

10 November 2025

At the conclusion of the Community Services and Facilities
Committee

Innovation, Business and Economy Committee

Agenda

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes**
- 2. Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**
- 3. Grants and Sponsorship - Economic Grants**

Disclaimer, Terms and Guidelines for Speakers at Council Committees

As part of our democratic process, the City invites members of the community to speak directly to Councillors during Committee meetings about items on the agenda.

Webcast

In accordance with the *City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice*, Committee meetings are recorded and webcast live on the City of Sydney website at www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Members of the public attending a council or committee meeting may have their image, voice and personal information (including name and address) recorded, publicly broadcast and archived for up to 12 months.

Consent

By attending a council or committee meeting, members of the public consent to this use of their image, voice and personal information.

Disclaimer

Statements made by individuals at a council or committee meeting, and which may be contained in a live stream or recording of the meeting are those of the individuals making them, and not of the City. To be clear, unless set out in a resolution of council, the City does not endorse or support such statements.

The City does not accept any liability for statements made or actions taken by individuals during a Council or Committee meeting that may be contrary to law, including discriminatory, defamatory or offensive comments. Such statements or actions are not protected by privilege and may be the subject of legal proceedings and potential liability, for which the City takes no responsibility.

Guidelines

To enable the Committee to hear a wide range of views and concerns within the limited time available, we encourage people interested in speaking at Committee to:

1. Register to speak by calling Secretariat on 9265 9702 or emailing secretariat@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au before 10.00am on the day of the meeting.
2. Check the recommendation in the Committee report before speaking, as it may address your concerns so that you just need to indicate your support for the recommendation.
3. Note that there is a three minute time limit for each speaker (with a warning bell at two minutes) and prepare your presentation to cover your major points within that time.
4. Avoid repeating what previous speakers have said and focus on issues and information that the Committee may not already know.
5. If there is a large number of people interested in the same item as you, try to nominate three representatives to speak on your behalf and to indicate how many people they are representing.

Committee meetings can continue until very late, particularly when there is a long agenda and a large number of speakers. This impacts on speakers who have to wait until very late, as well as City staff and Councillors who are required to remain focused and alert until very late. At the start of each Committee meeting, the Committee Chair may reorder agenda items so that those items with speakers can be dealt with first.

Committee reports are available at www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Item 1.

Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the following meetings of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee are submitted for confirmation:

Meeting of 16 June 2025

Item 2.**Statement of Ethical Obligations**

In accordance with section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the Lord Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath or Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the City of Sydney and the City of Sydney Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act, to the best of their ability and judgement.

Disclosures of Interest

Pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice and the City of Sydney Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to disclose and manage both pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting.

In both cases, the nature of the interest must be disclosed.

This includes receipt of reportable political donations over the previous four years.

Item 3.

Grants and Sponsorship - Economic Grants

File No: S117676

Summary

The City of Sydney's Grants and Sponsorship programs support initiatives and projects that build the social, cultural, environmental and economic life of the city.

The annual Grants and Sponsorship programs have 2 main rounds: Summer and Winter. The Winter round was open from 8 July to 12 August 2025. This report covers the following funding program:

- Innovation and Ideas grant program

For the Innovation and Ideas grant program, 80 applications were received. This report recommends a total of 10 grants for a total value of \$303,256 in cash and \$11,688 value-in-kind in the 2025/26 financial year.

All grant recipients will be required to sign a contract, meet specific performance outcomes and acquit their grant. All figures in this report exclude GST.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Innovation and Ideas Grant program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant or value-in-kind for the Innovation and Ideas Grant program as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer agreements with any organisation approved for a grant or sponsorship under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipient will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided.

Attachments

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Attachment A. | Recommended for Funding - Innovation and Ideas Grant Program |
| Attachment B. | Not Recommended for Funding - Innovation and Ideas Grant Program |
| Attachment C. | Data Report on Outcomes of Funding - Innovation and Ideas Grant Program |

Background

1. The City of Sydney's (the City's) Grants and Sponsorship Program supports residents, businesses and not-for-profit organisations to undertake initiatives and projects that build the social, cultural, environmental and economic life of the city.
2. On 8 July 2025, the City announced the grants program as being open for applications on its website, with grant applications closing on 12 August 2025. This was for a period of 5 weeks.
3. The funding program with key outcomes for the economic pillar is:
 - (a) Innovation and Ideas grant program
4. The Innovation and Ideas grant program is open to eligible not-for-profit organisations, incorporated associations, corporations, co-operatives and trustees of a trust.
5. In the Winter round of the Innovation and Ideas Grant program 35 applications were received from for-profit organisations, and 5 are recommended in this report:
 - (a) Australian School of Entrepreneurship Pty Ltd
 - (b) Creative Plus Business Group Pty Ltd
 - (c) Curiosity Centre Pty Ltd
 - (d) For a Mate Pty Ltd
 - (e) Mapa Art & Architecture Pty Ltd

Grants assessment process

6. The City's Grants and Sponsorship Program is highly competitive. Applications that are not recommended have either not scored as highly against the assessment criteria as the recommended applications or have incomplete or insufficient information. The City's Grants and Sponsorship team provides feedback to unsuccessful applicants.
7. The assessment process includes advice and recommendations from a suitably qualified assessment panel. The applications are scored against defined assessment criteria for each grant program as well as the integrity of the proposed budget, project plan, partnerships, contributions and connection to the local community and industry sectors.
8. The assessment criteria for the Grant program was:
 - Need – why is it needed? This is where you describe what you are doing, why it is important and what will happen as a result of you doing this project.
 - Experience – how will you create the project, your skills and ability and your experience in doing projects. This may include a project plan.
 - Community benefit – who will benefit from your project, how will they benefit and how have you included the diverse communities in the local area.

- City of Sydney funding priorities – your project should consider one of the funding priorities as these are identified areas that need assistance.
9. The assessment meeting for the Innovation and Ideas grant program was held on 17 September 2025. All applications were assessed against the relevant publicised assessment criteria. The assessment panels consisted of City staff from City Life, Strategy and Urban Analytics Teams.
 10. Once Council approves recommended applications, a contract is developed which includes conditions that must be adhered to and acquitted against.
 11. It is expected that all successful applicants will work cooperatively with relevant City staff throughout the project for which they have received funding.
 12. All grants and sponsorships are recommended on the condition that any required approvals, permits and development consents are obtained by the applicant.

Innovation and Ideas grant program

13. The applications recommended for the Innovation and Ideas grant program are outlined in Attachment A to this report.
14. The Innovation and Ideas Grant program budget is set out below:

Total budget for 2025/26	\$1,100,000	
Less: Total cash committed to previously approved applications	\$796,744	
Total remaining cash available 2025/26	\$303,256	
Number of eligible applications received in Winter Round 2025/26	80	
Number of grants recommended in Winter Round 2025/26	10	
Cash recommended in Winter Round 2025/26	\$303,256	
Cash remaining in 2025/26	Nil	
2025/26	Cash	VIK
Total requested	\$2,828,323	\$23,824.00
Total recommended	\$303,256	\$11,688.00

2026/27	Cash	VIK
Total requested	\$1,093,480	Nil
Total recommended	\$100,500	Nil
2027/28	Cash	VIK
Total requested	\$676,192	Nil
Total recommended	\$55,000	Nil

15. Attached to this report is a high-level summary on the outcomes of the funding if the recommendations are approved. This provides insight into what the applicants have identified as outcomes they can achieve if they receive the funding.

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision

16. Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision renews the communities' vision for the sustainable development of the city to 2050. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the city, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
- (a) Direction 2 - A leading environmental performer - the recommended grant projects in this report contribute to the City's endeavours in improving environmental performance of our residents and businesses by supporting new and innovative approaches to delivering sustainability outcomes and strengthening community resilience.
 - (b) Direction 6 - An equitable and inclusive city - the recommended grant projects in this report contribute to community development and support active participation in civic life. They empower the community to address issues that matter to them and drive projects to create a more inclusive and resilient city.
 - (c) Direction 8 - A thriving cultural life - the recommended grant projects in this report contribute to supporting artistic and creative endeavours in our city, helping foster initiative, experimentation and enterprise by creative workers and providing new opportunities for audiences to engage in the city's cultural life.

- (d) Direction 9 - A transformed and innovative economy - the recommended grant projects in this report contribute to helping stimulate business and promote economic activity. They encourage partnerships with other organisations on business development and assist groups of businesses to work together for the collective benefit.

Organisational Impact

- 17. The grants and sponsorships contract management process will involve key staff across the City of Sydney. Identified staff set contract conditions and performance measures for each approved project, and review project acquittals, which include both narrative and financial reports.

Risks

- 18. This recommendation is within the City's risk appetite, which states:
 - (a) We make decisions that align with our corporate objectives, policies and strategies and are committed to conducting our activities in full compliance with applicable laws, regulations and relevant industry standards.
 - (b) We foster a culture of ethics, integrity and responsible behaviour across our organisation. By creating a strong ethical foundation, we aim to minimise the likelihood of reputation-damaging incidents and enhance our ability to respond effectively when challenges arise.
 - (c) The City has a responsibility to ensure that it has sufficient resources in the short, medium and long term to provide the levels of service that are both affordable and considered appropriate by the community.

Social / Cultural / Community/Environmental

- 19. The City's Grants and Sponsorship Program provides the City with a platform to support cultural, economic, environmental and social initiatives from the communities and business, within the local area.

Financial Implications

- 20. There are sufficient funds allocated in the 2024/25 and 2025/26 grants and sponsorship budgets and included in the City's approved operating budgets for 2024/25 and 2025/26 to support the recommended grants. Details and total values are provided in the tables above.

Relevant Legislation

- 21. Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 provides that a 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.

22. Section 356(3)(a) to (d) is satisfied for the purpose of providing grant funding to for profit organisations because:
- (a) the funding is part of the Innovation and Ideas grant program
 - (b) the details of the program were included in the Council's adopted operational plan for the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26
 - (c) this program's proposed budget does not exceed 5% of Council's proposed income from ordinary rate for financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26 and
 - (d) this program applied to a significant groups of persons within the local government area.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

23. The funding period for the funding programs is for activities taking place 12 months from the project start date. Contracts will be developed for all successful applications after Council approval to ensure their funding is released in time for projects starting.

Public Consultation

24. During July 2025, online and in-person briefing sessions took place where potential applicants were notified about the grants and how to apply. Separate online briefing sessions were delivered for each program, to enable people who were interested in more than one program to attend each.
- (a) Across all programs, a total of 115 attendees participated in the online sessions.
 - (b) Two in-person sessions for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community were held in Redfern and Glebe. A total of 20 attendees participated in these sessions.

EMMA RIGNEY

Executive Director City Life

Sam Wild, Manager Grants

Attachment A

**Recommended for Funding
Innovation and Ideas Grant Program**

Innovation and Ideas Grant Program – Winter Round 2025/26

Recommended for Funding

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested	Cash Recommended 2025/26	VIK Recommended 2025/26	Cash Recommended 2026/27	VIK Recommended 2026/27	Cash Recommended 2027/28	VIK Recommended 2027/28	Additional Conditions
Australian School of Entrepreneurship Pty Ltd	The Sydney Young Social Entrepreneur Sprint	A youth-led startup incubator in the local area to promote social impact and innovation by equipping young people with entrepreneurial skills, mentorship, and networks.	\$25,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$25,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$25,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil	\$25,000	Nil	\$25,000	Nil	\$25,000	Nil	Nil
Counterpoint Community Services Incorporated	Clothing Clinic Stage 1	A feasibility study in Waterloo to pilot a community-based clothing clinic reimagining a laundromat into a circular hub offering laundering, repairs, upcycling, and social connection for marginalised groups.	\$39,940	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$1,688	\$39,940	\$1,688	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested	Cash Recommended 2025/26	VIK Recommended 2025/26	Cash Recommended 2026/27	VIK Recommended 2026/27	Cash Recommended 2027/28	VIK Recommended 2027/28	Additional Conditions
Creative Plus Business Group Pty. Ltd.	THRIVE - Creative Sustainability for Sydney's Arts Professionals	A hybrid program in Chippendale to support art professionals through online and in-person experiences that enhance wellbeing, professional viability, and creative sector capacity.	\$19,500	Nil	\$19,500	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Curiosity Centre Pty Ltd	Ideas to Impact: Sydney's Startup Toolkit	A two-year innovation project in the inner-city sharing strategies from Sydney's top startups through toolkits, case studies, and live sessions to empower emerging founders and build scalable companies.	\$45,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$40,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil	\$27,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Applicant to submit a revised budget.

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested	Cash Recommended 2025/26	VIK Recommended 2025/26	Cash Recommended 2026/27	VIK Recommended 2026/27	Cash Recommended 2027/28	VIK Recommended 2027/28	Additional Conditions
For A Mate Pty Ltd	The Creative Futures Lab	A wellbeing program in Pyrmont co-designed with artists to tackle burnout in the creative sector through workshops, an innovation sprint, and a public showcase, producing a practical Creative Wellbeing Playbook.	\$30,000	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$10,000	\$30,000	\$10,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Jog Network Ltd	Preloved Toys Workshop	A hands-on workshop in the inner-city delivering school incursions, combining education and toy swapping to instil lifelong values of generosity, sustainability, and community connection.	\$10,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$10,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil	\$10,000	Nil	\$10,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested	Cash Recommended 2025/26	VIK Recommended 2025/26	Cash Recommended 2026/27	VIK Recommended 2026/27	Cash Recommended 2027/28	VIK Recommended 2027/28	Additional Conditions
Justice and Equity Centre Limited	Health Justice Partnership Project	A project in Darlinghurst to support the Homeless Persons' Legal Service to undertake phase 1 of developing a Health Justice Partnership with St Vincent's Homeless Health Service.	\$49,940	Nil	\$49,940	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Mapa Art and Architecture Pty Ltd	Open Field Agency Creative Residency Program	A residency program in Waterloo testing regenerative creative practice through cross-disciplinary experimentation, site-responsive research, and community engagement within evolving urban environments.	\$30,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$30,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$30,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil	\$30,000	Nil	\$30,000	Nil	\$30,000	Nil	Nil
Sweltering Cities Ltd	Community Heatwave Workshops and Heat Action Planning for Strengthening Resilience	A capacity-building activity in Glebe to help community organisations and leaders understand the impacts of rising temperatures and develop local Heat Action Plans to strengthen heat resilience.	\$34,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$35,500 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil	\$34,000	Nil	\$35,500	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested	Cash Recommended 2025/26	VIK Recommended 2025/26	Cash Recommended 2026/27	VIK Recommended 2026/27	Cash Recommended 2027/28	VIK Recommended 2027/28	Additional Conditions
Wildflower, Gardens for Good Limited	Future Seed-Provenance Project	An Aboriginal-led apprenticeship project in Millers Point transferring rare seed collection skills to young people, safeguarding endangered native plants and supporting future ecological restoration through cultural knowledge and hands-on training.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil	\$37,876	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Applicant to submit a revised budget

Attachment B

**Not Recommended for Funding
Innovation and Ideas Grant Program**

Innovation and Ideas Grant Program Winter Round 2025/26

Not Recommended for Funding

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
Assisted Community Living Limited	Gig Buddies Community Social App	A research project in the inner-city to promote safe, inclusive community access to events and activities for adults with disability through a new app developed by Gig Buddies.	\$18,000	Nil
Australia China Alumni Association	Green Student Living Challenge	A competition in the local area to promote culturally inclusive, student-led circular economy innovations that address waste, affordability, and social isolation in campus and apartment living.	\$49,500	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$1,900
Bake House Independent Theatre	BY DESIGN where art and community meet	A visual arts program in Broadway Ultimo to promote emerging artists through curated exhibitions and free events, supporting local engagement, creativity, and cultural development.	\$20,000	Nil
Be The Future Pty Ltd	The Possibility Portal	A digital media activation in the local area during Climate Action Week Sydney 2026 to amplify children's environmental visions and inspire adult climate action pledges for a more equitable and sustainable Sydney.	\$50,000	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$527
Blue Green Australia Pty Ltd	Floating Living Shorelines	A feasibility study in the local area to promote nature-positive coastal protection using modular floating shoreline systems with 3D-printed eco-concrete and native plants, restoring habitat and enhancing public space.	\$50,000	Nil
BXS Business Exit Specialists Pty Ltd	Better in Business: Local Support Platform Built by Business Owners	A grassroots support program in the local area to promote thriving local businesses through peer-led events, tools, and mentoring, built by business owners, for business owners.	\$25,000	Nil
Community Youth and Development Organisation Incorporated	Multicultural Media and Storytelling Hub	A multicultural storytelling project in Redfern using digital media to promote inclusion, preserve heritage, and celebrate diverse voices, culminating in a community event with awards.	\$20,000	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
Consent Labs Ltd	Innovative Consent Education for Tertiary Students and Institutions	A co-designed pilot program in Ultimo delivering innovative, scalable consent education for tertiary institutions to address sexual violence, aligned with incoming national regulations and supported by interactive evaluation.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Delectro Pty Ltd	DELOCA	A hyper-local, low-carbon digital marketplace in Redfern using live carbon intensity data to connect businesses and households, promoting sustainable choices and community-driven climate action.	\$18,000	Nil
Diversity Arts Australia	Luminas Gala Event	A prestigious gala at Circular Quay celebrating culturally and racially marginalised and First Nations trailblazers in arts and media, spotlighting their impact on diverse storytelling in Australia.	\$50,000	Nil
Electronic Music Conference Pty Ltd	EMC Toolkits 6, 7, 8, 9 (First Edition)	A digital toolkit project in the inner-city supporting emerging music creatives with self-paced resources on marketing, funding, and audience development, breaking down barriers through practical advice and community support.	\$37,521	Nil
Ez Courier Pty Ltd	Impact of Refined Hub-and-Spoke Logistics and Transparent Environmental Analytics	A showcase at Martin Place featuring world-leading zero-emissions logistics data and innovative environmental analytics, with events and promotions fostering diverse community engagement around sustainable urban transport.	\$50,000	Nil
Forever Foundation Limited	Farming for Tomorrow Coffee Cup	A world-first climate initiative at Martin Place transforming coffee cups into climate solutions, engaging consumers and cafés to support emission-reducing farming practices through biodegradable, educational packaging and public participation.	\$50,000	Nil
Forward Thinking Design Pty Ltd	Design With Us: Reimagining Built Environment Waste	A community design project in George St empowering local area priority community members to create solutions for everyday spaces using waste as a resource, fostering sustainability and local innovation.	\$45,300 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$14,325 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
Green Building Council of Australia	Transform Conference	An annual industry conference in the inner-city advancing sustainability in the built environment, featuring global and local leaders sharing insights, innovations, and actionable solutions across two days of curated programming.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Haymarket Alliance Inc	Haymarket Arts and Culture Precinct Research Project	A research project in Haymarket investigating its cultural landscape to identify shared goals and challenges, culminating in a strategic report, cultural strategy, and formation of a collaborative cultural association.	\$30,000	Nil
Health Consumers NSW Inc	Co-Creating Connection: First Nations Youth-Led Training for Non-Indigenous Service Engagement	A co-designed training project in the inner-city partnering with First Nations young people to pilot respectful engagement courses for non-Indigenous health and community services working with First Nations youth.	\$50,000	Nil
Hollywood Quarter Incorporated	HospoDECLARE: Driving Practical Sustainability Across Sydney's Hospitality Sector	A sustainability program in Surry Hills equipping hospitality venues with tools, training, and peer networks to reduce waste, electrify operations, and improve energy efficiency, building scalable, resilient, low-impact businesses.	\$38,000	Nil
It's Hot AF Pty Ltd	Handbag Restoration Classes	A training program in Redfern launching courses in handbag and leather restoration, empowering hobbyists and professionals with sustainable skills to support circular fashion and new career pathways.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Koji Culture Pty Ltd	Grounds to Greatness	A circular economy project in Zetland transforming café waste into value by capturing fresh coffee grounds to brew koji-infused cold brew, piloting a hygienic system and engaging community through education and sampling.	\$15,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$30,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Lema Education Pty Ltd	Unplugged Tech Incursions: Play-Based, Screen-Free Digital Literacy for Children	A play-based education program in Ultimo delivering screen-free tech incursions to schools, teaching coding, robotics, and cybersecurity through movement and storytelling to support children's wellbeing in an AI-powered world.	\$20,000	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
Lipstudio Pty Ltd	IN/EX	A multi-sensory installation in Surry Hills combining sound, light, and sustainable materials to create a transformative artwork within a hybrid cultural space, fostering conscious experience and environmental awareness.	\$20,000	Nil
Luxi Health Pty Ltd	Sydney Light Health Pilot: Luxi for Children	A health-focused pilot in Glebe using wearable light-tracking and app-based coaching to support children at risk of myopia and neurodiverse challenges, increasing outdoor time through school and community partnerships.	\$50,000	Nil
Macquarie University	Dark Matters: Managing Light Pollution	A research and feasibility study in the local area developing novel, scalable maps of light pollution to support biodiversity, protect Indigenous cultural connections to dark skies, and raise awareness of urban dark infrastructure.	\$43,460	Nil
Maison Toure Pty Ltd	Maison Touré Gallery Launch Celebrating African Art and Culture in Australia	A new African art gallery launching in 2026 in Zetland, presenting exhibitions and public programs that celebrate African creativity and foster cultural dialogue in Sydney's contemporary arts landscape.	\$40,000	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$4,704
Moving Forward Together Association Inc.	Stop the Hate Mate	A program in Kensington promoting 'We Are ONE' by fostering mutual respect and understanding among diverse cultural, religious, and social groups through inclusive initiatives that build a sustainable culture of harmony.	\$20,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$20,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil
MyGivingCircle Pty Ltd	The Rest is Travel Destination Podcasts	An innovative podcast series in Surry Hills using Sydney's unique locations for immersive storytelling and sleep narration to inspire inbound tourism and generate income for the local tourism ecosystem.	\$20,000	Nil
NotCentralised Pty Ltd	Ideas to Impact: Sydney AI Challenge	A multi-stage AI-driven program in Martin Place uniting diverse local communities to co-create impactful solutions, supported by a bespoke innovation platform and targeted mentorship for sustainable development.	\$40,000	Nil
OpenPasskey Pty Ltd	Smart Pass Pilot: Apple/Google Wallet-Based Loyalty and Identity for SMBs	A pilot project in the inner-city trialling a wallet-native NFC and passkey platform with cafes, replacing stamp cards and ID checks with secure, blockchain-backed digital credentials via Apple/Google Wallet.	\$50,000	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
Ovolo Woolloomooloo Wharf Pty Limited	Intelligent System for Sustainable Tourism	A project in Woolloomooloo integrating digital guest services with intelligent HVAC systems at Ovolo to enhance guest experience, support local events, and become a leading environmental performer.	\$31,900 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$8,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$8,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Paddington Business Partnership Incorporated	Paddo Trails Digital — Interactive Paddington Discovery Guide	An interactive, mobile-first Progressive Web App for Paddington guiding domestic and international tourists through unique trails, promoting local businesses, culture, and history with immersive content and real-time updates.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
People with Disability Australia Ltd.	PWDA Language Guide: A Guide to Language About Disability	A project in the inner-city promoting disability awareness and inclusion through the People with Disability Australia (PWDA) Language Guide, a resource written by people with disability to educate others on respectful language practices.	\$42,500	Nil
Pocket City Farms	Worm Carers Program	A project in Camperdown and Glebe demonstrating a small-scale circular economy through community-run worm farms that transform food waste into nutrient-rich produce for donation to local food relief initiatives.	\$11,216	Nil
Proto Axiom Pty Ltd	Challenger Pitch for Health	An event at Darlinghurst offering incubation support to turn health innovations into real solutions, especially for underserved communities, addressing the challenge of translating research into outcomes beyond traditional funding pathways.	\$50,000	Nil
Redfern Legal Centre Ltd	Getting your Bond Back: A Self-Help Tool	A project in Redfern using AI technology to help private renters - especially disadvantaged groups - understand their rights and reclaim bond entitlements through a self-help tool hosted on RLC's website.	\$18,000	Nil
Reverse Garbage Co-Operative Ltd	Activating Circular Thinking: Scaling Impact Through Reuse Education/Play at Festivals	A project in the inner city expanding creative reuse activations at local events, engaging all ages in circular economy learning and waste reduction through hands-on activities led by Reverse Garbage.	\$29,701 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$18,913 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
RK Collective Pty Ltd	Sitting With Stories: A Material Storytelling Pilot	A pilot project in Ultimo using co-creation, circular material innovation, and cultural storytelling to embed migrant women and under-represented voices into public space through a replicable, community-driven design model.	\$50,000	Nil
RNTR. Pty Ltd	The Flip Side	A project in Alexandria promoting circular fashion and reducing waste through an online initiative that fosters inclusive economic participation, skill-building, and collaboration to prevent unnecessary landfill using community, technology, and commerce.	\$47,080 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$48,492 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$49,947 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Solutions2you Pty Ltd	Financial Literacy and Mindset Workshop for Women	A project in Glebe empowering women with financial literacy by transforming their relationship with money, addressing gender-based inequality through practical, confidence-building tools grounded in lived experience and community engagement.	\$20,000	Nil
Songlines To Sovereignty Ltd	Songlines to Sovereignty - Organisation Capability Building	A capability-building activity in Circular Quay to enable the video recording of Indigenous Elders, preserving oral traditions for future generations and wider community engagement.	\$20,000	Nil
Steps Retreats (Australia) Limited	Feasibility Study: Social Enterprise at The Sydney Retreat	A research and feasibility study in Stanmore to identify social enterprise models aligned with the Sydney Retreat's mission, values, and capacity for sustainable community impact.	\$20,000	Nil
Sydney Arts Management Advisory Group Incorporated	Skills for a Thriving Sydney Creative Sector	A skills development program in Redfern offering presentations, workshops, panels and networking to equip arts practitioners with innovative tools for thriving in a challenging arts environment.	\$17,750	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$1,363
Sydney Times Media Pty. Ltd.	Hyper-Local News Publishing	A publishing-focused activity in Edgecliff to address local resident and community issues by employing a City reporter, trainee journalist or interns to strengthen community storytelling.	\$10,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$10,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
Tech Ready Women Pty Ltd	1 to 1000 Customers - Sydney	A customer growth program in Barangaroo supporting women entrepreneurs through online sprints, mentoring, and showcase events to help attract, retain and monetise customers over three years.	\$40,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$40,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$40,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
THDR Group Pty Ltd	AI Fashion Technology Platform for Sustainable Personalised Garment Design	A digital innovation activity in Surry Hills developing advanced AI models and infrastructure to scale personalised fashion design, eliminating size exclusion and garment waste through on-demand manufacturing.	\$20,000	Nil
The Bower Re-Use and Repair Centre Co-Operative Limited	Pass it On - An Innovative Re-Use Marketplace	A technology-driven activity in Redfern using AI to connect Sydney donors with frontline agencies, enabling instant repurposing of goods to reduce waste and support a smarter circular economy.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil
The Energy Laboratory Limited	Event Series: A Decade of EnergyLab Entrepreneurial Support	An event series in Haymarket showcasing EnergyLab's decade of work with decarb tech innovators and launching an annual platform to celebrate the startup-driven decarbonisation ecosystem.	\$43,845 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$33,245 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$23,245 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
The House That Dan Built Incorporated	LANTERN 4.6 x International Women's Week by The House	An immersive sound artwork activity in Haymarket using LANTERN4.6 technology to collaborate with diverse women and girls, elevating stories through innovative portable recording, speaker and lighting systems.	\$25,000	Nil
The Performance Space Ltd	Performance Space Archive: Stewarding a Community Asset	A project in Wilson StDarlington enabling community-focused stewardship to open the archive for innovation, inviting diverse communities to contribute future-focused ideas through collaborative ownership and creative engagement.	\$43,235 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$39,946 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil
The University of Sydney	Healthy Kitchen, Healthy City: Tracking Air Pollutions in Multicultural Homes	A research activity in Darlington investigating how cooking methods and kitchen ventilation affect indoor air quality in multicultural homes, promoting healthier living through monitoring, education and community engagement.	\$41,855	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
The University of Sydney	Updating Official Virtual Assistant with Advanced AI Techniques	A digital innovation activity in Camperdown developing an AI-driven conversational agent to foster equitable and inclusive public engagement through diverse digital interactions on local services.	\$18,900	Nil
The University of Sydney	Designing Energy Justice: Open Computing Platform for Climate-Ready Sydney Homes	A research and feasibility study in Camperdown to model energy use and electrification potential in residential districts, guiding targeted upgrades that reduce energy burden and improve housing equity.	\$48,602	Nil
The University of Sydney	Empowering Vulnerable Communities with Communication Difficulties to Influence Change	A capacity-building activity in Camperdown supporting individuals with communication disability to develop, implement and evaluate their own valued community initiatives by identifying what drives success.	\$46,613 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$48,921 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil
The University of Sydney	Developing in Season: Eco-workshops Exploring Sustainable Alternatives to Analogue Photography.	A workshop series in Camperdown teaching participants to transform seasonal organic waste into sustainable photographic developers, promoting low-toxicity artmaking and circular environmental practices.	\$19,980	Nil
Thrivator Pty Ltd	Thrivator	A free support platform in Ultimo using AI to help workers overcome bullying, discrimination, harassment, and overwork, promoting mental wellbeing through expert videos, coaching, and professional referrals.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Trans Pride Australia Incorporated	Trans Joy - I Am Me	A community-led project in Surry Hills to create, perform and document Trans Pride Australia's 2026 Mardi Gras float, promoting visibility, pride and connection for trans and gender diverse communities.	\$12,500	Nil
University of Technology Sydney	Adaptive Reuse Stress Test: Reimagining CBD Office Space	A feasibility study in the inner-city to assess commercial buildings' potential for future adaptive reuse, helping owners explore alternative uses as social, economic, and climate factors reshape CBD property demand.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
University of Technology Sydney	Aligning for Impact: A Place-Based Outcomes Framework	A community-led project in Pyrmont and Ultimo to co-design and pilot a shared outcomes framework, enhancing collaboration, improving service delivery, and driving measurable, community-led change with local organisations.	\$48,933 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$44,540 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil
University of Technology Sydney	Illuminating Hi Vis Workers: Visibility and Invisibility on Sydney's Streets	A creative project in the inner-city to make hi-vis workers visible by documenting their experiences and contributions, challenging stereotypes and delivering public outputs that reflect their vital role in city life.	\$19,919	Nil
University of Technology Sydney	From Warzones to Classrooms: Building Refugee-Inclusive Universities in Sydney	A project in the local area centring refugee-background students through storytelling, data advocacy, and co-designed learning solutions to challenge systemic barriers and foster inclusive, trauma-aware university environments.	\$17,660	Nil
University of Technology Sydney	Decarbonisation of SMEs in Sydney: Challenges, Strategies, Toolkits, and Dashboards.	A research-informed pilot in Ultimo to develop a two-year innovation framework accelerating SME decarbonisation through tailored strategies, practical tools, and a digital platform for measurable climate action.	\$49,973 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$49,598 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil
UrbanSpectra Pty Ltd	DesireLines by UrbanSpectra - Communicating and Quantifying Active Transport Access	A software development project in Surry Hills to visualise active transport connectivity gaps, quantify benefits of proposed infrastructure, and improve consultation by demonstrating impacts for specific trips and locations.	\$20,000	Nil
Velocity Empowerment Pty Ltd	Prevent and Protect Pilot	A pilot project in Ultimo to test a holistic, trauma-informed, feminist approach to self-defence, addressing the real-world challenges faced by women and girls beyond typical program models.	\$20,000	Nil
Vivendi Consulting Pty Ltd	Accelerating Delivery of Cycling and Micromobility Projects in Sydney	A pilot project in Martin Place to develop innovative tools, including GIS forecasting and AI-driven sentiment analysis, supporting the effective delivery of safe, inclusive bike networks with the inner City.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Requested	VIK Requested
Vividhata Pty Ltd	Virtual Reality Micro Trainings to Tackle Bullying on Your Doorstep	A pilot project in Pyrmont to create virtual reality based micro-trainings addressing workplace bullying, delivering headsets to small business staff and evaluating the effectiveness of immersive, accessible learning experiences.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$47,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27)	Nil
Western Sydney University	Sustaining Soil Health in Sydney Parks Under Climate Change Scenarios	A research project in Alexandria investigating the potential of belowground soil amendments to sustain parkland health under future climate scenarios, expanding restoration strategies beyond traditional aboveground approaches like tree planting.	\$20,000	Nil
Western Sydney University	Mapping Sydney's CBD Rooftop Airspace for Affordable Housing	A feasibility study in the inner city to assess commercial rooftop airspace development, producing a toolkit to enable affordable essential-worker housing using Modern Methods of Construction above existing buildings.	\$50,000	Nil
Women's Lantern Ltd.	LightHer Path – Women's Lantern	A community empowerment project in Redfern supporting migrant and culturally diverse survivors through paid solar lantern skills, climate leadership, and enterprise training, culminating in a Lantern Lighting Ceremony for climate-positive change.	\$50,000	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$3,642
WorkVentures Ltd.	Countering Technology-Facilitated Abuse in the City of Sydney	A project in Surry Hills to create a web-based playbook and training for DFV caseworkers, equipping them with tools to address technology-facilitated abuse and protect victim-survivors.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 2025/26) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 2026/27) \$50,000 (Year 3 - 2027/28)	Nil
Yourtern Pty Ltd	Hotel Distribution for Indigenous Info and Tours	A self-guided Indigenous culture and business tour in the local area, accessed via hotel QR codes, promoting local voices, economic development, and inclusive visitor engagement-no app required.	\$50,000	Nil

Attachment C

<p>Data Report on Outcomes of Funding – Innovation and Ideas Grant</p>

All Programs - Winter Round 2025/26

247	56	53	Over \$1.73m	Over \$450k
Applications assessed	Grants recommended	Different organisations or individuals recommended for grants	Cash and Value In Kind recommended	Cash recommended to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Organisations

Innovation and Ideas – Winter Round 2025/26



80
Applications assessed



10
Grants recommended



Over \$470k in
Cash and Value In Kind recommended

RESULTING IN

\$1.02m of total project value benefitting the City *

35 Volunteers engaged*

78 People working on projects funded by the City*

26

Cash recommended by Pillar

Cultural



\$139.5k

Economic



\$102k

Social/Community



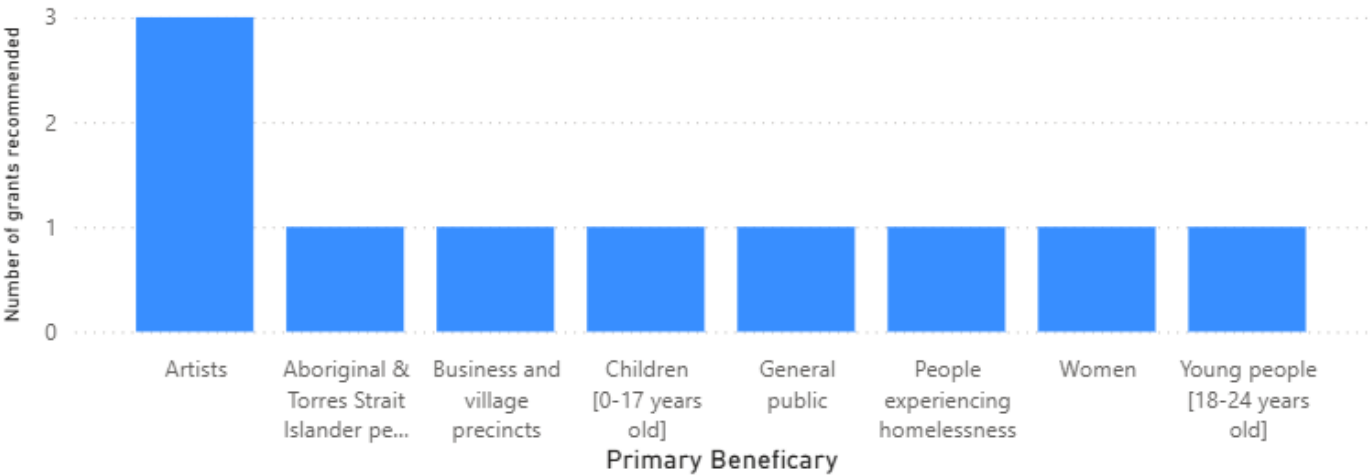
\$49.9k

Environmental



\$167.4k

Number of Grants recommended by Primary Community Beneficiary Group



*Data provided by recipients within grant application