

Department	Corporate Strategy
Policy Type	External
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Policy Supersedes	n/a



Long Term Plan Grant Proposals Policy

Background

Matamata-Piako District Council (Council) currently provides funding through its Long Term Plan to groups within the community. Typically this funding is provided on an annual basis for a period of three years, however, it also applies to applications for one off funding which exceed the thresholds set out in Council's Community Ward Grants Policy.

As part of the review of its Long Term Plan, Council is reviewing the grants and level of funding it provides to community organisations.

This Policy sets out the Council's process for receiving proposals for funding through grants to community organisations for assessment and potential inclusion in its draft Long Term Plan budgets.

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to ensure the distribution of funding:

- occurs in a consistent, efficient, effective manner
- is transparent, fair and accountable
- is consistent with the purpose of Local Government - *to enable local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.*
- supports community groups and projects that align with and contribute to Council's vision and outcomes

Policy

Council's Long Term Plan grants support the operational management of community groups, to deliver services, programmes and activities that benefit the social, cultural and environmental wellbeing of Matamata-Piako.

In order to provide Council with an opportunity to consider funding proposals in the context of its overall draft budgets Council is consulting with the wider community and existing grant-holders on the need and nature of grants it provides to groups within the community.

Applicants will be invited to submit their proposals for funding to Council and to speak to their proposals in person. Council will then consider the proposals as part of its overall budgeting process in December 2017.

The purpose of the review is to establish the level of funding for grants in Council's draft Long Term Budget. This will also assist Council and community groups to have an early understanding of the level of funding that will be available from 1 July 2018.

Funding consideration will be given to community organisations and projects which:

- strengthen participation across diverse communities
- build the capability of communities to become sustainable
- work collaboratively across the community sectors
- address the needs of the local community
- provide opportunities for the wider community to increase social connection
- provide services that meet the needs of communities in high deprivation areas.

Funding may be allocated over a three year period or as a one off for individual projects.

What are the assessment criteria?

Council will consider the following when assessing a proposal for a grant:

- alignment with Council's Policy
- the need for funding in terms of the financial health of the organisation
- the availability of other funding sources
- the viability and sustainability of the project and or organisation
- the extent of the benefit to the community, including any wider benefits beyond the direct participants in the organisation
- the project cost and scope
- previous assistance given by the Council or other agencies
- the contribution to the project being provided by the organisation itself
- the contribution of the project to Council's vision and outcomes.

Funding approved under this Policy is for projects to be undertaken from 1 July to 30 June 2018 and operational costs for the period 1 July to 30 June each year from 1 July 2018 for three years.

Community Outcomes

Council has reviewed its vision and the outcomes it wishes to achieve for the community, as part of this process, it wishes to ensure that grants given to community groups align with these outcomes.

Matamata-Piako – The Place of Choice Lifestyle. Opportunities. Home.				
Enabling...				
Connected Infrastructure	Economic Opportunities	Healthy Communities	Environmental Sustainability	Vibrant Cultural Values
Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.	We are a business friendly Council.	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	We support environmentally friendly practices and technologies.	We promote and protect our arts, culture, historic, and natural resources.
Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.	Our future planning enables sustainable growth in our district	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.	Development occurs in a sustainable and respectful manner considering kawa/protocol and	We value and encourage strong relationships with iwi and other cultures, recognising wahi tapu and taonga/significant and treasured sites and whakapapa/



We have positive partnerships with external providers of infrastructure to our communities.	We provide leadership and advocacy to enable our communities to grow.	We encourage community engagement and provide sound and visionary decision making.	tikanga/customs. We engage with our regional and national partners to ensure positive environmental outcomes for our community.	ancestral heritage. Tangata Whenua with Manawhenua status (those with authority over the land under Maori lore) have meaningful involvement in decision making.
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Who can apply?

Your group should ideally be a non-commercial and not-for-profit organisation and should:

- have a high ratio of volunteers to paid employees
- have a high degree of public access to the organisation
- primarily be funded from grants, donations, subscriptions or similar and not from fees, charges or funding from central government

Individuals, commercial enterprises, and organisations supported by government agencies may be considered depending on the alignment of their project/organisation with the Policy.

What can funds be used for?

Funds approved under this policy must be used to pay for the project or operation of the organisation as specified by the proposal. If the funds are no longer required for the purpose it was granted the organisation must advise the Council and arrange for the return of funding as soon as possible. If the organisation wishes to use the funds for a different purpose it must make another application in order to do so.

Funding limits

Council will consider each application as part of its overall draft Long Term Plan grants budget. The draft Long Term Plan budget will be considered by Council in December 2017.

How to apply

Council will advise of a timeframe for applications to be made.

An application form must be completed in full and submitted to any Council Office or submitted online along with the required attachments. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.

Your organisation will be invited to present your proposal to Council in person at a date to be confirmed.

Application forms can be picked up from any Council office or downloaded from www.mpd.govt.nz.

How will I know if funding has been approved?

All complete applications will be assessed by the Council. Applicants will be notified in writing once decisions are made alongside Council's draft budget process. It is anticipated that these decisions will be made in December 2017.

Final decisions on Council Long Term Plan budgets will be made in May/June 2018.



Accountability and Reporting

All successful applications will be required to sign a funding agreement prior to payment of the grant.

Successful applicants must adhere to the funding reporting requirements as prescribed by Council in the funding agreement

Relevant legislation

Local Government Act 2002

Audience

Council and the community

Measurement and review

The Policy will be reviewed three yearly to align with the Long Term Plan.

Get in touch

If you have any enquiries or require an application form please contact us.

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Authorisation

Authorised by: Matamata-Piako District Council

