



# Council Meeting Agenda

**2025/CM01**

**Monday, 20 January 2025**

**To be held online only**



# THE COUNCIL MEETING

## Welcome to this Meeting of the Frankston City Council

The Council appreciates residents, ratepayers and other visitors taking their places in the Public Gallery, as attendance demonstrates an interest in your Council and community affairs. Community spirit is encouraged.

This information sheet is designed to help you to understand the procedures of Council and help you to gain maximum value from your attendance.

The law regarding the conduct of Council meetings enables the public to observe the session. However, to ensure the manageability of Council meetings, opportunities for public participation are limited to Question Time and registered submissions in accordance with Council's guidelines, which are available from Council's Councillors Office (call 9768 1632) and on our website, [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au). It is not possible for any visitor to participate in any Council debate unless specifically requested by the Chairperson to do so.

If you would like to have contact with Councillors or Officers, arrangements can be made for you to do so separately to the meeting. Call the Councillors Office on 9768 1632 and ask for the person you would like to meet with, to arrange a time of mutual convenience.

## When are they held?

Generally speaking, the Council meets formally every three (3) weeks on a Monday and meetings start at 7.00 pm, unless advertised otherwise.

**This Council Meeting will be held online only.** Livestream footage can be viewed via our website, [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au).

Council meeting dates are posted at Young Street entrance to the Civic Centre (upper level) and also on our website, [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au).

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## ***Frankston City Council Governance Rules (adopted 31 August 2020 and amended 5 September 2022)***

### **25. Chair's Duty**

Any motion which is determined by the *Chair* to be:

- 25.1 *defamatory of or embarrassing to any Councillor, member of Council staff or other person;*
- 25.2 *abusive or objectionable in language or nature;*
- 25.3 *a direct negative of the question before the Chair;*
- 25.4 *vague or unclear in intention;*
- 25.5 *outside the powers of Council; or*
- 25.6 *irrelevant to the item of business on the agenda and has not been admitted as*

**79. Chair May Remove**

79.1 *The Chair may order and cause the removal of any person, including a Councillor, who disrupts any meeting or fails to comply with a direction given under sub-Rule 78.2, or cause the removal of any object or material that is deemed by the Chair as being objectionable or disrespectful.*

79.2 *Any person removed from the meeting under sub-Rule 79.1 must not return to the meeting without the approval of the Chair or Council.*

*It is intended that this power be exercisable by the Chair, without the need for any Council resolution. The Chair may choose to order the removal of a person whose actions immediately threaten the stability of the meeting or wrongly threatens his or her authority in chairing the meeting.*

The Governance Local Law 2020 creates the following offences in relation to behaviour at Council meetings:

- Refusing to leave a meeting when requested to do so by the Chair (following improper or disorderly conduct)
- Failing to comply with a direction of the Chair

Each of these offences carries a penalty of 2 penalty units.

## **Live Streaming of Council Meetings**

Frankston City Council is now Live Streaming its Council Meetings.

### **Council is encouraging residents to view the meetings via the live streaming.**

Live Streaming allows you to watch and listen to the meeting in real time, giving you greater access to Council decision making and debate and improving openness and transparency.

Every care will be taken to maintain privacy and, as far as practically possible, it is not intended that there be either live or recorded footage of the public or Media personnel, however, there might be incidental capture; for example footage of a person exiting the building depending on which camera is being used at the time, or audio recording of a person who interjects the meeting. Council officers who address Council will be heard on the live audio stream, and audio of them speaking will be recorded.

As per Council's Governance Rules 77.2 – the proceedings will be live streamed and recordings of the proceedings will be retained and will be published on Council's website within 24 hours from the end of the meeting.

Council will make every reasonable effort to ensure that a live stream and recording is available. However technical difficulties may arise in relation to live streaming or access to Council's website.

Appropriate signage will be placed at the entrance to the meeting location notifying all attendees that the meeting will be streamed live and recorded. Please note that it is not intended that public speakers will be visible in a live stream of a meeting and care is taken to maintain a person's privacy as an attendee in the gallery, however they may be unintentionally captured in the recording. If public speakers do not wish to be audio recorded they will need to contact the Councillors Office on telephone (03) 9768 1632 or via email [councillors.office@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:councillors.office@frankston.vic.gov.au) to discuss alternative options prior to the meeting.

## ***The Council Meeting cont.....***

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In the event Council encounters technical issues with the livestreaming, the meeting will be adjourned for up to 30 minutes until the matter is resolved. If the matter cannot be resolved, the meeting will be postponed to another evening.

### **The Formal Council Meeting Agenda**

The Council meeting agenda is available for public inspection immediately after it is prepared, which is normally on the Thursday afternoon two (2) business days before the meeting. It is available from the Reception desk at the Civic Centre (upper level), on our website [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au) or a copy is also available for you in the chamber before the meeting.

The following information is a summary of the agenda and what each section means:-

- **Items Brought Forward**

These are items for discussion that have been requested to be brought forward by a person, or a group of people, who have a particular item on the Agenda and who are present in the Public Gallery.

- **Presentation of Written Questions from the Gallery**

Question Time forms are available from the Civic Centre and our website, [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au).

“Questions with Notice” are to be submitted before 12 noon on the Friday before the relevant Ordinary Meeting either in person at the Frankston Civic Centre, online using the Question Time web form or via email to [questions@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:questions@frankston.vic.gov.au).

“Questions without Notice” are to be submitted between 12 noon on the Friday before the relevant Ordinary Meeting up until 4pm on the day of the relevant Council Meeting either in person via the designated Question Time box located at the Frankston Civic Centre front reception or the after-hours mail box or via email to [questions@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:questions@frankston.vic.gov.au).

A maximum of 3 questions may be submitted by any one person at one meeting. There is no opportunity to enter into debate from the Gallery.

More detailed information about the procedures for Question Time is available from Council’s Councillors Office (call 9768 1632) and on our website, [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au).

- **Presentation of Petitions and Joint Letters**

These are formal requests to the Council, signed by a number of people and drawing attention to matters of concern to the petitioners and seeking remedial action from the Council. Petitions received by Councillors and presented to a Council meeting are usually noted at the meeting, then a report is prepared for consideration at the next available meeting.

- **Presentation of Reports**

Matters requiring a Council decision are dealt with through officer reports brought before the Council for consideration. When dealing with each item, as with all formal meeting procedures, one Councillor will propose a motion and another Councillor will second the motion before a vote is taken. If the members of the public wish to clarify any of the items on the Agenda, please contact the relevant manager by phoning 1300 322 322.

- **Presentation of Delegate Reports**

A Councillor or member of Council staff who is a delegate may present to Council on the deliberations of the external body, association, group or working party in respect of which he or she is a delegate or an attendee at a Council approved conference / seminar.

- **Urgent Business**

## ***The Council Meeting cont.....***

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These are matters that Councillors believe require attention and action by Council. Before an item can be discussed, there must be a decision, supported by the majority of Councillors present, for the matter to be admitted as "Urgent Business".

- **Closed Meetings**

Because of the sensitive nature of some matters, such as personnel issues, contractual matters or possible legal action, these matters are dealt with confidentially at the end of the meeting.

### **Opportunity to address Council**

Any person who wishes to address Council must pre-register their intention to speak before 4.00pm on the day of the meeting, by telephoning Council's Councillors Office (call 9768 1632) or by submitting the online web form or by using the application form both available on the website, [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au).

The submissions process is conducted in accordance with guidelines which are available from Council's Councillors Office and on our website. All submissions will be limited to 3 minutes in duration, except for Section 223 submitters, who have a maximum of 5 minutes. No more than ten (10) members of the public are to be permitted to address the Council. Further speakers will be permitted to address the meeting at the discretion of the Chair. All speakers need to advise if they are speaking on behalf of an organisation and it is deemed that they have been appropriately authorised by that said organisation.

Public submissions and any subsequent discussion will be recorded as part of the meeting. The proceedings will be live streamed and recordings of Council meetings will be made available to members of the public within 24 hours of the meeting.

Members of the public who address the Council will be heard on the live stream and audio of them speaking will be recorded. It is not intended that submitters or members of the public in the gallery will be visible in the live streaming or recording of the meeting. If a submitter does not wish to be recorded they must advise the Chair at the commencement of their public submission or prior to the Council Meeting.

### **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

If a Councillor considers that they have, or might reasonably be perceived to have, a direct or indirect interest in a matter before the Council or a special committee of Council, they will declare their interest and clearly state its nature before the matter is considered. This will be done on every occasion that the matter is considered by the Council or special committee.

If a Councillor has an interest in a matter they will comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act, which may require that they do not move or second the motion and that they leave the room in which the meeting is being held during any vote on the matter and not vote on the matter.

If a Councillor does not intend to be at the meeting, he or she will disclose the nature of the interest to the Chief Executive Officer, Mayor or Chairperson prior to the meeting commencing.

## **MAYOR**



## NOTICE PAPER

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### ALL COUNCILLORS

NOTICE is hereby given that a Council Meeting of the Council will be held wholly online, on 20 January 2025 at 7:00 PM.

### COUNCILLOR STATEMENT

*All members of this Council pledge to the City of Frankston community to consider every item listed on this evening's agenda:*

- *Based on the individual merits of each item;*
- *Without bias or prejudice by maintaining an open mind; and*
- *Disregarding Councillors' personal interests so as to avoid any conflict with our public duty.*

*Any Councillor having a conflict of interest in an item will make proper, prior disclosure to the meeting and will not participate in the debate or vote on the issue.*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

*I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation, and pay my respect to Elders past, present and future. I would like to extend that respect to Elders of other communities who may be here today.*

**BUSINESS**

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
Council Meeting No. CM16 held on 2 December 2024.
3. **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
4. **HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS**
5. **CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
  - 5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028 ....2
  - 5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities .....25
6. **NOTICES OF MOTION**
  - 6.1 2025/NOM01 - Amendment to the Councillor Call-In Protocol .....32
7. **URGENT BUSINESS**
8. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**  
Nil

Phil Cantillon

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

16/01/2025

**Executive Summary**

**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028**

*Enquiries: (Ken Liddicoat: Communities)*

Council Plan

- Level 1: 2. Community Strength
- Level 2: 2.4 Targeting community needs through development programs and grants

**Purpose**

To inform Council on the Year Two summary outcome report pertaining to the 2022-2025 Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grants and to present officers' funding recommendations for the 2025-2028 Community Service Partnership Grants.

**Recommendation (Director Communities)**

That Council:

2022-2025 Funding Period

1. Receives the Year 2 Summary Outcome report of the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant for the July 2022 – June 2025 funding period (Attachment A - Confidential) that has been compiled on the basis of the information provided by the recipients in their Year 2 Acquittal reports.

2025-2028 Funding Period

2. Notes the attached 2025-2028 Community Service Partnership Grant Guidelines which were approved in compliance with delegations outlined in the Community Grants Policy and approved by Council on 6 June 2022;
3. Notes the total recommended budget allocation to the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant in 2025/26 is \$546,535.88, which is consistent with the budget allocation made in 2024/25 financial year (plus CPI);
4. Commits to the 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28 budgets the annual funding allocations to the recipients identified in Attachment F under the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant, with these amounts to be subject to an annual CPI adjustment (long term budget) and their allocations subject to the accountabilities outlined in the grant guidelines and funding agreement. These allocations are grouped as per the following:

Specialist Community Services:	\$ 248,124.88
Seniors Groups:	\$ 24,426.00
Community Centre Recipients:	\$ 261,985.00
Traditional Fundraising Events:	<u>\$ 12,000.00</u>
Total:	\$ 546,535.88

5. Endorses the proposed administrative change to Community Service Partnership Grant to include a category termed 'Traditional Fundraising Events' which would incorporate fundraising and event related initiatives for 3 years of funding;
6. Notes the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant agreements will be updated to further require recipients to ensure that the application of any grant funding is politically neutral so as to avoid any perceived partisanship, particularly in the lead-up or during any local, State or Federal election; and
7. Resolves for Attachment A, C and D to be retained as confidential indefinitely on



**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028****Executive Summary**

the grounds that it includes personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (*Local Government Act 2020, s.3(1)(f)*). These grounds apply because the contents contain private information of the nominees, who have not consented to being disclosed. Release of this information might undermine public confidence and make people reluctant to submit applications in the future, which would compromise Council's ability to run similar programs in the future.

**Key Points / Issues****Community Service Partnership Grant 2022-2025 – Year 2 Summary Outcomes**

- The 2022-2025 Community Partnership Grant recipients are currently in the third and final year of the three-year funding agreement.
- As part of the funding agreements, recipients must submit annual acquittals to ensure they are meeting their agreed milestones, and submit currency documents including public liability insurance, annual and financial reports. To date, Council has received the Year 1 (2022/23) and Year 2 (2023/24) acquittal reports. The final Year 3 acquittal report will be tabled in August 2025.
- At its meeting on 21 February 2022, Council made the following resolution:
  - *“...amend the ‘Standing Grants’ to become a new triennial grant called ‘Community Service Partnerships’ commencing 2022/23 FY”*
  - *“Commits to the 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 Budgets the appropriation of the following annual funding allocations to the below recipients under the Community Service Partnership Grant, with these amounts to be subject to an annual CPI adjustment and their allocations subject to the accountability outlined in the grant program:*

**General Recipients**

▪ McClelland Sculpture Park and Gallery	\$50,000
▪ Peninsula Community Legal Centre	\$45,000
▪ Frankston State Emergency Service (SES)	\$26,851
▪ The Alliance for Gambling Reform	\$25,000
▪ Women's Spirit Project	\$25,000
▪ Frankston Toy Library	\$15,000
▪ Frankston U3A	\$10,000
▪ Pines Men's Shed	\$5,000
▪ Langwarrin Men's Shed	\$5,000
▪ Frankston Life Community (Christmas Lunch)	\$5,000
▪ Centenary Park Golf Club	\$7,600
▪ Frankston Rotary	\$3,500
▪ Rotary Club of Frankston Sunrise	\$1,500

**Seniors Groups**

▪ Chinese Seniors Citizens Club	\$500
▪ Carrum Downs Over 55s Club	\$500
▪ Carrum Downs Senior Citizens Club	\$500
▪ Carrum Downs Sri Lankan Seniors	\$500
▪ East Frankston Over 55s	\$500

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▪ Frankston Filipino Seniors Support Group	\$500
▪ Greek Senior Citizens Club of Frankston & Peninsula	\$500
▪ Greek Elderly Womens Club of Frankston & Peninsula	\$500
▪ Italian Seniors Club of Frankston	\$500
▪ Polish Seniors Citizens Club	\$500
▪ Raduga Russian Seniors Citizens Club	\$500
▪ Seaford Senior Citizens Club	\$500

**Community Centre recipients:**

▪ Belvedere Community Centre	\$44,875
▪ Langwarrin Community Centre	\$44,875
▪ Lyrebird Community Centre	\$44,875
▪ Orwil Street Community House	\$44,875
▪ Nairn Marr Djambana Community	\$44,875

- At the 22 May 2023 Council Meeting, Council approved an increase in senior group allocation from \$500 to \$1,000, with the addition of 2% CPI increase and added additional senior groups.
- In the 2023/24 financial year the Community Service Partnership Grant funded thirty-nine organisations for the total amount of \$498,302.52 including 2% CPI increase which includes:
  - Thirteen (13) Specialist Community Service Organisations
  - Twenty-one (21) Senior Groups
  - Five (5) Neighbourhood Houses or Community Centres
- Council's Community Grants Team have reviewed the Year 2 acquittal reports for compliance with the grant funding agreements. All funded groups have been assessed as having met the conditions and their obligations.
- The outcomes of each Community Service partnership recipient are listed in the confidential attachment: The Community Service Partnership Grant Year 2 Outcome Report.

**Community Service Partnership Grant 2025-2028 – Expression of Interest**

- The Community Service Partnership Grant for 2025-2028 funding period was advertised on Council's website, via the *Community Grants Email Alert* (500 subscribers), and directly to previous recipients between 19 August and 27 September 2024 (6 weeks).
- The initiation of the new Expression of Interest (EOI) process for the July 2025 – June 2028 allocations, originally scheduled for July 2024, was postponed until August due to overlapping grant opportunities (Annual Community Grant and Emergency Relief Fund).
- Seniors Groups and Community Centres were exempted from the EOI process because their service and community impact are well understood and aligned with Council priorities and commitments. Given the recurring intention to recommend that these services remain as grant recipients it was deemed unnecessary to impose on them the requirement to submit a further application.
- Of the thirty-three EOIs that were received, it is recommended that sixteen (16) be grant funded either partially or wholly. For the whole of the Triennial Grant, this would mean forty-seven (47) applications received funding comprising

**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028****Executive Summary**

sixteen (16) EOIs, twenty-three (23) Seniors Groups, five (5) Community Centres and three (3) Traditional Fundraising Events.

- The applications were assessed against the criteria outlined in the attached 2025-2028 Community Service Partnership Grant Guidelines. The approval of the Guidelines was undertaken in compliance with the delegations outlined in the Community Grants Policy and approved by Council on 6 June 2022.
- An overview of the rationale for the recommendations, including applicants not recommended for funding, is listed in the 2025-2028 Community Service Partnership Grant Expression of Interest Summary attachment.
- It is important to note that the 3 Year Partnership Grants are designed to support 'significant and unique' services, or alternatively to equitably fund an entire 'genre of service' (e.g. 'Seniors Groups'). Recipients of this Partnership Grant are in a privileged position to receive a 3-year recurrent funding commitment and hence they are no longer subject to the annual competitive process that all other applicants must encounter if applying for annual grants. Therefore, all allocations must be able to pass the 'reasonable person test', and as such should not be vulnerable to the following type of fairness question:

*"How is it fair that this organisation receives a special 3-year recurrent funding commitment, when my organisation delivers the same type of service, but we have to apply for funding as part of a competitive process every year?"*

- There are many worthy organisations and projects that would benefit from additional funding. However, recognising Council are stewards of a finite budget, officers have sought to make careful and impartial assessments based on the published criteria that are also within the limits of the current budget allocation (plus Consumer Price Index adjustments).
- It should also be noted that in 2024/25 Financial Year Council established a one-off special grant fund of \$200,000 directly targeting financial support to emergency relief organisations in Frankston City. Recognising this was not a recurrent grant, a number of these Emergency Relief Organisations (7) have submitted an EOI to the Partnership Grant. However, given there are more than 7 organisations delivering similar emergency relief programs throughout Frankston City, there is not a strong rationale to recommend one or more as recipients over others. Furthermore, providing an equitable allocation to all emergency relief providers would not be possible within the existing budget allocation to the Partnership Grant Pool without significantly impacting on other recipients. Therefore, with the exception of the Winter Shelter program (which does have a unique service offering), these have not been recommended for funding within the scope of the Partnership Grants. As a result, Council is likely to receive a considerable number of submissions from these organisations in the Annual Community Grant Program which opens to all not-for-profit organisations and clubs in July each year (total pool is \$125,000 / maximum allocation per organisation is \$7,000).
- It should be noted that McClelland Gallery has been a regular recipient of Council funding at a similar amount over an extended period (well over 20 years). However, the current recommendation is to allocate \$25,000 per year to this organisation, which is half of their original funding request and half the annual amount they received during the 2022-2025 Community Partnership Grant period. This proposed reduction is not a reflection of McClelland Gallery's

**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028****Executive Summary**

performance in delivering the Senses program to local kindergartens, but rather is in recognition of the many worthy community organisations who would benefit from a Community Partnership Grant coupled with the need to allocate these limited funds as equitably as possible.

- The following organisations are recommended to be Community Service Partnership Grant recipients in the funding period July 2025 – June 2028:

*Specialist Community Service*

- The total recommended allocation for Specialist Community Services is \$248,124.88 as per the allocations identified in Attachment F.
- The rationale for the recommendations in this category is outlined in the attached Community Service Partnership Grant FP 2025-2028 Summary.

*Seniors Groups*

- For the purpose of this report, 'Seniors Groups' are defined as grass-roots entities who are either incorporated (or auspiced by an incorporated or DGR endorsed organisation); whose main beneficiaries are seniors; and hold regular general meetings where all members are invited.
- Historically, several Senior groups have submitted smaller-scale applications to Council's competitive Annual Community Grant to support operational costs. Due to limited access to technology or digital skills, many of these groups report difficulties completing the application process independently. In response, Council officers had been providing ongoing face-to-face support to assist many of these groups.
- On 22 February 2022, following the Community Grants Program review, Council endorsed a separate category within the Community Service Partnership Grant for Seniors groups - including a simplified application process.
- At the 22 May 2023 Council meeting, Council approved an increase in Seniors group allocation from \$500 to \$1,000. This included a 2% CPI increase and additional Seniors groups for the funding period between July 2023 – June 2025.
- Pines Community Men's Shed, Langwarrin Men's Shed and Frankston U3A have not been classified as Seniors groups and have been recommended to receive funding through the 'Specialist Community Service' category, due to their unique and specialised service.
- The total recommended allocation for Seniors groups is \$24,426 which consists of an equitable grant amount of \$1,062 per group per annum plus CPI (as per the allocations recommended in Attachment F).

*Community Centres*

- In the context of this report, 'Community Centres' are defined as local community-operated hubs that enhance community well-being by providing spaces for gatherings, programs, and services that meet the diverse needs of the community. These centres often offer resources such as meeting rooms,

**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028****Executive Summary**

recreational facilities, educational programs, and support services, fostering inclusivity and collaboration among local residents.

- Whilst each Community Centre receives Neighbourhood House Coordination funding from the State Government (approx. \$90,000), and will receive Council's Community Service Partnership Grant Funding, Community Centres still need to generate their own income to sustain a service.
- On 22 February 2022, following the Community Grants Program review, Council endorsed a separate category within the Community Service Partnership Grant specifically for Community Centres and Neighbourhood Houses.
- As per the recommendation, the total recommended allocation for Community Centres is \$261,985 to enable an equitable grant amount of \$52,397 per Centre per annum plus CPI (as identified in Attachment F).

**Traditional Fundraising Events**

- In this report, "Traditional Fundraising Events" refers to small-scale long standing community events that support local charities through fundraising. Traditional events often have established networks of donors, participants, and volunteers and this stability makes them reliable sources of funding for local causes. The monies raised and reinvested into the community significantly exceed the 'seed-allocations' made by Council.
- If applying definitions strictly, these activities are not entirely 'unique' given any number of organisations could also initiate something similar. However, historically Council has consistently financially supported charity events in Frankston City, and most recently these three annual golf fundraising events through the Community Service Partnership Grant 2022-2025.
- It is recommended that this type of funding be categorised under 'Traditional Fundraising Events' and have a specialised agreement. The opportunity to broaden this category to more general fundraising events could be explored in future rounds of the Community Partnership Grant should Council require this.
- In the previous Partnership Grant rounds, there was considerable disparity between the amounts allocated to these fundraising events. In these next 3-Year Partnership Grants, it has been recommended that these amounts now be aligned and made consistent.
- The total recommended allocation for Traditional Fundraising Events is \$12,000 as per the allocations identified in Attachment F:

**Financial Impact**

That Council commits the funding of \$546,535.88 for the Community Service Partnership Grant in 2025/26 financial year. This remains consistent with the 2024/25 budget allocation (plus CPI increments).

**Consultation****1. External Stakeholders**

**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028****Executive Summary**

Each recipient successfully submitted an annual acquittal report for year two of the Community Service Partnership Grant 2022-2025, detailing the progress made and the outcomes achieved using the grant funds.

The Community Service Partnership Grant 2025-2028 Expression of Interest (EOI) round was advertised widely including:

- Direct notification to previous recipients of the Community Service Partnership Grant 2022-2025
- Direct notification to subscribed grant seekers through the Community Grants Program email alert.

**2. Other Stakeholders**

N/A

**Analysis (Environmental / Economic / Social Implications)**

Community Service Partnership Grant acquittals are assessed on the conditions and obligations outlined in their grant agreements and serve to demonstrate the benefit being delivered to the community and the environmental, social and economic outcomes in Frankston City. This grant enables partnered organisations to deliver inclusive and accessible programs or services to build resilience and strength in the community.

Community Service Partnership Grant Expression of Interest are assessed against the criteria outlined in the grant guidelines including its unique and significant service, community impact, addressing community need, access and inclusion and financial viability.

**Legal / Policy / Council Plan Impact****Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities**

The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities has been considered in the preparation of this report but is not relevant to the content of the report.

**Legal**

There are no legal issues associated with this report.

**Policy Impacts**

There are no policy impacts. Community Service Partnership Grant sits under the Community Grants Policy, endorsed on 3 June 2022.

**Gender Impact Assessments**

Gender Impact Assessment is in progress with the broader annual evaluation of the entire Community Grants program.

**Officer's Declaration of Interests**

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028****Executive Summary**

Angela Hughes, Director Communities, declared an interest due to her role as Council's representative on the board of the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula Local Learning and Employment Network (FMPLLEN). Section 129 of the Local Government Act 2020 provides that "a conflict of interest does not arise if ... (d) the interest only arises because the relevant person is the representative of the Council on a not-for-profit organisation that has an interest in the matter and the relevant person receives no personal advantage from the not-for-profit organisation." Nevertheless, Angela Hughes was not involved in the assessment of any applications, including the FMPLLEN application, nor did she have any involvement with the panel's recommendation.

**Risk Mitigation**

Use of the Community Grants Policy, grant guidelines, signed funding agreement guides the assessment of the acquittals for the 2022-2025 funding period and assessment of the 2025-2028 expression of interest applications by the Community Grants Officers serves to reduce the risk of inappropriate funding contributions.

All successful recipients are obligated to follow the funding conditions set out in their application, notification and Community Grants Policy including completing an acquittal that reports on the expenditure of the grant for the agreed purpose.

All stages of the grant cycle including the acquittal are documented within one grant management system, SmartyGrants.

**Conclusion**

The activities supported by the Year 2 Community Service Partnership Grant have demonstrated significant positive outcomes and impacts in their respective fields. These activities have contributed to the betterment of communities and individuals, aligning with Council priorities. All current recipients have been assessed to have met the conditions and obligations outlined in their funding agreements.

Recommendations are provided for funding 47 applicants for the 2025-2028 Community Service Partnership Grant to provide unique, specialised, continuous and significant service to the community aligned with Council priorities and community needs.

**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028****Executive Summary**

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**ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment A: Confidential - Community Service Partnership Grant Report - FP July 2023 - June 2025 - Confidential - Acquittal and Outcomes Report Year 2 2023-2024 - **CONFIDENTIAL**
- Attachment B:[↓](#) Community Service Partnership Grant FP2025-2028 Guidelines
- Attachment C: Confidential - Summary - Community Service partnership Grant - 2025-2028 - **CONFIDENTIAL**
- Attachment D: Confidential - Detailed List - Community Service Partnership Grant - 2025-2028 - **CONFIDENTIAL**
- Attachment E:[↓](#) Community Grants Program Overview 2025-26
- Attachment F:[↓](#) Community Service Partnership Grant -2025-2028 - Recommended Recipients List





## Acknowledgement of Country

*Frankston City Council acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong People, the Traditional Custodians of these lands and waters.*

## Introduction

The Community Service Partnership Grant offer triennial funding for selected not-for-profit community organisations that provide unique, specialised, continuous and significant service to the community where their activities align with Council priorities and meet community needs.

Grants are open to selected community organisations

- Neighbourhood Houses or Community Centres (\$52,397 each)
- Specialist Community Services (Up to \$50,000)
- Senior Groups (\$1,062 each)

## Funding Objectives

Frankston City Council aims to deliver an inclusive and accessible programs or services to build resilience and community strength in the community through the grants program.

Council supports community organisations that offer services or programs that contribute to one or more key priorities and objectives of [Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan](#)



## Eligibility Criteria

For an application to be eligible, the applicant must be:

- A **not-for-profit** community group or organisation
- Either:
  - **Incorporated** under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 or commenced the process of incorporation (evidence will be required), or
  - **Endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR)** as covered by Item 1 of the table in section 30.15 of the Income Tax Assessment 1997, or
  - **Auspiced** by another incorporated or DGR covered Item 1 organisation that will accept legal and financial responsibility for the activity (evidence will be required).
- **Located**
  - Within the local Government area of Frankston City, or
  - If located outside of Frankston City, servicing a significant number (over 1000) of Frankston City residents;
- **Have complied with all terms and conditions** including the submission of satisfactory acquittal reports for all previous Council grants.

## What can be funded

**Core operating expenses** of the organisations that are essential to implementing and running the service, program or project including

- Utilities
- Materials
- Administration
- Transportation
- Event cost
- Minor Equipment and maintenance
- Staff salaries
- Other expenses directly related to the approved activity

## What can't be funded (exclusions)

Community Service Partnership Grants are not for:

- Individuals, commercial and/or profit making organisation, a political party or hosting a political event;
- Programs, projects or events already funded by Council;
- Funding that would otherwise be covered by insurance;
- Retrospective funding for activities already been completed or purchased;
- Activities that are owned or managed by Council;
- Activities that are funding responsibilities of other levels of government such as school curriculum-based activities;
- Activities that are the responsibility of a group under their incorporation or lease/license agreement (including recurrent expenses, capital works);
- Funding for alcohol licenses, tobacco and gambling related activities;



- Building projects, capital works, large capital expenses and facility maintenance including purchase of lease of real estate or purchase of major equipment or vehicles;
- Activities that contravene State and Commonwealth legislation, Local Laws or Frankston Planning Scheme;
- Organisations currently involved in a tendering or procurement process with the Council;
- Staff, Councillor or contractor to Council (any exemptions in unique circumstances would require approval from the Director Communities, and necessitate all Disclosure of Interest requirements are met).

## Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on the responses to questions in the criteria below:

CRITERIA	Weighting
<b>Unique and Significant Service</b> Activity offers a unique, specialised, continuous and significant contribution aligned with Council priorities as outlined in the Health and Wellbeing Plan	30%
<b>Community Impact</b> Demonstrates direct and high benefit to Frankston City residents, especially to disadvantaged or vulnerable community members. Utilises data and statistics to substantiate impact.	20%
<b>Addressed Community Need</b> Clearly specifies and aligns with community needs outlined in Frankston City Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan. Emphasis on inclusivity and contributions to community resilience, education and engagement.	20%
<b>Access and Inclusion</b> Ability to demonstrate the activities are maximally accessible to community members, with an emphasis on social, economic, environmental, and physical inclusivity.	15%
<b>Financial Viability</b> Ability to demonstrate financial viability and emphasise Council's role in addressing funding gaps not covered by funding sources.	15%



## Application and Assessment Process

### Stage 1: Expression of Interest (EOI)

► (Senior groups and neighbourhood / community centres automatically move to stage 2 and are not required to submit a stage 1 EOI)

This initial stage allows you to present your proposed activity without the need for a full plan. Here's what you need to know:

<b>Submission Deadline</b>	27 September 2024 (Extended from 13 September 2024)
<b>Where to apply</b>	To apply, visit Frankston City Council's SmartyGrants website through the private link below: <a href="https://frankston.smartygrants.com.au/CSP25-28">https://frankston.smartygrants.com.au/CSP25-28</a>  If you are <u>new</u> to SmartyGrants website, you will need to create account first.
<b>What to include</b>	<b>Organisation Details:</b> Name, address, contact information and a brief description  <b>Activity Brief</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity overview and alignment with Council priorities</li><li>• Estimated beneficiaries and unique community impact</li><li>• Funding amount sought</li><li>• Demonstration of access and inclusion</li><li>• Brief overview of fund utilisation and funding need</li></ul>
<b>Assessment Process</b>	Council Officers will review submissions for eligibility, including an Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC) search.  Recommended Stage 1 applications will be considered by Councillors at a Council Meeting.
<b>Shortlist Announcement</b>	Successful Stage 1 applicants will then be invited to apply for Stage 2 early 2025. Unsuccessful stage 1 applicants will be notified.



### Stage 2 Application – Full activity plan and supporting documentation

This stage allows you to provide details about your activity and supporting documentation. Here's what you need to know:

<b>Submission Deadline</b>	February 28, 2025
<b>Where to submit</b>	<p>If successful in stage 1 application, the stage 2 form will be added to your original submission. You can access the form by logging in at <a href="http://www.frankston.smartygrants.com.au/applicant">www.frankston.smartygrants.com.au/applicant</a> and then clicking the 'My Submissions' link at the top of the page. There you will see your submission number and the stage form underneath waiting for you to complete.</p> <p><b>Senior Groups and Neighbourhood Houses / Community Centres</b></p> <p>To submit your form, visit Council's SmartyGrants website through the <i>private link</i> below:  <a href="https://frankston.smartygrants.com.au/CSP25-28">https://frankston.smartygrants.com.au/CSP25-28</a></p> <p>If you are <u>new</u> to SmartyGrants website, you will need to create account first.</p>
<b>What to include</b>	<p><b>Detailed Activity Plan:</b> Objectives, deliverables, timeline, and budget.</p> <p><b>Supporting Documentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate of Incorporation or evidence of charitable provisions</li> <li>• Current Public Liability Insurance</li> <li>• Minutes from your organisation's last AGM or Annual Report</li> <li>• Most recent annual financial statement (Income/Expenditure, balance sheet and cash flow)</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment Process</b>	<p>Council officers will review all information and supporting documentation for eligibility including an Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC) search.</p> <p>Success at this stage is contingent upon the satisfactory submission of all required documentation and details.</p> <p>A funding agreement will be developed using the information provided.</p>



## Funding Announcement

Successful Stage 2 applicants will then receive an official letter of approval and accompanying funding agreement (to be signed by both parties) by mid year.

## Conditions

- **Grant Allocations:** All grant allocations are subject to Council approval.
- **Allowed Uses:** Grant funds can be used to support operational needs directly related to the approved activity.
- **Reporting requirements:** Recipients of this grant must report the following annually via SmartyGrants by 31 August of each financial year to receive funding for Year 2 and 3 -
  - Acknowledgement of Frankston City Council on public promotion
  - Key milestones and deliverables
  - Funding is spent on agreed purpose
  - Required documents including:
    - Current Public Liability Insurance
    - Minutes from your organisation's last AGM or Annual Report
    - Most recent annual financial statement (income/expenditure, balance sheet and cash flow)
- **Funding Agreement:** All successful grant applicants are required to sign and abide by the Community Service Partnership Grant funding agreement.
  - Funding Agreements and the level of reporting requirements will be commensurate with the level of funding received Community Service Partnership Grants are subject to a funding review including CPI in accordance with Council's annual budget planning process.
- **Tenancy Agreements:** Where organisations are tenants of Council, delivery of the grant funding agreement will form part of tenancy obligations.
- **Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres:** Must comply with license agreement and must be open for at least as many hours as they receive DHHS coordination funding.
- **Child Safety:** Everyone in the community has a responsibility in ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of children.
  - All grant recipients must, at minimum, commit to proactively keeping children safe and reporting any concerns of child safety.
  - Grant recipients are required to comply with all relevant child safety legislation which may include, but is not limited to, The Victorian Child Safe Standards (2022) and The Child Wellbeing and Safety Act (2005). Council may request evidence of compliance.



## Support Available

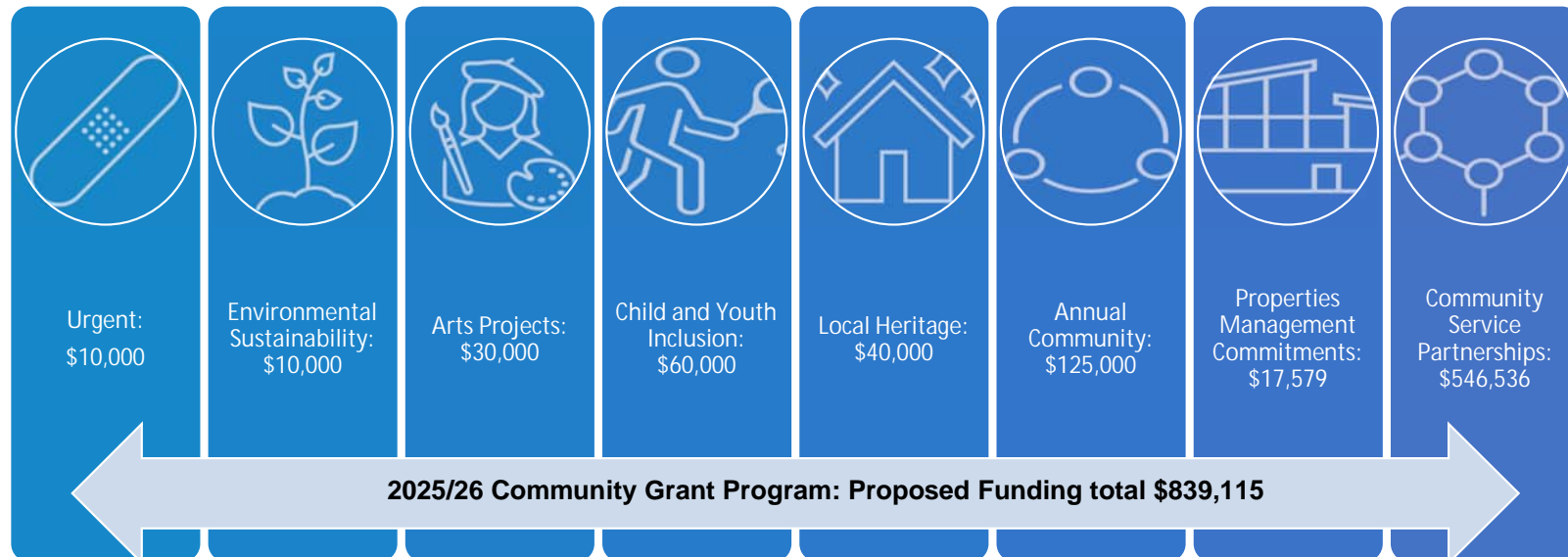
Assistance with	Contact
<b>General enquiries and advice regarding this Grant</b>	<b>Community Grants</b> (03) 9784 1035 communitygrants@frankston.vic.gov.au
<b>Technical issues with SmartyGrants website</b>	<b>SmartyGrants</b> 03) 9320 6888 service@smartygrants.com.au
<b>Multilingual support</b> In you need the assistance of an interpreter	Call 131 450 and state 'Frankston City Council as the organisation and quote our number 1300 322 322
<b>Communication Access</b> Support service for people with a hearing, speech or communication impairment and for text telephone or modem callers.	<b>National Relay Service</b> To find the NRS call option that best suits you visit: <a href="http://www.communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs">www.communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs</a>  Most NRS call options are available 24 hours, 7 days a week.
<b>Child Safety</b> Information regarding Council's approach to child safety	<b>Coordinator Child Safety</b> childsafes@frankston.vic.gov.au





# Community Grants Program Overview 2025/26

## Community Grants overview





## Community Grants overview

Category	Amount	Description	Council Plan or Strategy Alignment
<b>Urgent</b>	Up to \$1,000	Funding to assist grassroots community groups who have a pressing need for support. This funding is for a broad range of items to meet the urgent needs of the organisation (e.g. equipment, rent, utility bills, training, materials etc.) and/or enable the organisation to respond quickly to the immediate needs of the community i.e. supply of food, mental health support, health and well-being initiatives, equipment and community connectedness. Generally, this grant would be applied for when specific needs emerge with such urgency and that the applicant is not able to apply for the Annual Community Grants.	2021-2025 Council Plan: Council aims to deliver inclusive and accessible support, programs and community spaces to build resilience and community strength in the community through the grants program
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	Landowner and Community Organisations up to \$1,000	<p>Funding to support community organisations with environmental and sustainability projects that support the strategic vision for Frankston's future.</p> <p>Funding for Landowners to revegetate private land which contributes to mapped biodiversity corridors connecting native vegetation.</p>	<p>Council's Future Environment Strategy (2014 - 2024) and 2021-2025 Council Plan: key priority to enhance the sustainability and enjoyment of Frankston City's natural and built environments</p> <p>Health &amp; Wellbeing Plan 2021-2024: Key strategy is to facilitate community education programs to increase awareness and climate action</p>



<b>Arts Projects</b>	\$5,000	Funding to support individual artists, creatives or artists practicing within a small arts organisation from all backgrounds and abilities, at all stages of career whether emerging, mid-career or established. The funding will be distributed to six successful recipients, with at least one of the grants dedicated to realise creative projects for deaf and disabled artists	2021-2025 Council Plan: Council aims to build Frankston's cultural landscape by supporting the production and delivery of arts programs and events providing opportunities to create, learn and connect
<b>Child and Youth inclusion</b>	<b>Education &amp; Pathway:</b> up to \$600  <b>Recreation:</b> 75% of fees or up to \$200	One-off funding to support the inclusion of the following Frankston residents who are experiencing financial disadvantage: <b>Education &amp; Pathway:</b> 11-24 year olds who do not have the financial means to purchase required materials and equipment, or cover course fees for formal education, training and career aspirations <b>Recreation:</b> 5-18 year olds who do not have the financial means to pay for compulsory fees and/or uniform to participate in recreational activities within Frankston municipality (e.g. school camps, sporting activities, creative activities including dance, music or art)	2021-2025 Frankston City Council Plan: aims to support young people in participating in formal education and recreational programs and activities  2021-2025 Health and Wellbeing Plan: Build fair and Inclusive Communities by advocating to improve equitable access to education and employment
<b>Local Heritage</b>	Up to \$10,000	One-off funding to assist eligible individuals, community groups or organisations who own or manage properties within the Heritage Overlay to maintain, repair, restore or enhance these places for future generations.  The LHPG Program seeks to support conservation works to buildings, structures, fences, and sites across the Frankston municipality that are not managed by Council.	2021-2025 Frankston City Council Plan: aims to integrate land use, planning and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the City.



<b>Annual Community</b>	Up to \$7,500	One-off funding for not-for-profit community organisations and groups for a broad range of items to meet the needs of the organisation (e.g. equipment, rent, utility bills, training, materials etc.) and/or to enable the organisation to respond to community needs (i.e. supply of food, mental health support, health and well-being initiatives, equipment and community connectedness)	2021-2025 Council Plan: Council aims to deliver inclusive and accessible support, programs and community spaces to build resilience and community strength in the community through the grants program
<b>Properties Management Commitments</b>	Varied	Continuous lease obligation annual grant provided to specific organisations including:  - Frankston Lifesaving Club - Seaford Lifesaving Club	2021-2025 Frankston City Council Plan: Council aims to deliver inclusive and accessible support, programs and community spaces to build resilience and community strength in the community through the grants program
<b>Community Service Partnership</b>	Varied	Triennial grant to not-for-profit community organisations that provide continuous and significant service to the community where their programs align with Council priorities. Funding will be provided on a recurrent three-year fixed term basis for ensuring ongoing operations of the organisation.  Community organisations include: - Neighbourhood Houses or Community Centres (NHs/CCs) - Senior Groups - Organisations with high priority specialist service provisions - Volunteer Emergency Service Organisations	2021-2025 Frankston City Council Plan: Council aims to deliver inclusive and accessible support, programs and community spaces to build resilience and community strength in the community through the grants program





# Community Service Partnership Grant July 2025 - June 2028

## Specialist Community Services

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Amount Awarded
<i>Frankston Life Inc</i>	Christmas Day Lunch	\$ 5,500.00
<i>Frankston Mornington Peninsula Local Learning and Employment Network inc.</i>	Frankston Mornington Peninsula Industry and Job Expo 2025-2028	\$ 11,000.00
<i>Frankston Social Enterprise Hub</i>	Frankston Social Enterprise Hub	\$ 21,000.00
<i>Frankston Toy Library</i>	Toy Library Services	\$ 16,000.00
<i>McClelland Gallery</i>	Encounters & Senses Early Years Learning Programs	\$ 25,000.00
<i>Miscarriage Information Support Service</i>	MISS Support Resources for Early Pregnancy Loss	\$ 5,000.00
<i>Peninsula Autism Friendship Group</i>	Free Support Groups: Neurokin, Autism Connections, Carers Connections, Dads Group, and a supported playgroup.	\$ 5,000.00
<i>Peninsula Community Legal Centre Inc.</i>	Free Legal Service	\$ 49,000.00
<i>SES Frankston Unit</i>	Emergency Services	\$ 29,000.00
<i>TeamSports4All</i>	Support for youth to access sport	\$ 5,000.00
<i>The Babes Project</i>	Support for women facing crisis pregnancies	\$ 11,104.88
<i>The Motivation Project Ltd trading as the Women's Spirit Project</i>	Spirit of Transformation Program	\$ 27,000.00
<i>U3A Frankston Inc</i>	Services for seniors	\$ 11,000.00
<i>Langwarrin Mens Shed Inc</i>	Women in Workshop	\$ 5,500.00
<i>Pines Men's Shed</i>	Men's Shed	\$ 5,500.00

## Traditional Fundraising Events

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Amount Awarded
<i>Centenary Park Golf Club Inc</i>	Golf Charity Event	\$ 4,000.00
<i>Rotary Club of Frankston</i>	Golf Charity Event	\$ 4,000.00
<i>Rotary Club of Frankston Sunrise</i>	Golf Charity Event	\$ 4,000.00

## Seniors Groups

Organisation	Purpose	Amount Awarded
<i>Australian Multicultural Seniors Support Group</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Carrum Downs Senior Citizens Club Inc</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Carrum Downs Sri Lankan Seniors Inc</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Chinese Seniors Citizens Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>East Frankston Over 55s Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Frankston Combined Probus</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Frankston Fabulous 50s Swimming Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Frankston Filipino Seniors Support Group</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Frankston Friendship Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Frankston Ladies Probus Club Inc</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Frankston Naval Memorial Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Greek Elderly Women Club of Frankston and Peninsula</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Greek Senior Citizens Club of Frankston and Peninsula</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Kalenka Inc</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Polish Senior Citizens Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00



<i>Probus Club of Carrum Downs</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Probus Club of Frankston</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Probus Club of Langwarrin Combined Inc</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Probus Club of Langwarrin Ladies</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Probus Club of Seaford Inc.</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Raduga Senior Citizens Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>Seaford Senior Citizens Club</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00
<i>South American Senior Citizens Club of Frankston and Peninsula Inc</i>	Operations	\$1,062.00

## Community Centres

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Grant Purpose</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
<i>Belvedere Community Centre</i>	Operations	\$52,397.00
<i>Langwarrin Community Centre</i>	Operations	\$52,397.00
<i>Lyrebird Community Centre</i>	Operations	\$52,397.00
<i>Nairm Marr Djambana</i>	Operations	\$52,397.00
<i>Orwil Street Community House</i>	Operations	\$52,397.00



## Executive Summary

### 5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities

*Enquiries: (Kristen Thomson: Customer Innovation and Arts)*

#### Council Plan

Level 1:

6. Progressive and Engaged City

Level 2:

6.3 Lead advocacy engagement and enhance relationships with all tiers of government and key stakeholders

#### **Purpose**

To inform Council of and recommend a range of proposed initiatives requiring Council-led advocacy and local partnerships for the 2025 federal election.

#### **Recommendation (Director Customer Innovation and Arts)**

That Council:

1. Notes the importance of Council-led advocacy on behalf of the local and regional community in raising awareness of key initiatives for potential Federal Government investment prior to and during the 2025 election;
2. Notes the local government sector is experiencing economic challenges, highlighting the need to focus advocacy priorities on practical and achievable outcomes that reflect Council's financial position;
3. Endorses the following four core priorities for Council-led advocacy ahead of the 2025 federal election:
  - a. Nepean Boulevard Precinct Revitalisation  
Seeking Federal funding contribution to deliver key projects identified in the Nepean Boulevard Master Plan to enhance local infrastructure and liveability in Frankston's growing city centre, the amount of which will be confirmed at the Council Meeting on 29 January 2025;
  - b. Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment  
Seeking \$3.33 million funding co-contributions from Federal and State each to deliver a fit-for-purpose, inclusive multi-sport facility for tennis, AFL and cricket at Bruce Park in Frankston, the cost of the project being confirmed as \$10 million at the 19 August 2024 Council Meeting;
  - c. Enhancing Connected Neighbourhoods  
Seeking Federal funding contribution of \$11.7 million for a package of active transport initiatives that strengthen connections within Frankston and to its neighbouring municipalities, including walking and cycling pathways that integrate key suburbs with Frankston's city centre;
  - d. Support for Vulnerable Community Members
    - i. Seeking to secure ongoing Federal funding of an additional \$500,000 per annum for wider emergency relief providers operating in the Frankston municipality to address the needs of vulnerable residents, noting the substantial role of Community Support Frankston and other services that are currently provided in the Frankston municipality; and
    - ii. Seeking Federal funding of \$350,000 per annum over three years (2026-2028) to extend the Community Connections pilot project at Frankston Station (currently operating until late 2025), providing two (2) mental health and social support practitioners to deliver support

**5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities****Executive Summary**

services to community members and to improve public safety.

4. (a) Notes that since Council last endorsed Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment as an Advocacy Priority on 11 September 2024, the total cost of the development has increased from \$9 million to \$10 million as a result of construction cost escalations, necessitating a greater funding contribution from Council than currently budgeted as part of Council seeking triennial funding for the whole of the re-development;  
  
(b) Authorises the CEO to make the necessary adjustments to the Long Term Infrastructure Plan and Council Budget to allocate an additional \$0.33 million to Council's existing \$3 million contribution to the Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment project, by offsetting this against other projects in the LTIP, so as not to adversely affect Council's financial performance or further increase its projected underlying deficit;
5. Notes that ongoing advocacy, including grant applications, on agreed further projects, must be led by relevant key partners, organisations and clubs. Correspondence outlining this requirement and providing guidance on advocacy will be shared to key stakeholders after this meeting. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Nairn Marr Djambana Gathering Place facility upgrade (Frankston);
  - b. Len Phelps Pavilion expansion (Carrum Downs); and
  - c. Monterey Reserve Precinct Revitalisation (Frankston North).
6. Notes there are also a discrete number of other projects of continuing interest by parts the community, which will be pursued directly by the clubs or community groups, independent of Council. An example of this is the Frankston Bowling Club Canopy Dome, which Council has previously made a funding pledge towards at the 3 June 2024 Council Meeting;
7. Notes an advocacy campaign plan detailing key tactics, stakeholders, messaging and events will be finalised following endorsement of the core advocacy priorities. The advocacy campaign will include various printed publications, correspondence to stakeholders and MPs/candidates, extensive public relations tactics such as videos and social media, an engaging website and more; and
8. Notes, following the outcomes of the 2025 federal election, the advocacy priorities and funding strategy will be further reviewed and updated to Council in due course.

**Key Points / Issues**

- The federal election for 2025 is expected to occur in the first quarter of 2025.
- Council has the opportunity to refresh the Council-led advocacy priorities in order to influence decision-making ahead of, and during, the 2025 federal election.
- The Frankston City Council area covers one federal electorate (Dunkley).
- Council's previous advocacy has been successful in securing State and Federal Government funding towards key projects through 2021-2022, such as:
  - Frankston Basketball and Gymnastics Stadium Redevelopment (\$15 million each from State and Federal Governments);



**5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities****Executive Summary**

- Sandfield Reserve Precinct Revitalisation (1.3 million each from State and Federal Governments);
- Kananook Commuter Car Park (\$22 million from Federal Government); and
- Frankston Regional Arts Trail (\$2 million from Federal Government).
- Advocacy priorities are shared regularly with local Members of Parliament to ensure an alignment with state and federal representatives for Council initiatives.
- The advocacy priorities have been informed by conversations at State and Federal levels, and through the Community Vision engagement feedback, where officers have identified a sentiment that has moved away from new infrastructure to a focus on community service and needs.
- With construction market cost escalations placing greater financial pressure on all levels of government in the delivery of vital community infrastructure, it has been Council's position to fund future projects through equal financial contributions from Council, State and Federal Governments where possible.
- It is clear the community and our stakeholders are also operating in challenging times. Recent feedback collated from the community engagement results from the Community Vision work has highlighted a growing demand for safety, social support services, and liveability improvements. To address this, Council must:
  - Pivot from large-scale, externally dependent projects to smaller, diversified initiatives with broader community benefits; and
  - Emphasise service-oriented priorities that align with community sentiment and financial realities.
- The project scope of initiatives identified as advocacy priorities are detailed below. Each initiative has been developed through community interest, and of interest to local politicians;
- Nepean Boulevard Precinct Revitalisation
  - Seeking Federal funding contribution to deliver signature projects identified in the Nepean Boulevard Master Plan to enhance local infrastructure and liveability in Frankston's growing city centre.
  - Delivering on the long-term vision, designed in consultation with community, to transform the 3.7km Nepean Highway into a safe, attractive and vibrant Boulevard.
  - Key projects identified through community consultation, that it is recommended that Council advocate for as part of the upcoming Federal election include:
    - Signalisation of the Overton Road and Nepean Highway intersection and beautification of the Kananook Creek Park and Gateway site;
    - Uplift and activation of the Comfort Station;
    - Pedestrian and cycling connections, including:
      - Nepean Highway to Keys Street;
      - To Frankston Foreshore;

**5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities****Executive Summary**

- Plowman Place to Frankston Waterfront;
  - Central median strip greening and uplifting;
  - Undergrounding of power infrastructure; and
  - Traffic modelling.
- The costing of the projects that we are advocating for, for the Nepean Boulevard will be presented at the 29 January 2025 Council Meeting.
- Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment
  - Total project cost estimated at \$10 million, seeking a three-way funding split (Federal, State and Local Governments) of \$3.33 million each.
  - The total cost of this project has increased by \$1 million (from \$9 million to \$10 million) since the project was last reported to Council due to construction cost escalations.
  - Political interest in the project was shown through 2022 and 2023 by both Federal and State MPs.
  - Though, Council was recently unsuccessful in its Thriving Suburbs grant application which was made to the Federal Government as part of a national program.
  - Located on a 4.1 hectare parcel of land within a neighbourhood residential area in Frankston alongside the Bruce Park Community Hall, play space and public toilet.
  - Servicing one football oval and cricket pitch, seven (7) clay tennis courts and four (4) cricket practice nets for over 1,000 participants from Bruce Park Tennis Club, Frankston Rovers Junior Football Club and Heatherhill Cricket Club.
- Support for Vulnerable Community Members
  - Seeking secure ongoing Federal funding of an additional \$500,000 per annum for emergency relief providers like Community Support Frankston to address the needs of vulnerable residents.
  - Seeking Federal funding of \$350,000 per annum over three years (2026-2028) to extend the Community Connections pilot project at Frankston Station (currently operating until late 2025), providing two (2) mental health and social support practitioners to deliver support services to community members and to improve public safety.
  - Current emergency relief and vulnerable support service providers in Frankston City are experiencing high and increasing demand from our most disadvantaged community members, and require increased ongoing annual funding to meet needs, indexed each year with CPI. As an example, Frankston City's primary and only Federally funded emergency relief provider Community Support Frankston has seen a 120% increase in requests for support since 2018, whereas their Federal funding has remained largely the same.
  - Council has partnered with Metro Trains Melbourne and South East Community Links (SECL) on a new community outreach initiative identified in the Young Street Action Plan aimed at assisting community members and passengers who frequent the station precinct and face

**5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities****Executive Summary**

complex challenges, including mental health issues, substance abuse, poverty, family violence, and housing insecurity.

- Enhancing Connected Neighbourhoods;
  - Seeking Federal funding contribution towards an \$11.7 million package of active transport initiatives that strengthen connections within Frankston and to its neighbouring municipalities, including walking and cycling pathways that integrate key suburbs with Frankston's city centre.
  - By addressing key strategic missing links in our active transport network, we can deliver significant benefits including improved accessibility, enhanced community health, reduced congestion and economic growth.
  - Active transport Shared User Path projects included in this package are:
    - Peninsula Link to Baxter Trail (\$2.5 million);
    - Frankston-Dandenong Road between Boundary Road to Thompsons Road (\$1.6 million);
    - Baxter Park to Peninsula Link (\$1.5 million);
    - Eel Race Road from Station Street to Patterson River Secondary College (\$3.63 million);
    - Fletcher Road from Beach Street to Baxter Trail (\$2.5 million).
- The Greater South East Melbourne group of Councils, which Frankston is a member of, is also advocating on behalf of Frankston City for the \$11.7 million active transport package of shared user paths. Further initiatives across housing affordability and availability, jobs and skills, infrastructure and transport, and liveability and community resilience will benefit Frankston City and the broader south east Melbourne region.
- In addition to the Core priorities for Council-led advocacy during election campaign periods, advocacy continues in various forms for a number of other opportunistic advocacy initiatives. Advocacy for these initiatives are led by the respective organisation or club, and include the following:
  - Nairn Marr Djambana Gathering Place facility upgrade
  - Len Phelps Pavilion expansion (Carrum Downs)
  - Monterey Reserve Precinct Revitalisation (Frankston North)
- There are also a discrete number of other projects of continuing interest by parts the community, which will be pursued directly by the clubs or community groups, independent of Council. An example of this is the Frankston Bowling Club Canopy Dome, which Council has previously made a funding pledge towards at the 3 June 2024 Council Meeting.
- Officers have commenced developing an advocacy campaign plan for the Federal election 2025 period, it will include broad community reach out and meetings with stakeholders, community groups and organisations such as the Committee for Frankston and Mornington Peninsula.
- An update on Council's advocacy campaign will be reported back to Council following the 2025 federal election.

**5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities****Executive Summary****Financial Impact**

The list of advocacy priorities has taken into consideration the Long Term Infrastructure Plan (LTIP) which has been developed in accordance with the funding provisions set in Council's Financial Plan.

Updates to Council's LTIP will be made to reflect the total project cost and financial contributions from all three levels of government towards the Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment project.

**Consultation****1. External Stakeholders**

Council officers have engaged relevant stakeholders (such as partners and organisations) and community via the extensive Community Vision engagement to inform the current advocacy priorities.

**2. Other Stakeholders**

Relevant teams across Communities, City Futures, Finance and Corporate Planning, Sustainable Assets, Capital Works Delivery, Engineering Services, Building Infrastructure, Arts and Culture, and Community Relations have been consulted in the development of this report.

Their input has been vital in determining the readiness of projects for delivery should funding be secured.

**Analysis (Environmental / Economic / Social Implications)**

The projects identified in this report for Council-led advocacy to seek Federal Government investment will deliver a range of positive social, health, environmental, economic and tourism benefits to the entire Frankston City community.

This includes improved health outcomes, reduced social isolation, increased sense of community safety, increased civic pride, generation of new short and long-term employment opportunities for the local and regional economic workforce, increased visitor revenue and the implementation of sustainable design principles.

**Legal / Policy / Council Plan Impact**Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities has been considered in the preparation of this report but is not relevant to the content of the report.

Legal

There are no known legal implications nor statutory obligations arising from this report.

Policy Impacts

Working with Members of Parliament Protocol, Open Space Strategy, Monterey Reserve Master Plan, Carrum Downs Recreation Reserve Master Plan, Election Signs and Events Policy.

Officer's Declaration of Interests

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no Conflict of Interest in this matter.

**5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities****Executive Summary****Risk Mitigation**

While population growth continues to rise, a key challenge for councils across the country continues to be the ability to maintain and improve the assets and services required by a growing community, within limited income capacity.

As a result, the traditional role of advocacy within Local Government has significantly transformed to become a core and strategic partnering approach to securing the additional funding and support required to meet growing demand.

Furthermore, deliberative community consultation on individual advocacy priorities is a legislative requirement for Local Government and is essential for the success of grassroots advocacy campaigns.

**Conclusion**

Council has developed a targeted range of local community initiatives that require Council-led advocacy to secure Federal Government funding contributions through the 2025 federal elections.

The core priorities that will feature in the Advocacy Campaign for 2025 are:

- Support for Vulnerable Community Members;
- Nepean Boulevard Precinct Revitalisation;
- Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment; and
- Enhancing Connected Neighbourhoods.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**6.1 2025/NOM01 - Amendment to the Councillor Call-In Protocol**

On 2 December 2024 Councillor Wanat gave notice of her intention to move the following motion:

That Council seeks to amend the Councillor call-in protocol and associated form pertaining to planning permit applications due to the change to single Councillor Wards, to reflect the following:

- a) That Councillors must fill in a mandatory call-in form that includes the rationale for the call-in and written agreement (including by electronic means) must be received from four Councillors before a Councillor call-in is effectual; and
- b) The call-in form must be attached to the Council agenda item of the planning permit application called in.

**COMMENTS BY Director Communities**

This NoM seeks to update the Councillor call-in protocol, which is required as noted in the previous Council resolution on this protocol on 11 October 2021, due to the change from multi-Councillor wards to single Councillor wards. The NoM can be easily implemented with an update to the Councillor call-protocol detailed in the Councillors Statutory Planning Processes Guide and the online Councillor call-in form.

<b>Question for Consideration</b>	
<b>1. Has the NoM been discussed with the CEO and/or the relevant Director or Manager?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>2. Is the NoM substantially different from any notice of motion or rescission motion that has been considered by Council and lost in the preceding six months?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>3. Is the NoM clear and well worded?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>4. Is the NoM capable of being implemented?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>5. If the NoM is adopted, will a meeting be required with the relevant Director and Manager and Council officers in order to progress its implementation?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>6. Is the NoM within the powers of a municipal Council?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>7. Is the NoM free from overlap with matters for which the State and/or Federal Government are responsible?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>8. Is the NoM consistent with all relevant legislation?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>9. Is the NoM consistent with existing Council or State policy or position?</b>	<b>YES</b>

## 6.1 2025/NOM01 - Amendment to the Councillor Call-In Protocol

Question for Consideration	
10. Is the NoM consistent with Council's adopted strategic plan?	YES
11. Can the NoM be implemented without diversion of existing resources?	YES
12. Can the NoM be implemented without diversion of allocated Council funds?	YES
13. Are funds available in the adopted budget to implement the NoM?	NA
14. What is the estimated cost of implementing the NoM?	Nil

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* enables the Council to close the meeting to the public if the meeting is discussing any of the following:

- (a) Council business information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released;
- (b) Security information that is likely to endanger the security of Council property or the safety of any person;
- (c) Land use planning information;
- (d) Law enforcement information;
- (e) Legal privileged information;
- (f) Personal information;
- (g) Private commercial information;
- (h) Internal arbitration information;
- (i) Councillor conduct panel information
- (j) Information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information for the purposes of this definition;
- (k) Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the *Local Government Act 2020*
- (l) A resolution to close the meeting to members of the public pursuant to section 66(2)(a).

Nil Reports

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Signed by the CEO