

Community Partnerships Funding Guidelines

File No: FIN/302



Responsible Directorate: Sustainable Economy & Communities

Purpose

The Community Partnerships program aims to foster collaborative, strategic partnerships between the Shire and community organisations. These partnerships are designed to align with both the Shire's [Strategic Community Plan 2040 \(SCP\)](#) and the partner organisation's strategic goals, to achieve outcomes that benefit the community and natural environment.

Application

The Community Partnerships Funding Guidelines provide detailed information to assist local organisations in applying for Community Partnerships Funding. It outlines best practices for submitting Expressions of Interest and sets clear expectations for prospective partners, ensuring alignment with both parties' strategic vision and goals.

Eligibility

All applicants should provide long term, strategic services within the Shire of Augusta Margaret River. Applicants must have no outstanding, overdue grant acquittals or unspent funds owing to the Shire.

Organisations may apply for up to \$50,000 (ex. GST) per year, up to a three-year period. Partnerships will be co-created and may include operating and / or project costs based on individual needs and discussions.

Organisations applying for Community Partnerships Funding are eligible to apply for other Shire grant funding programs, provided the project/s or initiative/s sit outside the scope of the Partnership Agreement.

Definitions

- Community Partnership: A co-created, mutually beneficial agreement between the Shire and local organisations to achieve shared community goals.
- Expression of Interest (EOI): A formal submission by community organisations to apply for the Community Partnerships program.
- Partnership Agreement: A formal contract detailing the terms, deliverables, funding, timelines, reporting and acquittal requirements for the partnership.

2024-25 Community Partnerships Funding Guidelines

Guidelines

Purpose of Community Partnerships

Community Partnerships Funding seeks to establish partnerships that align with both the objectives in the Shire's [Strategic Community Plan 2040](#) and the strategic goals of local community organisations. Partnerships should deliver clear benefits to the community and enhance the capacity of both partners.

There are two Community Partnership Funding streams:

1) Environmental Conservation and Sustainability

To assist in advancing one or more of the following outcomes:

EN.1 Ecology and biodiversity protection

EN.2 Heathy waterways, foreshores and natural landscapes

EN.3 Collective climate action

EN.4 Sustainable resource and waste management

2) Sustainable Economy & Community Development

To assist in advancing one or more of the following outcomes:

Outcome PL.4 Resilient circular local economy, including facilitating and advocating for the region to be developed as a hub for the creative industries.

Outcome PE.1: Diverse cultural values are respected and adopted

Outcome PE.2: Equal opportunities for all

Outcome PE.3: Active, healthy and fulfilling lifestyles

Outcome PE.4: Safe and resilient communities

Preparing Expressions of Interest (EOI)

Organisations interested in applying for the Community Partnerships program are asked to respond to the questions below. Please ensure your application does not exceed three pages in length.

1. Tell us about your organisation, its strategic goals, and vision.
 - Describe your organisation's mission and primary strategic goals for the next 2–5 years. Provide examples of recent projects that demonstrate how you are progressing toward achieving these goals.
2. How do your strategic goals align with the Shire's Strategic Community Plan (SCP) outcomes?
 - Explain how your organisation's goals align with the Shire's SCP outcomes. Identify specific strategies within the Plan's focus areas that this partnership will support.
3. Describe how we can work together to achieve shared community and / or environmental goals and outcomes.
 - Provide examples of how the Shire and your organisation can collaborate to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. Describe the value each partner brings to the partnership, including non-financial

contributions such as expertise, networks, events or resources. What opportunities exist beyond funding to enhance community impact?

4. What is your organisation's capacity to deliver?
 - Outline your organisational structure, including key staff, volunteers, and leadership. Highlight previous experience delivering similar projects or partnerships. Include any relevant community networks, partnerships, and collaborations that will support project delivery.
5. What impact will this partnership have on the community and / or environment?
 - Detail the expected outcomes of this partnership, both in terms of community benefit and the long-term impact. How will these outcomes be measured and reported?
6. Provide an indication of the funding amount and term sought by your organisation.

Submissions

Please complete a Community Partnerships EOI Submission available from amrshire.wa.gov.au/CommunityPartnerships and submit this together with your responses.

EOIs must be submitted by the closing date and should include relevant supporting documents, such as letters of support, organisational charts, and evidence of leadership capabilities.

Closing date: EOIs submissions must be made by **4pm on Friday 8 November 2024** to the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Augusta Margaret River, 41 Wallcliffe Road, Margaret River WA 6285 or emailed to amrshire@amrshire.wa.gov.au

EOI Submission Assistance

For assistance please contact:

1) Environmental Conservation and Sustainability Stream

Kay Lehman Coordinator Environment Landcare Services or
Hayley Bain, Senior Environmental Landcare Officer

Phone: (08) 9780 5221 / (08) 9780 5218

Email: klehman@amrshire.wa.gov.au /
hbain@amrshire.wa.gov.au

**2) Sustainable Economy & Community
Development Stream**

Stephanie Binns, Manager Arts, Community and Economic
Development

Phone: (08) 9780 5247

Email: sbinns@amrshire.wa.gov.au

2024-25 Community Partnerships Funding Guidelines

Evaluation Criteria for Community Partnerships

EOIs will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1. Alignment of Strategic Goals:**
How well do the organisation's strategic goals align with the objectives of the Shire's Strategic Community Plan? How does the organisation value community relationships and foster a welcoming and inclusive environment?
- 2. Leadership:**
What is the experience and expertise of the organisations leadership team in managing community or environmental projects or initiatives? How does the leadership team or organisation effectively engage with stakeholders to identify opportunities and navigate challenges to deliver outcomes?
- 3. Potential for Collaboration:**
Are there clear, mutually beneficial partnership opportunities that add value beyond funding? Does the organisation propose a collaborative approach to addressing community needs? How will this facilitate meeting strategic priorities in the Shire's Strategic Community Plan (SCP) over the long term?
- 4. Capacity to Deliver:**
Does the organisation have the necessary leadership, experience, resources, expertise, and community connections to implement the partnership effectively? Does the organisation have a proven track record in delivering programs or projects that align with the Shire's Strategic Community Plan (SCP).
- 5. Community Impact:**
Will the partnership deliver meaningful outcomes within the key focus areas, address priority issues and contribute long-term to the community? Are the intended outcomes clearly defined and measurable?

EOI Assessment

The Shire is committed to an evaluation process that is fair and transparent.

Applications will be assessed by a panel in a competitive environment against all applications received within the same focus area (Environmental Conservation and Sustainability and Sustainable Economy & Community Development).

The panel will evaluate EOI submissions against the Assessment Criteria.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome within 4-6 weeks of the closing date.

Successful applicants will collaborate with Shire officers to develop a detailed partnership scope, budget and agreement, ensuring both parties' contributions and expectations are clearly outlined and agreed upon.

Partnerships will then be formalised and funding arrangements made.

2024-25 Community Partnerships Funding Guidelines

Partnership Implementation and Reporting

Once the partnership agreement is finalised, the Shire and organisation will work collaboratively to implement the agreed-upon commitments. Progress will be evaluated annually, with the organisation providing a report detailing outcomes and progress against the partnership scope. The organisation will be required to acquit the grant at the end of the partnership period.

Relevant Legislation

- Local Government Act 1995
-

Related Documents

- Community, Economic, Environmental and Events Funding Policy
- Community Partnerships Expression of Interest (EOI) Form