



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

**ITEM 7.7 - ROUND TWO OF THE 2023/24
COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS PROGRAM
ALLOCATIONS**

**22 MAY 2024
7:00 PM**

TO BE HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
23-25 CHELMSFORD PLACE
LEETON NSW 2705

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

**7.7 ROUND TWO OF THE 2023/24 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING
GRANTS PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS2**

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

ITEM 7.7 ROUND TWO OF THE 2023/24 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS

RECORD NUMBER	24/94
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF24/97
AUTHOR/S	Manager Community Development & Cultural Services
APPROVER/S	Director Economic & Community Development

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the applications received for Round Two of the 2023/24 Community Strengthening Grants program, and to seek Council's approval to allocate the funds as recommended by the Community Grant Funding Working Group.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Approves the following applications for funding under Round Two of the 2023/24 Community Strengthening Grants program:

Rotary Club of Leeton	\$1,500.00
Leeton Rapid Relief Team	\$1,000.00
Nuranurra Support Services	\$1,500.00
Yanco Museum Miniature Railway	\$2,000.00
Murrumbidgee Mavericks	\$643.10
Murrumbidgee Carriage Driving Club	\$1,200.00
MIA Bootleggers	\$ 500.00
Leeton United Football Club	\$1,300.00
Leeton Town Band	\$850.00
Leeton Lions Club	\$1,500.00
TOTAL	<u>\$11,996.10</u>

REPORT

(a) Background

Community groups and organisations can apply for financial assistance, resources and/or covering the costs of hiring Council facilities under Council's Grants Policy.

Council adopted a Grants Policy and updated Community Grants Program Guidelines in May 2022. The policy and guidelines articulate community grant funding criteria and the acquittals process.

Round Two of the Community Strengthening Grants program opened on 1 March 2024 and was promoted throughout March and April 2024 with a closing date of 30 April 2024.

Methods of promotion included multiple posts on Council's Facebook and Instagram pages, distribution to Leeton Connect to promote through their networks, and conversations with local community groups.

(b) Discussion

Fourteen (14) applications were received, seeking a total value of \$26,459.60.

As per the policy, the applications were first assessed by Council staff to determine their eligibility. The Community Grant Funding Working Group, met on 20 May 2024 to assess the applications and was attended by Cr. Nardi and Cr. Smith.

The Working Group also considered the funding applicants had received from the Council in the past (**Attachment 1**).

The following recommendations are made by the Working Group:

Name	Request	Alignment with Community Strategic Plan (CSP)	Amount Requested (\$)	Amount Allocated (\$)	Reason for Decision
Rotary Club of Leeton	Upgrade the Main Gates stage 3 of the Leeton Showgrounds	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$2,000	\$1,500	Good alignment with CSP, Stage 2 previously funded by Council.
Leeton Rapid Relief	Leeton Winter Comfort Project to purchase blankets, Care Kits containing personal hygiene items, food packs and soap bars.	Focus Area 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community	\$2,000	\$1,000	Good alignment with CSP, no other funding partners.
Nuranurra Support Services	Plant the seed program earthmoving to create a Yarning Circle with a redgum Totem Pole and surrounding seats at 114 Contour Road Murrami.	Focus Area 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community	\$1,500	\$1,500	Good alignment with CSP, not funded by Council before.

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
 Ordinary Council Meeting - Wednesday 22 May 2024

Yanco Museum Miniature Railways	To build a station shade roof to keep children safe in the harsh summer sun	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$2,000	\$2,000	Good alignment with CSP, not funded by Council before.
Murrumbidgee Mavericks	To support the new formation of the Waratah State League Basketball Team to assist with court hire costs and training sessions	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$1,558	\$643.10	Supported by Council with court fees charged at community rate.
Murrumbidgee Carriage Driving Club	Tables, Chairs and BBQ for the club's monthly training weekends and annual competition	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$2,000	\$1,200	Prices for outdoor furniture are currently reduced.
MIA Bootleggers	Top dress surface of the penning arena with pit sand for the safety of competitors and horses at the Leeton Show Grounds	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$2,000	\$500	Lack of information around fundraising & sponsorship contributions.
Leeton United Football Club	To purchase 2 sets of foldable futsal goals	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$2,000	\$1,300	Good alignment with Comm Strat Plan / no other funding partner
Leeton Town Band	Funding for hire of space catering and music scores for workshops and a concert with Kapooka Band on a come try me day to boost recruitment	Focus Area 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community	\$2,000	\$850	Good alignment with CSP, supported by Council annually.
Leeton Lions Club	Purchase a train camera system to enhance safety aboard the Lions Train	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$1,601.60	\$1,500	Council funding 90% of materials, no other funding partner.
Riverina Riding Club	To install new water lines at the grounds	Focus Area 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community	\$2,000	\$0	Insufficient information has been invited to apply again with at least 2 quotes.
St Joseph's Parents and Friends	To assist with the costs of a student Art Exhibition "Be the Light"	Focus Area 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community	\$2,000	\$0	Insufficient information, invited to apply again after talking with Council staff.

Leeton Jump Start	Funding for a new website	Focus Area 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community	\$1,800	\$0	More information, additional quote (local) required, invited to apply again.
Leeton Harness Racing Club Inc.	Funding to replace ring lock fencing on the outside of the racing track at the Leeton Show Grounds	Focus Area 2 - A safe, active and healthy community	\$2,000	\$0	Invited to apply again after talking with grants officer / misalignment with CSP.
TOTALS			\$26,459.60	\$11,996.10	

Council's will provide feedback to the applicants, that received partial or no funding, to improve future applications.

(c) Options

THAT Council:

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Community Grant Funding Working Group. ***This is the recommended option.***
2. Does not endorse the recommendations of the Community Grant Funding Working Group and requests amendments.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

There is \$25K allocated to the Community Strengthening Grants Program for the 2023/24 financial year. The recommendation is to allocate \$11,996.10 to Round Two.

There will be no remaining budget for the Community Strengthening Grants if the recommendation is endorsed.

There is no remaining budget for Quick Response Grants.

There is \$1,956 remaining in the Youth Development Grants to be allocated before the end of the financial year.

(b) Policy

Grants Policy
 Community Grants Program Guidelines

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) states the following a:

1. Council may, in accordance with a resolution of the Council, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions.
2. Proposed recipient who acts for private gain is not ineligible to be granted financial assistance but must not receive any benefit under this section until at least 28 days' public notice of the Council proposal to pass the necessary resolution has been given.

(d) Risk

There is a low risk that successful applicants may utilise the funds in a way that is not agreed upon. A funding agreement and acquittal process aims to mitigate this risk.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

Staff have consulted with each organisation that has requested financial assistance and Leeton Connect who assisted some of the applicants.

(b) Internal

Councillors on the Community Grant Funding Working Group

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

CSP FOCUS AREA 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community – DELIVERY PROGRAM FUNCTIONAL AREA 1 - Community Services and Community Development - DELIVERY PROGRAM ACTIVITY 1.5 - Offer advice, active support and grants to community groups including: A community grants program; Annual donations to the Town Band, Men's Shed and Eisteddfod Society; Annual school prizes; Low and subsidised leases/licences for community groups; Payroll services for grant funded staff at Leeton Connect, Leeton Multicultural Support Group and Jumpstart - OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIVITY 1.5.1 - Support the community by offering a Community Grants program".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Details of Previous Funding Received by Applicants

Council Community Grant Funding Received in the Last 3 Years

Rotary Club of Leeton

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	Upgrade the Main Gates stage 3 of the Leeton Show Ground	\$1,500
CSG 2022-23 R2	Landscaping of Showground Entrance.	\$1,500

Leeton Rapid Relief

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	Leeton Winter Comfort Project to purchase blankets, Care Kits containing personal hygiene items, food packs and soap bars.	\$1,000

Nuranurra

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	Plant the seed program earthmoving to create a Yarning Circle with a redgum Totem Pole and surrounding seats at 114 Contour Road Murrami.	\$1,500

Yanco Museum Miniature Railways

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	To build a station shade roof to keep children safe in the harsh summer sun	\$2,000

Murrumbidgee Mavericks

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	To support the new formation of the Waratah State League Basketball Team to assist with court hire costs and training sessions	\$643.10

Murrumbidgee Carriage Driving Club

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	Tables, Chairs and BBQ for the club's monthly training weekends and annual competition	\$1,200

MIA Bootleggers

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	Top dress surface of the penning arena with pit sand for the safety of competitors and horses at the Leeton Show Grounds	\$500

Leeton United Football Club

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	To purchase 2 sets of foldable futsal goals	\$1,300

Leeton Town Band

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	Funding for hire of space catering and music scores for workshops and a concert with Kapooka Band on a come try me day to boost recruitment	\$850

Lions Club of Leeton

Funding	Project	Council grant
CSG 2023-24 R2	Purchase a train camera system to enhance safety aboard the Lions Train	\$1,500
CSG 2018-19 R2	Purchase medi alerts	\$3,500