

6.2.5 2020-21 Festival and Event and Community Wellbeing and Support Grants Recommendations

File Reference: Nil.
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Recommendation(s)

That Council:

1. Approve 51 Festival and Event Grants to the value of \$226,367.71
2. Approve 41 Community Wellbeing and Support Grants to the value of \$77,090.24

Attachments

Nil

Executive Summary

Applications for the 2020-2021 Festival and Event and Community Wellbeing and Support Grants opened for applications on Tuesday 28th January and closed on Monday 2nd March 2020. Fifty-four applications were received for the Festival and Event Grants, seeking \$243,362.71 in funding and 55 were received for the Community Wellbeing and Support Grants seeking \$158,966.85 in funding.

Following an extensive assessment process involving a multidisciplinary group of staff, senior leadership assessment and Councillor Panel assessment it is recommended that 51 applications under the Festival and Event Grant program be approved totalling \$226,367.71 and 41 applications under the Community Wellbeing and Support Grant program be approved totalling \$77,090.24.

Background

Applications across both programs were assessed by a multidisciplinary group of Council officers from the areas of Community Development, Youth Services, Social and Community Planning, Community Places, Passive and Active Reserves, Arts and Culture, Cultural Diversity, Ageing Well, Environment, Community Safety, Emergency Management, Risk and Traffic.

These assessments were then taken to the General Manager Liveable Communities and the Councillor Grant Assessment Panel for further input around the decision before going to Council Briefing for endorsement.

Below are the outcomes following this process:

Application status	Festival and Events	Community Wellbeing and Support
Fully supported	51	31
Partially supported		10

Not supported	2	14
AMOUNT ALLOCATED	\$226,367.71	\$77,090.24

Below is a breakdown of applications received via Ward:

	Central Ward	Port Ward	Ranges Ward
Festival and Event	17	14	23
Community Wellbeing and Support	27	9	19

Total applications and amounts approved via Ward:

	Central Ward	Port Ward	Ranges Ward
Festival and Event	14	14	23
Community Wellbeing and Support	18	6	17
Total Allocated	\$total FE \$88,768.71 CWSG \$38,919.94	\$total FE \$43,031.20 CWSG \$17,379.00	\$total FE \$94,567.80 CWSG \$20,791

Total applications approved per grant category via Ward:

Community Wellbeing and Support	Central Ward	Port Ward	Ranges Ward
Seeding Grant	8	3	1
Volunteer Support Grant	1		2
Small Change Grant	9	3	14
Total	18	6	17

Total applications and amounts declined due to ineligibility and/or not meeting grant criteria:

	Ward	Number of applications	Total amount
Festival and Event	Central	2	\$16,000
Community Wellbeing and Support	Central	10	\$41,727.40
	Port	3	\$10,018
	Ranges	1	\$3,000

Applications withdrawn:

	Ward	Number of applications	Total amount	Reason(s)
Festival and Event	Central	1	\$995	Have remaining funds from 2019-2020 due to COVID-19 event cancellation
Community Wellbeing and Support	Port	1	\$1000	Have remaining funds from 2019-2020 due to COVID-19 delay of project.

COVID-19 considerations for Festival and Event grant recipients

Given the impact of COVID-19 that we've seen to date in the event space and the uncertainty around future impacts, Council will maintain contact with event organisers in the lead up to their event, and in consultation with the Pandemic Team, will lend support where modifications or cancellations due to COVID-19 may need to occur.

Where an event is required to be cancelled due to COVID-19, Council will cover the event organiser's out of pocket expenses up to the value of the approved grant amount.

COVID-19 considerations for Community Wellbeing Support grant recipients

Given the impact of COVID-19 that we've seen to date and the uncertainty around future impacts, Council will maintain contact with successful grant applicants in the lead up to the delivery of their project, and in consultation with the Pandemic Team, will lend support where modifications or cancellations due to COVID-19 may need to occur.

Policy Implications

Both grant programs align to Council priorities and objectives, along with Cardinia Shire's Liveability Plan 2017 - 2029.

Relevance to Council Plan

Our Community

We will foster a strong sense of connection between Cardinia Shire's diverse communities.

1. Our diverse community requirements met
2. Engaged communities
3. Increased levels of community participation
4. Improved health and wellbeing of our residents

Climate Emergency Consideration

Nil.

Consultation/Communication

A comprehensive communications plan was developed which saw the grants widely promoted through various internal departments, newsletter distribution through the Community

Strengthening business unit, community leaders, Council's web and Facebook pages, Connect and also through the Councillor Bulletin.

The grant round opened online via Smartygrants on the 28th January and closed on the 2nd March 2020.

The staff who assessed the grants came from the following areas: Community Development, Youth Services, Social and Community Planning, Community Places, Passive and Active Reserves, Arts and Culture, Cultural Diversity, Ageing Well, Environment, Community Safety, Emergency Management, Risk and Traffic.

The Councillor Grant Assessment Panel was also consulted.

Financial and Resource Implications

The budget for 2020-2021 Festival and Event grants is \$250,000. The total amount required to fully support the 51 grant applications is \$226,367.71.

The budget for 2020-2021 Community Wellbeing Support grants is \$97,305. The total amount required to support the 41 grant applications is \$77,090.24

Conclusion

The grant programs align to and add value to Cardinia Shire's Liveability Plan. They have again proved popular with a high number of applications received.

It is recommended that 51 applications to the value of \$226,367.71 be approved under the Festival and Event grant program and 41 applications to the value of \$77,090.24 be approved under the Community Wellbeing Support grant program.