

Grants and Sponsorships - Round One 2019/20 - Funding to The Gender Centre Inc, Alexandria Residents Action Group Incorporated and Newtown Neighbourhood Centre Incorporated

File No: S117676

Summary

The City of Sydney's Grants and Sponsorship Program supports initiatives and projects that build the social, cultural, environmental and economic life of the city. To achieve the objectives of Sustainable Sydney 2030 requires genuine partnership between government, business and the community.

The provision of grants and sponsorships is a mechanism to further the aims identified in the City's social, cultural, economic and environmental policies. Applications are assessed against these policies and against broad City objectives and plans. In this way, the City and the community act collaboratively to bring to life Sustainable Sydney 2030 and the City of Villages it envisions.

All grant recipients will be required to sign a contract, meet specific performance outcomes and acquit their grant.

Consideration of grant funding to The Gender Centre Inc, Newtown Neighbourhood Centre Incorporated and Alexandria Residents' Action Group Incorporated was deferred at the 24 June 2019 Council meeting.

Further consideration and determination of funding for the outstanding grant items is required.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash recommendation for the Community Services Grant Program to Newtown Neighbourhood Centre Incorporated of Year 1 - \$45,100, Year 2 - \$35,000, Year 3 - \$20,000 as per Attachment A to the subject report for Item 4 of the Cultural and Community Committee on 17 June 2019;
- (B) Council approve the cash recommendation for the Festivals and Events Sponsorship Program (Village and Community) to Alexandria Residents' Action Group Incorporated of \$7,000 per year for 3 years as per Attachment C to the subject report for Item 4 of the Cultural and Community Committee on 17 June 2019;
- (C) Council does not approve the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program application from The Gender Centre Inc, as per Attachment B to the subject report for Item 2 of the Cultural and Community Committee on 17 June 2019;
- (D) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST and all value in kind offered is subject to availability; and
- (E) 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 Sponsorships Policy.

Attachments

Nil.

Background

1. The City of Sydney'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 6 February 2019, the City announced Round One of the annual grants program for 2019/20 as being open for applications on the City's website. Round One closed to applications on 11 March 2019.
3. It is expected that all successful applicants will work co-operatively with relevant City staff throughout the project for which they have received funding. Contact details for the relevant City staff are provided to all successful grant recipients.
4. Consideration of grant funding to The Gender Centre Inc and the Alexandria Residents' Action Group Incorporated was deferred at the 24 June 2019 Council meeting.
5. The grant to the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre Incorporated was excluded from the substantive motion at the 24 June 2019 Council meeting, and was not voted on and determined. Further consideration and determination of funding for the outstanding grant items is required.

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030 Vision

6. This report complies with the Grants and Sponsorship Policy adopted by Council on 12 December 2017. The provision of grants and sponsorships is a mechanism for the City to further the aims identified in its social, economic, environmental and cultural policies.
7. The City of Sydney's Grants and Sponsorship Program is a key element in the delivery of Sustainable Sydney 2030. All applications are considered against the 10 strategic directions and how they can directly deliver, or encourage the further development of the aims and objectives identified in Sustainable Sydney 2030.

Organisational Impact

8. 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.

Social / Cultural / Community

9. 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 community organisations, within the local area.

Budget Implications

10. All cash and value in kind recommendations have been provided for within the 2019/20 grants and sponsorship budget. Forward commitments will be incorporated in future budgets proposed.

Relevant Legislation

11. 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.
12. Section 356(3)(a) - (d) is satisfied for the purpose of providing grant funding to for-profit organisations because:
 - (a) the funding is part of the following programs:
 - (i) Community Services Grant Program;
 - (ii) Festivals and Events Sponsorship Program (Village and Community); and
 - (iii) Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program;
 - (b) the details of this program have been included in Council's draft operational plan for financial year 2019/2020;
 - (c) the program's proposed budget does not exceed 5 per cent of Council's proposed income from ordinary rates for financial year 2019/2020; and
 - (d) this program applies to a significant group of persons within the local government area.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

13. The funding period for Round One of the grants and sponsorship annual program for 2019/2020 is for activity taking place from 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020. Contracts will be developed for all successful applications after Council approval to ensure their funding is released in time for projects starting in August.

Public Consultation

14. For all programs open to application in Round One of the annual grants and sponsorship program for 2019/2020, two question and answer sessions were held in Town Hall House to assist potential applicants with their applications on the following dates:
 - (a) Wednesday 20 February 2019 from 4pm to 7pm; and
 - (b) Monday 25 February 2019 from 4pm to 7pm.
15. Seventy-seven meetings were held across the two question and answer sessions where prospective applicants sought advice from City staff about their project proposals and the application process.
16. Eighty-seven per cent of these attendees advised they had not applied for a City of Sydney grant previously.

ANN HOBAN

Director City Life

Jeremy Kelshaw, Manager Grants