

COMMUNITY RECOVERY WELLBEING GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2024

The Buloke Shire Council is excited to offer the Buloke Community Recovery Grants Program, **with a total fund of \$20,000** dedicated to supporting existing or planned community activities or events to foster community resilience and recovery. This grants program has been made possible by the Australian and Victorian governments and the Community Recovery Program.

APPLICATION PERIOD:

OPEN: MONDAY, 11 MARCH 2024
CLOSE: FRIDAY, 26 APRIL 2024
APPLY AT: www.buloke.vic.gov.au/community-grants-and-sponsorship



GRANT OVERVIEW:

Funding: 4 x \$5000 grants available

Eligibility: Not-for-profit groups in the Buloke Shire area, focused on community recovery



GRANT OBJECTIVES:

Strengthening community connection and inclusion
Promoting wellbeing, mental and physical health
Promoting trauma-informed navigation of recovery service, education, initiatives and programs
Ensure evidence-based recovery interventions are targeted
Encourage collaborative efforts across the community
Support self-determination principles in recovery with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Examples:

Training, events promotion, advertising, catering, venue hire and equipment hire or lease. * Community residents transport and logistics support by individual assessment.



COSTS INELIGIBLE UNDER THIS PROGRAM MAY INCLUDE (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO):

Immediate relief needs of community evacuated from their homes that are eligible for support through Emergency Relief Centres (such as emergency food, shelter, relocation costs, and emergency payments)
Projects that may have a negative impact on the environment, heritage, existing businesses, services and/or communities
Costs associated with activities not related to community recovery
Passing on funding in the form of a sponsorship or donation
Repair works or activities covered by insurance, unless required to meet safety, all access, privacy, community, or cultural requirements

Political and/or fundraising activities
Purchase of alcohol, gifts, prizes, rewards, or incentives
Project management or administration costs that are more than 5% of total funding
Asset purchases
Purchase of land, buildings or existing infrastructure, including the costs associated with the sub-division of land
Projects requiring ongoing or recurrent funding to succeed or deliver benefit
Offsetting of operating costs or salaries for existing (pre 6 October 2022) staff or contractors
Projects within the responsibility of another State, Federal or Local Government program and/or are more suitably funded (or have already been funded) under another program
Activities that will break any Federal, State, or local laws, including any current coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions or health directions



FUNDING PROCESS:

Applications will be shortlisted for approval by Emergency Recovery Victoria in accordance with the Australian and Victorian Government and Community Recovery Program.
Distribution in June 2024 following agreement completion
Project completion by 31 October 2024
Reporting with receipts, photos, and acquittals due by 30 November 2024



SUPPORT AND QUERIES:

Contacts:

Community Recovery Manager
Jo Postlethwaite

Community Recovery Coordinators
Claire Cook or Bruce Stafford

Community Recovery (Hub) Coordinator
Sam Wheelhouse

Phone: 1300 520 520

Email: MOCC@buloke.vic.gov.au



Australian Government



POLICY STATEMENT

The objective of these Guidelines is to provide a consistent process for Council to allocate funds for the purpose of operating a Community Recovery Grants Program.

This grants program is part of the Community Recovery Hubs Program jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) in relation to the Victorian Floods (commencing 6 in October 2022) (AGRN) 1037.

The Buloke Shire Council Community Recovery Hubs Program has been commissioned by Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) and is administered by Council. Council will apply appropriate, transparent and ethical management practices to its grants program to ensure that there is a balance between the responsible administration of public funds and supporting the community in a practical and effective manner.

For a copy of this policy, please visit:

<https://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/policies> or call Customer Service on 1300 520 520 to have a physical copy mailed to you.

APPLYING FOR A GRANT TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A BULOKE SHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY RECOVERY GRANT, YOU MUST BE:

- A Not-for-profit community group and non-government organisation within the Buloke Shire

WHO ISN'T ELIGIBLE:

- Profit making organisations, and political parties
- Projects which have already commenced or have been completed.
- Applicants who have previously been funded by Council and have failed to comply with the financial, project monitoring and/or reporting requirements.
- Projects that are clearly a duplication of an existing service.

BUDGET TABLES

When applying for a Grant, applicants are required to complete a budget outlining income and expenditure relevant to the project. Applications with incomplete budgets will be notified of the required amendments, and the applications will only be assessed when the budget is balanced.

Expenditure items must have a quote supplied.

FUNDING AGREEMENT:

All successful applicants must comply with the funding agreement and achieve the specified milestones within the designated timeframe.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA WILL NEED TO BE ADDRESSED ON THE APPLICATION FORM, THE ASSESSMENT PANEL WILL EVALUATE RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS AGAINST AN ASSESSMENT RUBRIC AND THIS WILL BE A PART OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT GO TO COUNCIL.

PROJECT PURPOSE

- Clearly aligned with at least one of eligible activities listed in the Emergency Recovery Victoria Community Recovery Hub Program Guidelines (Guidelines):
 - costs associated with providing on-site and outreach recovery services (including mental-health and wellbeing services)
 - community recovery capability-building initiatives (for example: training, events, education, programs, facilities hire, facilitation, catering, promotional material, advertising)
 - costs associated with running events to bring community together and enable social recovery by increasing social connection and social capital (venue hire, catering, community residents transport and logistics support within reason, equipment hire or lease).
- Community benefit
- Broader benefit to the Buloke community
- Alignment with relevant Buloke Shire Council Plans
- Pre-conditions being met.

How will the project align with the objectives?
How will you measure the impacts of the objectives?

1	2	3	4	5
Provides an in-depth response, outlining how the project links to specific objectives. Provides an in-depth response as to how the project's impacts will be measured.	Provides a detailed response, outlining how the project links to specific objectives. Provides a detailed response as to how the project's impacts will be measured.	Provides a basic response, outlining how the project links to specific objectives. Provides a basic response as to how the project's impacts will be measured.	Provides a response, outlining how the project links in general to the objectives. Provides a response as to how the project's impacts will be measured.	Provides an incomplete response, outlining how the project links to objectives. Provides an incomplete response as to how the project's impacts will be measured.

PRE-CONDITIONS MET

- ☒ Essential application documentation
- ☒ Relevant permits
- ☒ Budget complete
- ☒ Insurance Certificates attached
- ☒ Project delivery outlined

Once the available funding pool is expended no further grants will be available.

Groups proposing projects at Council-owned or managed facilities must apply for, and receive, approved Council consent in writing prior to submitting a grant application. Where this applies, groups are encouraged to contact Council in sufficient time prior to the grant opening.

During the assessment of all grants, each member of the assessment panel will be asked to declare any conflicts of interests, and this will be managed appropriately.