programs will receive a Funding Agreement. Major Funding Agreements must be signed by all parties within 5 weeks of the approval of an application. All projects/programs, unless specifically funded for multiple years, 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:
 - a description of the program/project or event for which the funding is being provided
 - the cash and / or in-kind funding to be received, the details and value of any in-kind support and a payment schedule if relevant
 - acknowledgement and / or promotion by Council and the recipient organisation of Council's funding support
 - specific criteria to be achieved against which data should be collected and reported as per requirement or as part of the Acquittal
 - the deadline for submission of the Acquittal
 - a reference to an Acquittal and its deadline, which must be completed in full by the due date
- Once the Funding Agreement has been finalised payments are processed.
- Should the Funding Agreement fail to be completed by the applicant within 30 days Council reserves the right to withdraw the grant funding.
- Extensions for project delays must be approved by the relevant Program Manager.

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.

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 guidelines
- successfully funded Sponsorships 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 and Wellbeing Plan's themes and strategic objectives, 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 cultural capital for public benefit.

Diversity and access

The Shire's diverse community extends across 44 townships and rural areas where people form bonds around place, identity and interests. Applications are encouraged from eligible organisations, community groups or individuals from diverse backgrounds and supporting people with diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds of all ages, gender identities and people with 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 Program, funding applications should represent strong financial and reputational value for Council.

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Climate Emergency

The Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and adopted its 20-year response plan: 'Ensuring Our Future 2020', which outlines key actions to restore a safe pathway towards net zero emissions across the Mornington Peninsula. Please refer:

<https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/new-website-documents/about-us/strategies-and-plans/docs/climate-emergency-plan-ensuring-our-future-our-climate-emergency-response.pdf>

Single Use Plastics

The Shire adopted the single use plastics policy in 2020 which supports Council's target of zero waste to landfill by 2030. Please refer: - [Phasing out single-use plastics - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/new-website-documents/about-us/strategies-and-plans/docs/phasing-out-single-use-plastics-mornington-peninsula-shire.pdf)

THEME 1 GRANTS

Climate Action Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Climate Action Grants Program

Deliver carbon emissions reduction partnerships to achieve the Climate Emergency Plan's goal of net zero emissions by 2040.

2. Eligibility Climate Action Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 and the specific grant program's priorities are as per below. N.B. Commercial businesses must have up to 20 full time staff, full time equivalent (FTE) to be eligible. Activities that are currently delivered by the Mornington Peninsula Shire are ineligible for funding.

3. Funding

Eligible applicants may seek up to:

- Minor Grants: Up to \$5,000
- Major Grants: \$5000 up to \$10,000 which may be supported for more ambitious projects that achieve one or more of the following:
 - Partnership development
 - Long term impact
 - Engagement of a diverse range of the community
 - Innovative solutions

4. Desired Outcome of the Climate Action Grants Program

The desired outcome: Net zero emissions

5. Assessment Criteria – Climate Action Grants Program

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

| Climate Action Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise the community to take climate action, including advocacy • Education programs that promote behaviour change <p>2. Zero Carbon Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce Mornington Peninsula's carbon emissions through increased carbon storage, increased renewable energy and/or | <p>1. Council and Wellbeing Plan</p> <p>Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 1.</p> <hr/> <p>2. Climate Action Grants Priorities</p> <p>Proposed project will contribute to one or more Climate Action Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column.</p> |

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| Climate Action Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|--|--|
| <p>energy efficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial innovative technology that reduces carbon emissions, especially those that support local industries and businesses. • Education programs that promote behaviour change | <p>3. Evidence of need Proposed project demonstrates community or environmental need.</p> |
| <p>3. Community adaptation and resilience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions towards forming a community energy initiative • Develop cultural awareness and connection to land and waters, Indigenous culture and practices e.g. protection of cultural sites • Training for community leaders to equip them with the resources to effectively respond to the mental and/or physical impacts of climate change on people and the environment • Support the most vulnerable in our community to cope with climate impacts • Education programs that promote behaviour change • Support community groups to initiate or participate in citizen science programs • Initiatives that improve the resilience of our urban areas to climate change | <p>4. Feasibility of the project The project is able to be delivered. This includes permits, landowner permission and/or Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form completed if required.</p> <p>Our Project - Proposal Form (openforms.com)</p> <p>5. Capacity of Applicant The applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project. Additional consideration will be given to applicants that have a limited capacity to self-fund the activity and demonstrate a genuine need for financial support</p> |
| <p>4. Sustainable travel & transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster sustainable transport behaviour in the community • Education programs that promote behaviour change • Support the transition to and use of zero emission vehicles • Enable the use of EVs by installing an EV charger <p>5. Sustainable land use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in regenerative farming practices • Increase the resilience of natural systems to climate change • Terrestrial, teal and blue carbon sequestration projects | <p>6. Budget Applicant's budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution.</p> |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Climate Action Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|--|----------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop cultural awareness and connection to land and waters, Indigenous culture and practices • Education programs that promote behaviour change • Programs that protect and enhance biodiversity values in marine, coastal and terrestrial environments <p>6. Increased climate advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise the community to take climate action, including advocacy • Education programs on effective and relevant advocacy <p>7. Circular economy and zero waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively avoid and reduce waste, and promote reduced consumption, recycling, reuse and a circular economy • Education programs that promote behaviour change • Actively support the Shire's Single-Use Plastics Policy. *Note below. | |

*Note: The Council adopted a Single Use Plastics Policy which supports Council's target of zero waste to landfill by 2030. [link Phasing out single-use plastics - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Phasing-out-single-use-plastics)

Biolink Support Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Biolink Support Grants Program

To support the community to establish, protect, and enhance biolinks on a landscape scale by building upon and ultimately connecting vegetation to improve habitat values and provide pathways that facilitate wildlife movement.

2. Eligibility Biolink Support Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of this document.

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

- Projects that include properties that are under 2ha in size
- Projects where work sites are not adjacent to each other, or within reasonable distance from one another to effectively link or create viable biolinks
- Projects on private land cannot be on one property but must take place and link biolinks on multiple properties
- Repeat projects in the same place
- Projects that are unable to be assessed using the Biolinks Decision Support Tool.

3. Funding available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$10,000

4. Desired Outcomes of the Biolink Support Grant Program

Biodiversity Conservation.

5. Assessment Criteria – Biolink Support Grant Program

| Biolinks Support Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|--|---|
| 1. Engaging with the community and building stewardship | 1. Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 1. |
| 2. Facilitating biodiversity conservation on private land | 2. Biolinks Support Grants Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Biolinks Support Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. |
| 3. Protecting biodiversity through planning and policy | 3. Biodiversity Conservation Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners. |
| 4. Building a strong knowledge base | 4. Feasibility of the project The project is able to be delivered. This includes permits, landowner permission and/or Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form completed if |
| 5. Demonstrating and leading best-practice land management | |
| 6. Building ecosystem resilience in a changing climate | |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Biolinks Support Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|--|--|
| | required. Our Project - Proposal Form (openforms.com) |
| | 5.Capacity of Applicant The Applicant's demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project |
| | 6.Budget Applicant's budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution |

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

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

For details on the assessment process and criteria, applicants should refer to '**Biolinks Support Grant – Information for applicants**'

(<https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/new-website-documents/community-services/grants/docs/biolinks-support-grant-2023-24-information-for-applicants.pdf>) prior to submitting an application.

Heritage Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Heritage Grants Program

To preserve and restore places listed in the Heritage Overlay in the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme.

2. Eligibility Heritage Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines. For an application to be eligible, the place must be listed in the schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme, and the applicant must have permission from the owner of the place to apply for the grant. Note: specific grant program's priorities below also apply.

3. Funding available

Eligible applicants may seek up to 50% of the heritage related costs or \$5,000 whichever is the lesser.

4. Desired Outcome of the Heritage Grants Program

- Heritage places in the Mornington Peninsula are preserved and restored

5. Assessment Criteria – Heritage Grants Program

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

| Heritage Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preservation of heritage fabric to prevent deterioration 2. Restoration of heritage fabric to earlier or original condition 3. Best practice heritage standards 4. Recognition of community benefits of heritage protection by private owners | <p>1.Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 1.</p> |
| | <p>2.Heritage Grants Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Heritage Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column.</p> |
| | <p>3.Conditional requirements Proposed project is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • covered by an individual Heritage Overlay in the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme, or • a contributory place in a precinct in the Heritage Overlay; and • inspected by Shire Heritage Officer once the project is completed prior to Grants payment |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Heritage Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>4. Feasibility of the project/program The application must be accompanied by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approved building and planning permits for the proposed works, if applicable, and • photos of heritage fabric to be restored |
| | <p>5. Capacity to deliver project The Applicant demonstrates capacity, skills and experience to deliver the project including, demonstration of Council's preference for preservation as opposed to replacement of the original building fabric</p> |
| | <p>6. Budget The quote / budget for delivery of the project is realistic.</p> |

6. Heritage Grants Funding of works

- 6.1 The application must be accompanied by a quote with clearly itemised works on heritage elements of the building.
- 6.2 The applicant may request a Grants amount of not more than 50% of the total cost of the works on the heritage elements of the building or \$5,000, whichever is the lesser.
- 6.3 A condition of funding is that the proposed works must be completed and inspected prior to Grants payment.

7. Post Heritage Grants Report (Acquittal)

- 7.1 All projects must be completed by 30 May of the year following the commencement of the Grants Program to allow for inspections of final works and payment by end of the financial year. Any necessary extensions of time must be approved by the Program Manager.
- 7.2 The acquittal report requires the project results achieved, learnings, photographs (with the consent of individuals in pictures), project expenditure with all relevant receipts and links to any media reports as evidence of the execution of the project.

THEME 2 GRANTS

Business Development Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Business Development Grants Program

To enable business growth and improvements

2. Eligibility for a Business Development Grants

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines and the specific grant program's priorities as per below. Only businesses with up to the equivalent of 10 full time staff are eligible to apply and purchases of equipment, including but not limited to, laptops, PCs, printers, personal devices, smart or mobile phones are ineligible for funding.

3. Funding available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$5,000.

4. Desired Outcomes of Business Development Grants Program

- Small business capacity and growth

5. Assessment Criteria – Business Development Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2 and achieve one or more of the priorities below: The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with:5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Business Development Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|--|--|
| 1. Detailed Business Planning 2. Accessible business improvement https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/files/content/public/community-services/disability-access-and-inclusion/accessible-business/mp-guidelines-accessible-information.pdf | <p>Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project/program demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2.</p> <p>Business Development Grants Priorities Proposed project/program will contribute to one or more Business Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column</p> <p>Business growth Proposed project/program demonstrates potential for growth of business through implementation / improvement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Detailed Business Planning b. Accessible business improvement for people with disabilities |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Business Development Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|---|---|
| | <p>Feasibility of the project/program The project/program is able to be delivered. This includes permits, permissions or licenses.</p> |
| | <p>Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience to deliver the project/program.</p> |
| | <p>Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project/program is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution.</p> |

5.1 Goods or services procured from local suppliers will be viewed favourably

5.2 Quotes for work are required to be attached to applications

Creative Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Creative Grants Program

To build creativity, cultural capacity and vitality in our communities

2. Eligibility Creative Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines. The specific grant program's priorities below also apply.

3. Funding available

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

4. Desired Outcomes of the Creative Grants Program

- A creative and connected community

5. Assessment Criteria – Creative Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion

| Creative Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| 1. Arts and culture engagement programs 2. Indigenous Arts and cultural Practices 3. Public Art and exhibitions 4. Priorities identified in the Arts and Culture Plan Arts and Culture Plan 2024 - Arts and Culture on the Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au) 5. Priorities identified in the Music Plan Music Plan 2025 - Arts and Culture on the Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au) | 1. Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2. |
| | 2. Creative Grants Priorities The proposed project will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contribute to one or more Creative Economy Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. and • achieve (if required) approval from the Mornington Peninsula Shire's Public Art Assessment Panel |
| | 3. Cultural creativity The degree to which the proposed project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports artists and organisations explore and create innovative new work • provides measurable economic benefit and the opportunity to showcase the region to a broader audience • increases a sense of identity, place and engagement across key diversity groups, • Involves local businesses and contributes to local employment |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Creative Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|-------------------------------|---|
| | 4. Feasibility of the project The project able to be delivered including approved permits, permissions or licenses, and complies with SUP policy Phasing out single-use plastics - Mornington Peninsula Shire (mornpen.vic.gov.au) . |
| | 5. Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience to deliver the project. |
| | 6. Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution. |

A completed **Public Art Proposal Form** must have been submitted to the public art Panel with your application for a Grant.

See link: [Public Art - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au)

Performing Arts Development Grants Program

1. **Purpose of the Performing Arts Development Grants Program**
To build creativity, capacity and sustainability in the performing arts sector.
2. **Eligibility Performing Arts Development Grants Program Funding**
Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines. The specific grant program's priorities below also apply.
3. **Funding available**
Open ended amount but successful applicants who request \$30,000 or more will need to present to the panel. Awarded for a one-year period closing 4 June or until funds are exhausted.
4. **Desired Outcomes of the Performing Arts Development Grants Program**
 - A creative and sustainable performing arts sector.
5. **Assessment Criteria – Performing Arts Development Grants Program**
Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion

| Performing Arts Development Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development and creation of innovative new performance-based work 2. Increase in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation 3. Venue support for Performing Arts 4. Delivery of tour-ready performances, engagement, and education activities 5. Support resilience, sustainability, and recovery of the performing arts sector | 1. Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2. |
| | 2. Performing Arts Development Grants Priorities The proposed project will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contribute to one or more Performing Arts Fund Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. |
| | 3. Cultural creativity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sound and clear rationale for the project idea including the reasons for the project, project aims, expected outcomes and why the funding is needed • How the activities align with one or more of the strategies outlined in the Arts & Culture Plan 2024 • The project shows innovation and creativity • Positive impact for Mornington Peninsula audiences / communities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • availability and access to creative offerings • demonstrated understanding of target audience/communities |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines



| Performing Arts Development Grants Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| <p>6. Priorities identified in the Arts and Culture Plan Arts and Culture Plan 2024 - Arts and Culture on the Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au)</p> <p>7. Priorities identified in the Music Plan Music Plan 2025 - Arts and Culture on the Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and diverse communities |

Destination Events Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Destination Events Grants Program:

To support major economic, cultural, and social impact through large scale events

2. Eligibility for Destination Events Grants

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines and the specific grant program priorities as per below. Previous applicants can apply but should show how they will become self-funded.

3. Funding available

Eligible applicants can seek up to \$25,000. Awarded for a one or two year period.

4. Desired Outcomes of the Destination Events Grants Program

- Mornington Peninsula has a reputation for liveability and a vibrant community culture

5. Assessment Criteria – Destination Events Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Destination Events Priorities | Criteria |
|---|---|
| 1. Large-scale festivals and events that attract significant off-peak visitation to the Mornington Peninsula. 2. Nationally recognised days/events 3. Priorities identified in the Arts and Culture Plan Arts and Culture Plan 2024 - Arts and Culture on the Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au) 4. Priorities identified in the Music Plan Music Plan 2025 - Arts and Culture on the Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au) | 1.Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed event demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2. |
| | 2.Significant Events Grants Priorities Proposed event will contribute to one or more priorities listed in this table in the left column. |
| | 3.Vibrant Community Culture The degree to which the proposed project/program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is innovative, accessible and inclusive and culturally aware • Provides measurable economic benefit and the opportunity to showcase the region to a broader audience • Will attract visitation to the Mornington Peninsula in off-peak times (outside of Summer, Easter periods) or, • acknowledges nationally recognised days / weeks |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Destination Events Priorities | Criteria |
|-------------------------------|--|
| | <p>4. 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. Complies with SUP policy Phasing out single-use plastics - Mornington Peninsula Shire (mornpen.vic.gov.au)</p> |
| | <p>5. 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</p> |
| | <p>6. Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project/program is realistic and demonstrates a clear pathway to financial sustainability</p> |

- 5.1 Submission of an Event Opportunity Form (EOF) and other supporting documentation is required. [Planning an Event - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au)
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 The applicant must hold a minimum of \$20 million public liability insurance relevant to their event application.

Community Events Grants Program

1. **Purpose of the Community Events Grants Program**
To enable community participation and celebrations
2. **Eligibility for Community Event Grants Program**
Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines 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 \$10,000. Awarded for a one or two year period.
4. **Desired Outcomes of the Community Events Grants Program**
 - Mornington Peninsula has Vibrant inclusive communities
5. **Assessment Criteria – Community Events Grants Program**
Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with: 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Community Events Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| 1. Local events and festivals that create opportunities for community participation and cultural and social wellbeing Events that tell local stories and celebrate the diversity of the Mornington Peninsula's community 2. Priorities identified in the Arts and Culture Plan Arts and Culture Plan 2024 - Arts and Culture on the | 1.Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed event demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 2 |
| | 2.Community Events Grants Priorities Proposed event will contribute to one or more priorities listed in this table in the left column. |
| | 3.Vibrant Community culture The degree to which the proposed project/program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 |
| | 4.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, and complies with Single Use |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Community Events Priorities | Criteria |
|--|---|
| <p>Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au)</p> <p>3. Priorities identified in the Music Plan Music Plan 2025 - Arts and Culture on the Mornington Peninsula (mornpen.vic.gov.au)</p> | <p>Plastics (SUP) policy Phasing out single-use plastics - Mornington Peninsula Shire (mornpen.vic.gov.au)</p> <hr/> <p>5.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</p> <hr/> <p>6.Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project/program is realistic.</p> |

- 5.1 Submission of an Event Opportunity Form (EOF) and other supporting documentation required. [Planning an Event - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](#)
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 The applicant must hold a minimum of \$20 million public liability insurance relevant to their event application.

THEME 3 GRANTS

Placemaking Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Placemaking Grants Program

Enhances place-based social, built and natural environments; increasing social connections contributing to vibrant townships.

2. Eligibility Placemaking Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines and the specific grant program's priorities as per below.

3. Funding available eligible applicants may seek up to \$10,000.

4. Desired Outcomes of the Placemaking Grants Program

- Social inclusion and cohesion
- Accessible community facilities and spaces, fit for purpose

5. Assessment Criteria – Placemaking Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with:

5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Placemaking Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|--|---|
| <p>1) Creates opportunities for community engagement and social connections contributing to vibrant townships.</p> <p>2) Contributes to vibrant communities fostering social inclusion and connections, community cohesion and participation.</p> <p>3) Minor community capital projects that improve amenities/facilities and/or the natural environment.</p> <p>4) Provides opportunities for new activities and initiatives in public places.</p> | <p>1) Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3.</p> |
| | <p>2) Placemaking Grants Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Placemaking Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column.</p> |
| | <p>3) Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit.</p> |
| | <p>4) 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)</p> |
| | <p>5) Capacity of Applicant</p> |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines



| Placemaking Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project.</p> <hr/> <p>6) Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project/program is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution. Applicant demonstrates limited capacity to self-fund.</p> |

Note * For information and guidelines on Murals please refer to the Shire's Mural Toolkit via the link below:

https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/new-website-documents/activities/arts-amp-culture/docs/mural-toolkit_2023.pdf

Community Support Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Community Support Grants Program

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

2. Eligibility Community Support Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines 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 28). Life saving 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 2024 or when funds have been exhausted.

4. Desired Outcomes of the Community Support Grants Program

Communities are inclusive and resilient

5. Assessment Criteria – Community Support Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with: 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Community Support Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 and connections as well as community cohesion. 5. Programs, activities and initiatives with broad community benefit 6. Supports environmental priorities e.g. Single Use Plastics Policy *Note below | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3. 2) 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. 3) Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit. 4) Feasibility of the project The project is feasible and able to be delivered. This includes permits, landowner permission, |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Community Support Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| 7. Seed funding for new projects | Community Capital Infrastructure Proposal Form and/or Public Art Proposal Form completed if required (refer 5.1 onwards below) |
| | 5) Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project. |
| | 6) 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. |

*Note: The Council adopted a Single Use Plastics Policy which supports Council's target of zero waste to landfill by 2030. [link Phasing out single-use plastics - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au)

Flexi Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Flexi Grants Program

To provide a quick response to a community need and initiatives within the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

2. Eligibility Flexi Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines 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 2024 or when funds have been exhausted.

4. Desired Outcomes of the Flexi Grants Program

- Active community groups providing continuity of service and programs to local communities

5. Assessment Criteria – Flexi Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with:
5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Flexi Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lifesaving, as well as health and safety equipment includes defibrillators and AED. 2. Supports vulnerable members of the community. 3. Enhances community groups to socially connect and reduce isolation. 4. Essential and/or unforeseen purchase of equipment to support activities 5. National or international representation of the Mornington Peninsula | 1) Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3. |
| | 2) Flexi Grants Program Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Flexi Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column. |
| | 3) Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit. |
| | 4) 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. |

Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program

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 Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines 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 2024 or when funds have been exhausted.

4. Desired Outcomes of the Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program

- Accessible and well utilised community places and spaces
- Resilient natural environment
- Social inclusion and cohesion

5. Assessment Criteria – Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with: 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Existing funded projects that are unable to be completed due to increased building materials costs. Upgrades to community facilities. Projects to that improve the natural environment. New community capital infrastructure projects. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3. Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program 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. |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Local Area Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| | <p>3) Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners as well as community benefit.</p> |
| | <p>4) 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).</p> |
| | <p>5) Capacity of Applicant The Applicant has demonstrated capacity, skills and experience including volunteers to deliver the project.</p> |
| | <p>6) 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.</p> |

Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program

1. Purpose of the Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program

To provide funding to support individuals experiencing financial hardship to participate in community life and improve personal outcomes through sustainable change.

2. Eligibility Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program Funding

Grant funding is subject to the general eligibility and ineligibility outlined on pages 7-9 of these guidelines and the specific grant program's priorities as per below.

Eligibility requires evidence of at least one of the following:

- Health care card
- Pension Card
- Support letter which demonstrates the need for financial assistance from family support service, government agency or school.

3. Funding available

Eligible applicants may seek up to \$500. This program remains open for the financial year closing 4 June 2024 or when funds have been exhausted.

An individual experiencing financial hardship is eligible to apply or a community service organisation, school welfare support, healthcare professional or approved equivalent is eligible to apply for a grant on behalf of individuals experiencing financial hardship. All applications will be assessed on an individual basis and will be determined in accordance with the assessment criteria.

Grant funds will only be paid direct to a Community Service Organisation Agency or other approved organisation.

4. Desired Outcomes of the Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program

- Ability of all residents to participate in community life.

5. Assessment Criteria – Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program

Applications must align to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3 and achieve one or more of the priorities below. The following criteria will be assessed on a scale of 1-5 with: 5 = meeting each criterion at a high level and 1 = not meeting the criterion.

| Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|---|--|
| Activities or services that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foster social inclusion and connections | 1) Council and Wellbeing Plan Proposed project demonstrates alignment to the Council and Wellbeing Plan Theme 3. |

Council's Community Investment Funding Grants Program Guidelines

| Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program Priorities | Criteria |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve health and wellbeing • participation in civic activities • participation in sport and recreation | <p>2) Access and Social Inclusion Grants Program Priorities Proposed project will contribute to one or more Access and Social Inclusion Support Grants Program priorities listed in this table in the left column.</p> |
| | <p>3) Community Partnerships Proposed project shows community engagement and collaboration with other community partners.</p> |
| | <p>4) Budget Applicant budget for delivery of the project is realistic and shows volunteer in-kind contribution as well as co-contribution.</p> |