

## Relevant Information for Council

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**FILE:** S117676 **DATE:** 18 May 2020

**TO:** Lord Mayor and Councillors

**FROM:** Emma Rigney, Director City Life

**THROUGH:** Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** Information Relevant To Item 9 – Covid-19 Relief Grants Program

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### For Noting

This memo is for the information of the Lord Mayor and Councillors.

### Purpose

To provide Council with additional information on projects that were eligible and deemed to have merit, but which were unable to be funded due to the ranking of applications and the allocation of the program funds already being exhausted.

### Background

On 30 March 2020, Council adopted a range of measures to assist the cultural and creative, small business and community sectors including four grant programs to target and address immediate needs of our communities. These grants were the Cultural Sector Resilience Grant program, the Creative Fellowships Fund, the Small Business Grant program and the Community Services Grants.

On 6 April 2020, the City opened these four programs to pre-application, noting the required exhibition period, and closed them to pre-application on 27 April 2020. The four new programs received 3,087 eligible submissions requesting a total of \$38,803,360. Council Item 9 Covid-19 Relief Grants Program recommends that a total of 455 grants be recommended for funding to the value of \$6,750,000.

The assessment process includes advice and recommendations from the key stakeholders on the assessment panel, depending upon the nature of each submission. The integrity of the proposed budget, project plan, contributions and partnerships are assessed, scored and ranked against defined criteria. Once recommended applications are approved by Council, a contract is developed, which includes conditions that must be adhered to, and acquitted against.

Whilst allocating the \$6.75 million in full, the assessment process assessed a further 199 projects to the value of \$2,168,325 as eligible and deemed to have merit. These projects were unable to be funded due to the ranking of applications and the allocation of the program funds already being exhausted. All of these applications are of sufficient quality and align with the programs' intentions, outcomes and goals to attract support and are recommended for support.

The assessment process identified the following that were eligible and deemed to have merit but due to the overall budget being fully allocated are not recommended for approval in this round:

1. a further nine projects to the value of \$138,580 in the Creative Fellowships Fund program;
2. a further 181 projects to the value of \$1,810,000 in the Small Business Grant program; and
3. a further nine projects to the value of \$219,745 in the Community Services Grant program.

### **Memo from Emma Rigney, Director City Life**

Prepared by: Emma Rigney, Director City Life

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Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.M. Barone', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**MONICA BARONE**

Chief Executive Officer