

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 5 September 2017

To be held at the
Council Conference and Reception Centre
City Hall, Little Malop Street, Geelong
commencing at 6.30p.m.

ADMINISTRATORS:

Dr Kathy Alexander (Chair)
Laurinda Gardner
Peter Dorling

SECTION A - PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- **Acknowledgement**
Council acknowledges Wadawurrung Traditional Owners of this land and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.
- **Apologies**
- **Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

SECTION B – REPORTS

- 1. Annual Financial Report for Year Ended 30 June 2017 1-9
- 2. 2016-17 Project Funding Carryover to 2017-18 10-15
- 3. Community Investment and Support Fund..... 16-18
- 4. Social Equity Framework 19-20
- 5. Contractual Matter (*Confidential*) 21

SECTION C – CONFIDENTIAL

1. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Source: Finance & Strategy - Financial Services
Acting Director: Peter Anderson
Index Reference: Financial Management / Reporting

***** Complete report will be available on the night of the meeting.***

2. 2016-17 PROJECT FUNDING CARRYOVER TO 2017-18

Source: Finance & Strategy - Financial Services
Acting Director: Peter Anderson
Index Reference: Financial Management / Reporting

***** Complete report will be available on the night of the meeting.***

3. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AND SUPPORT FUND (CISF)

Source: Community Life – Connected Communities
Director: Linda Quinn
Index Reference: Grants and Funding – Reports

Purpose

To seek endorsement of interim panel arrangements for assessment of the Community Investment and Support Fund (Community Grants Program).

Background

At its ordinary meeting on 23 May 2017, Council endorsed the community grants framework and funding model for the Community Investment and Support Fund (CISF). The aim of the CISF is to streamline Council's grants process and provide clear guidelines to support community groups through the application process.

The CISF grants are available to not-for-profit community organisations and not for-profit businesses.

The 2017/18 CISF budget is \$5.648M spread across five program areas as outlined in the framework (Attachment 2). A competitive grant round of \$1.613M will be allocated to the Grant Programs and Infrastructure Fund streams. An allocation of \$2.805 has already been made through both the Strategic Partnerships and Sponsorships and Donations streams in line with existing funding agreements. The remaining \$1.230M has been allocated to Geelong Major Events Programs, managed through Section 86 committee.

Key Issues

- Information sessions and advertising of grant opportunities through the CISF have been completed. Applications opened 14 August and will close 25 September 2017.
- It is proposed that in the 2017/18 CISF grant round the assessment panels will be chaired by an independent member supported by Council officers who will provide relevant advice and information on each funding stream. The independent panel member will be selected based on knowledge of local government and experience in the disbursement of grants to community groups. Their primary role will be to ensure that guidelines have been followed, criteria met and Council's policy and management procedure implemented.
- All grant streams will use a set of basic criteria consistent with Greater Geelong – A Clever and Creative Future, and the four year Council Plan priorities.
- It is proposed for future rounds of the CISF that independent panels are set up through an expression of interest (Eoi) process. The Eoi process will be advertised locally and promoted among broad professional and community networks to maximise the potential for diverse representation and appointment.
- Future panels will be established for each grant stream with members selected based on their interest and knowledge of community activities and aspirations. A further report will be presented to Council early 2018 detailing the new assessment process.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the recruitment of an independent panel member to assist with the assessment of grant applications through the 2017/18 Community Investment Support Fund.

Attachment 1

Discussion

The CISF brings together 12 funding programs into one single investment model, with allocations based on funding streams aligned with the vision, Greater Geelong – A Clever and Creative Future.

Implementation of the CISF has included the development of a grant program timeline. (Attachment 3).

A number of community information sessions have been held during August outlining all available grant opportunities. These have been well received by the community with good levels of attendance and many enquiries.

Financial Implications

The budget allocation for the 2017/18 CISF will be \$5.648M spread across five program areas. \$1.613M will be allocated to the Grant Programs and the Infrastructure Fund. An allocation of \$2.805 has already been made through both the Strategic Partnerships and Sponsorships and Donations streams. Recipients of these grants have been advised that in future years they will be required to make an application for funding through the CISF. The remaining \$1.230M has been allocated to Geelong Major Events Programs and managed through a Section 86 committee. Minor costs may also be incurred to provide for the independent panel member. Should this be required, funds will be sourced from existing budgets.

Stakeholder Consultation and Communication

Community information sessions have been held during August 2017 to inform the community of the CISF. A further communication and engagement plan will be developed to invite community participation in assessment panels in early 2018.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The CISF aligns with the vision, Greater Geelong – A Clever and Creative Future. The endorsed framework and related guidelines provide the parameters for managing and delivering the CISF to the community.

Alignment to City Plan

The CISF aligns with City Plan and Greater Geelong – A Clever and Creative Future.

Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest is identified as part of this report's development.

Risk Assessment

Grants will be governed in accordance with Council's monitoring, reporting and accountability framework. The engagement of the independent panel member will include processes to ensure probity and conflict of interest issues are addressed.

Community Investment & Support Fund (CISF)

\$5.6 million (2017/18 proposed budget estimates)

Funding Themes - Based on Our Future Indicators of a successful community



Funding disbursed through five main streams -

CISF - Grant Programs \$613,000

- **Approach:** Competitive
- **Term:** Normally one year
- **Scope of funding:** Grants for a specific purpose that demonstrates community benefit and align with CoGG strategic Goals. Includes support for projects, activities, festivals, events, equipment, minor capital works under a range of categories. Some specific activities are funded for more than one year.
- **Level:** Small grants generally ranging between \$400 & \$6,000 dependant on guidelines relating to the specific category.
- **Note:** Process to commence 1st quarter 2017/18.

CISF - Community Facility Infrastructure Fund - \$1,000,000

- **Approach:** Competitive
- **Term:** One year to multi-year
- **Scope of funding:** Funding for capital works projects in community & sporting facilities. Projects required to demonstrate community benefit and align with CoGG strategic goals.
- **Level:** Two tiered - Small grants up to \$50,000 for planning related activities to support proposed future capital works; Larger grants up to \$300,000 to undertake capital works.
- **Co-funding contribution expectation.**
- **Note:** New program – grant process to commence 2nd quarter 2017/18.

CISF - Sponsorships & Donations \$65,000

- **Approach:** Application & Negotiated
- **Term:** Short term event or activity .
- **Scope of funding:** *Sponsorship* - Contribution to event or activity in exchange for a negotiated mutual benefit. *Donation* - voluntary, freely given payment that is charitable in nature and aligns with CoGG strategic objectives.
- **Level:** Negotiated. Donation amounts have been identified as part of Council's 2017/18 proposed budget to specific organisations.
- **Note:** The Donations stream will be reviewed during 2017/18.

CISF - Strategic Partnerships \$2,740,000

- **Approach:** Negotiated
- **Term:** One or Multiple Year
- **Scope of funding:** Funding made to specific key organisations to assist in meeting CoGG strategic Goals and objectives and demonstrate community benefit. Funding towards operating costs, programs, events and activities.
- **Level:** Strategic Partners have been identified to receive funding as part of Council's 2017/18 proposed budget.
- **Note:** The Strategic Partnerships stream will be reviewed during 2017/18.

CISF - Geelong Major Events \$1,2300.000

- **Approach:** EOI → Application - via Section 86 Committee of Council.
- **Term:** One or Multiple Year
- **Scope of funding:** Geelong Major Events (GME) is a Section 86 Committee of the City of Greater Geelong which supports the attraction, assistance and funding of major events. Established set criteria is applied in accord with the strategy.
- **Level:** Negotiated.

Council Approach



Community Approach



* if funding request is successful)

2017/18 Process Timelines
Community Investment and Support Fund



4. SOCIAL EQUITY PRINCIPLES

Source:	Community Life - Healthy Communities
Director:	Linda Quinn
Index Reference:	Community Services and Development/Community and Social Planning – Human Rights

Purpose

To approve social equity principles that will underpin all City of Greater Geelong activities.

Background

The Vision, Geelong: Clever and Creative City-Region was approved by Council on 25 July 2017. A key community aspiration within this vision is that Geelong will be an inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

The City of Greater Geelong (the City) plays a fundamental role in delivery of the Vision. It provides over 126 services to the community and provides infrastructure across communities to support delivery of these services. The City also advocates on the community's behalf to other levels of government to attract investment to meet service and infrastructure needs. It requires that a set of social equity principles are applied to all aspects of service and infrastructure planning, resource allocation and delivery.

Key Issues

- The current socio-economic environment for Geelong is characterised by a major divide in SEIFA scores across the region. This is exacerbated by a similar divide in the provision of Council facilities and services.
- It will be difficult to achieve any of the aspirations contained in the Vision, Geelong: Clever and Creative City-Region unless inequity is tackled head on. All Council activities must address the following principles:
 1. All activities of the City will be informed by up to date demographic and geographic information on social equity in the region which identifies priority areas and groups for attention.
 2. Planning of all activities will be informed by effective, focused partnerships and engagement with priority groups and areas, aimed at fully understanding the particular needs and obstacles they experience in accessing services and facilities.
 3. Service and infrastructure design, location, communication and support arrangements will address the particular needs and obstacles faced by priority areas and groups.

Recommendation

That Council :

- 1) adopts the principles outlined above;**
- 2) develops its annual City Plan in line with the principles;**
- 3) requires that all reports it receives account for how the principles have been applied; and**
- 4) requires that all staff have the skills and knowledge to apply the principles in their work.**

Attachment 1

Discussion

The City of Greater Geelong population forecast for 2017 is 239,003 and is expected to grow to 320,791 by 2036.

There is also increasing population diversity and evidence of significant differences between the community's experience of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics broadly defines relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage in terms of people's access to material and social resources, and their ability to participate in society. The SEIFA indexes indicate the average socio-economic characteristics of the people, families, and households living in the area.

The SEIFA Index of Disadvantage at the 2011 Census showed that Norlane - North Shore had the lowest rating of all Greater Geelong's small areas (745.4) followed by Whittington (825), Thomson - Breakwater (859.8) and Corio (856). In contrast, the least disadvantaged area in Greater Geelong is Wandana Heights (1,102.7).

These barriers to participation can be compounded by factors such as gender, life stage, having a disability, being Aboriginal or coming from a specific cultural background.

Council has a range of strategies in place to support community members experiencing barriers to participation. Social equity principles will enable all aspects of Council's future policy development, community engagement and resource allocation to achieve fairness and participation.

Community interest for a pro-active approach to social equity was confirmed in the community engagement outcomes for the Our Future project.

Financial Implications

No impact to budget.

Stakeholder Consultation and Communication

Stakeholder feedback was sought through the Future Geelong consultation process.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The establishment of social equity principles will contribute to Council's compliance with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act (2006).

Alignment to City Plan

The social equity principles align to City Plan and the Clever and Creative vision.

Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest is identified as part of this report's development.

Risk Assessment

The adoption of social equity principles will avoid the risk of inequity in Council's future policy development, community engagement and resource allocation.

Environmental Implications

No environmental implications have been identified in the development of this report.

5. CONTRACTUAL MATTER

Source: City Services - Capital Projects
Acting Director: Peter Godfrey

Recommendation

That in accordance with Section 89 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1989, this contractual matter be considered at the conclusion of all other business at which time the meeting be closed to members of the public.