



AGENDA

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

17 OCTOBER 2016

MEMBERSHIP:

Mr M Kneipp (Administrator).

The meeting is scheduled to commence at 5.15 pm in the Dubbo Chamber.

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PRAYER:

O God, Grant that by the knowledge of thy will, all we may resolve shall work together for good, we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

CCL16/188 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID16/1902)

CCL16/189 PUBLIC FORUM (ID16/1903)

ADMINISTRATOR MINUTES:

CCL16/190 STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM (ID16/1888)

The Council had before it the Administrator Minute regarding Stronger Communities Fund Community Grants Program

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ADMINISTRATOR MINUTE: Stronger Communities Fund Community Grants Program

AUTHOR: Administrator
REPORT DATE: 11 October 2016
TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1888

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the merger of the former Dubbo City Council and Wellington Council, the NSW State Government provided \$10M under the Strong Communities Fund to the newly merged council to improve community services and facilities. Council has allocated \$1M of the \$10M funding to the Community Grants Program component of the Stronger Communities Fund for grants to local incorporated not for profit community groups for projects that build more vibrant, sustainable and inclusive local communities. This \$1M is split over three (3) financial years - \$350,000 in 2016/2017; \$350,000 in 2017/2018 and \$300,000 plus accumulated interest in 2018/2019. The remaining \$9M has been allocated to Council projects.

Applications for funding were invited from 11 July 2016 to 19 August 2016 and eleven (11) community information sessions were held in Dubbo, Wellington, Geurie, Eumungerie, Ballimore, Euchareena, Stuart Town, Mumbil, and Wongarbon between 15 July and 21 July 2016.

106 applications were received requesting a total of \$2,453,298. A Panel has assessed the applications under the guidance of an independent probity adviser.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has received \$10M under the Stronger Communities Fund from the State Government. \$1M has been allocated to the Community Grants Program component of the Stronger Communities Fund to be split over three financial years - \$350,000 in 2016/2017; \$350,000 in 2017/2018 and \$300,000 plus accumulated interest in 2018/2019.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

All applications approved for funding comply with the guidelines and funding criteria set by the NSW State Government.

RECOMMENDATION

That \$349,580 funding under the Stronger Communities Fund Community Grants Program be allocated as follows for 2016/2017:

Geurie Memorial Hall	\$12,250.00
Dubbo City Croquet Club	\$2,002.00
Dubbo Running Festival Inc.	\$16,400.00
Orana Broadcasters	\$10,000.00
Wellington Westhaven Contact Group Inc.	\$29,105.00
Wellington Junior Soccer Club Inc.	\$16,200.00
Emmanuel Care Inc.	\$7,500.00
Wellington Amateur Theatrical Society Inc.	\$10,580.00
Stuart Town Advancement Association Inc.	\$22,328.00
Dubbo Rescue Squad Inc.	\$6,500.00
Wellington Amateur Swimming Club	\$15,293.00
Dubbo Show Society	\$25,000.00
Euchareena Village Progress Association Inc.	\$38,400.00
Mount Arthur Reserve Trust	\$3,586.00
Uniting NSW	\$29,392.00
South Dubbo Cricket Club	\$21,000.00
Dubbo and District Parent Support Group for Deaf / Hearing Impaired Inc.	\$4,000.00
Orana Support Service Inc.	\$23,500.00
Eumungerie and District Recreation Association Inc.	\$22,735.00
Binjang Community Radio	\$10,050.00
Dubbo Westside Rugby League Football Club	\$7,700.00
Wongarbon Branch of CWA NSW	\$10,215.00
Talbragar Branch of CWA NSW	\$5,844.00

Michael Kneipp
Administrator

BACKGROUND

As part of the merger of the former Dubbo City Council and Wellington Council, the NSW State Government provided \$10M under the Strong Communities Fund to the newly merged council to improve community services and facilities. Council has allocated \$1M of the \$10M funding to the Community Grants Program component of the Stronger Communities Fund for grants to local incorporated not for profit community groups for projects that build more vibrant, sustainable and inclusive local communities. This \$1M is split over three (3) financial years - \$350,000 in 2016/2017; \$350,000 in 2017/2018 and \$300,000 plus accumulated interest in 2018/2019. The remaining \$9M has been allocated to Council projects.

REPORT

Applications for funding were invited from 11 July 2016 to 19 August 2016 and eleven (11) community information sessions were held in Dubbo, Wellington, Geurie, Eumungerie, Ballimore, Euchareena, Stuart Town, Mumbil, and Wongarbone between 15 July and 21 July 2016.

106 applications were received requesting a total of \$2,453,298. The total for all 106 projects including cash and in kind support from community groups totalled \$4,042,962.

To be successful for funding, community projects had to meet the following criteria:

- Deliver social, cultural, economic or environmental benefits to local communities
- Address an identified community priority
- Be well defined with a clear budget
- Demonstrate that any ongoing or recurrent costs of the project can be met by the community group once grant funding has been expended
- The organisation must demonstrate the capacity to manage funds and deliver the project.

An Assessment Panel comprising the Dubbo Regional Council Administrator; a representative nominated by the Local State Member of Parliament, the Hon Troy Grant MP; the Director, Greater Western NSW Regional Coordination Branch of the Department of Premier and Cabinet; under the guidance of an independent probity adviser, Michael McKenna, of the Luka Group, met on 11 October 2016 to determine recommendations on the successful applications. Appended to this report as **Appendix 1** is a copy of a statement from Mr McKenna as probity adviser stating that all successful applications met the Community Grants Program criteria as per the Stronger Communities Fund Guidelines and that the deliberations on the applications by Assessment Panel members were conducted without bias or prejudice. The Assessment Panel recommendations are now submitted to Council for determination.

Following deliberations, the Assessment Panel made the following recommendations on the applications for funding :

Applicant	Project	Recommended Funding
Geurie Memorial Hall	Installation of reverse cycle air – conditioning	\$12,250.00
Dubbo City Croquet Club	Purchase of six new croquet mallets	\$2,002.00
Dubbo Running Festival Inc.	Erect 12 light poles along the Tracker Riley Cycleway	\$16,400.00
Orana Broadcasters	Purchase equipment for Community Radio Station DC-FM 88.9	\$10,000.00
Wellington Westhaven Contact Group Inc.	Replacement of the Westhaven Bus	\$29,105.00
Wellington Junior Soccer Club Inc.	Upgrade toilet facilities at Pioneer Park and purchase portable goal posts to facilitate expansion of summer football competition	\$16,200.00
Emmanuel Care Inc.	Buninyong Conversational English Playgroup	\$7,500.00
Wellington Amateur Theatrical Society Inc.	Upgrade wireless audio equipment to comply with ACMA standards	\$8,900.00
Wellington Amateur Theatrical Society Inc.	Purchase and install 6 Metal clothing racks	\$1,680.00
Stuart Town Advancement Association Inc.	Moxon Park beautification – open air stage	\$22,328.00
Dubbo Rescue Squad Inc.	Replace existing tools and equipment	\$6,500.00
Wellington Amateur Swimming Club	Purchase and installation of new electronic timing equipment	\$15,293.00
Dubbo Show Society	Purchase of transportable ablution blocks each with toilet, shower and vanity	\$25,000.00
Euchareena Village Progress Association Inc.	Replacement of water pipes for a village water supply project	\$38,400.00
Mount Arthur Reserve Trust	Upgrade of the Trig/Waterloo Trails	\$3,586.00
Uniting NSW	120 Countdown Learner Driver Program	\$29,392.00
South Dubbo Cricket Club	Construct two cricket nets at Lady Cutler East Park	\$21,000.00
Dubbo and District Parent Support Group for Deaf / Hearing Impaired Inc.	Purchase of audiology equipment	\$4,000.00
Orana Support Service Inc.	Expansion of the West Dubbo Project to operate on five nights a week and develop a wider range of activities and support	\$23,500.00
Eumungerie and District	Upgrade kitchen/canteen facilities at the	\$15,235.00

Recreation Association Inc.	Recreation Ground Clubhouse	
Eumungerie and District Recreation Association Inc.	Extend storage facilities, extend covered seating area and purchase rainwater tanks	\$4,500.00
Eumungerie and District Recreation Association Inc.	Construct new practice cricket nets	\$3,000.00
Binjang Community Radio	Replacement of studio computer network equipment	\$10,050.00
Dubbo Westside Rugby League Football Club	Access to free training/learning opportunities in sports trainer and league safe courses	\$7,700.00
Wongarbon Branch of CWA NSW	Upgrade perimeter fence and painting of building	\$10,215.00
Talbragar Branch of CWA NSW	Maintenance and repairs to building; upgrade front fence and painting gates; replacement of sensor lights At front and back of hall	\$5,844.00

I concur with the recommendations of the Assessment Panel.

Appendices:

- 1 Stronger Communities Fund - Probity Letter Luka Group

Luka Group

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11th October 2016

Dubbo Regional Council
Attention : Mr Michael Kneipp
PO Box 81
DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Sir,

RE : STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND

I was appointed by Dubbo Regional Council as the Probity Officer for Dubbo Regional Council Stronger Communities Fund Panel. This Committee met today and I was in attendance for the duration of the meeting.

The meeting was conducted in a professional manner and the deliberations and assessment process was conducted without any bias or prejudice. The Panel referred and assessed each application, before final agreement on the acceptance/non-acceptance of the grant proposals.

Each successful application met the Community Grants Program Criteria as per the Stronger Communities Fund Guidelines.

Other observations by myself were:

- There was considerable evidence that each Panel Member had spent considerable time reviewing each application prior to the meeting.
- Equal input by each Panel Member was sought and encouraged during the meeting.
- Open and willing discussions took place by all Panel Members on each application.
- There was no biased or unfair opinion offered by any of the Panel members.
- A summary of each application was made by Dubbo Regional Council staff which was concise and well presented. This helped each Panel Member assess the applications and was used by the Panel Members in conjunction with the full project applications.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully
LUKA GROUP

Per: 

MICHAEL MCKENNA
MANAGING PARTNER



Embroidered by an approved unit for
Professional Standards Legislation

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