

POLICY LOCATION	Community Development	POLICY TITLE	Community Support Policy
POLICY NUMBER		DATE ADOPTED	12 April 2023
REVISION NUMBER	3	REVISION DATE	May 2026

Purpose

This policy provides an overarching framework to determine the nature and level of support provided to community groups, organisations, and committees.

Guidelines

The policy applies to eligible organisations and community groups seeking support from Council. This is defined as:

Base level criteria to be considered for all types of community support

The group or organisation is:

- an incorporated community group or auspiced by an incorporated organisation (as defined by the Australian Taxation Office),
- or a Community Asset Committee.

The group or organisation:

- has provided evidence of its financial sustainability;
- has documented evidence of need for the program, activity or service offered by the group or organisation;
- has outlined the intended community outcomes from the program, service or activity;
- will deliver the program, activity or service within the Shire;
- is willing to enter into an agreement with Council which requires the community group or organisation to undertake an acquittal and review/evaluation process; and
- is willing to publicly acknowledge Council's support in all promotional material and in the media.

Council will also consider the following aspects in determining community support:

- A Shire wide perspective of community need, access and equity;
- Avoiding duplication of service, programs and activities;
- Availability of facilities; and
- Risk management and potential liability for Council.

Council does not provide community support for:

For-profit organisations, unincorporated groups and individuals;

Council will assist through the following ways:

1. Fee waiver for hire of Council owned facilities
2. Direct annual funding agreements with the recreation reserve committees
3. Community Grants program
5. Fee waiver on planning permits required on Council owned or managed land and Crown Land.
6. Fee waiver (excluding the levy) on a Building Permit required on Council owned or managed land and Crown Land.
7. Provisions of assistance with events including signage and traffic management controls.
8. Assistance with governance arrangements and grant submissions within operational resources.
9. Sponsorship allocations as listed in the annually adopted Budget.

References**Legislation**

This policy was developed in accordance with the following legislation:

- *Local Government Act 2020*

Documents

This policy was developed in accordance with the following documents:

- Annual Budget
- Buloke Shire Council Community Grants Guidelines
- Buloke Shire Long Term Community Vision and Council Plan 2021-2025
- Financial Plan