

## 10.8. Community Grants & Subsidies 2024/25 - Post Exhibition Report

<b>AUTHOR</b>	Kate Stewart, Manager Library Services
<b>ENDORSED BY</b>	Luke Harvey, Director Corporate Services
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	1. Community Grants and Subsidies Policy 2022 [ <b>10.8.1</b> - 4 pages] 2. Draft Community Grants and Subsidies 2024/25 [ <b>10.8.2</b> - 19 pages]
<b>CSP LINK</b>	4. Our Social Vitality 4.1 North Sydney is connected, inclusive, healthy and safe 4.2 A centre for creativity and learning

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to adopt the recommended Community Grants and Subsidies 2024/25 recipients following public exhibition.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- Annually, Council invites community organisations to apply for a grant to assist in the provision of services for the North Sydney community. The process occurred earlier this year, with applications closing early March 2024.
- All applications received were assessed in accordance with the criteria outlined in Council's Community Grants and Subsidies Policy, as attached.
- The draft Community Grants and Subsidies 2024-25 was presented in a report to Council on 22 April 2024. The 30-day public exhibition ran from 3 May 2024 to 2 June 2024. No submissions were received.
- During the exhibition period, applicants for the 2024-25 Small Grants program were reviewed by the assessment panel, and recipients determined in the separate report to Council on 27 May 2024.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**1. THAT** the Community Grants and Subsidies 2024/25 recipients, as outlined in this report, be adopted.

## Background

Annually, Council invites community organisations to apply for a grant to assist in the provision of services for the North Sydney community. The main purpose of these grants' is to strengthen the community's capacity to address identified social needs.

The annual process of Council calling for community organisations to apply for a donation from Council, to assist in the provision of services for the North Sydney community, occurred earlier this year. Applications closed in March 2024.

All applications received were assessed in accordance with the following criteria outlined in Council's *Community Grants and Subsidies Policy* (Attachment 1):

- the type of need being met;
- the uniqueness of the project;
- level of innovation and the degree to which it meets the objectives of Council's social planning programs;
- the financial status of the organisation, or service provider;
- the quality of its management and organisational structure;
- its funding levels and sources; and
- its ability to account for funding sources, fund applications and outcomes.

## Report

The draft 2024/25 Community Grants and Subsidies report was endorsed for exhibition by the Council at its meeting on 22 April 2024.

The proposed grants and subsidies budget for 2024/25 was formulated to assist the following community groups and areas of need:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- Aged Care Accommodation
- Arts and Culture
- Children and Families
- Community Centres
- Community Childcare Centres
- Community Housing
- Cultural Centres
- Community Transport
- Food Grants
- Migrants and Refugees
- Older People
- Recreational Facilities
- Small Grants – New and Innovative Projects and Sporting Organisations
- Volunteers

- Youth Services

The detailed breakdown of these subsidies is included in the previous Council report of 22 April 2024 (Attachment 2).

In addition to financial contributions, Council encourages local community organisations to build capacity by strengthening their relationships with each other, seeking to build better local connections, and sharing their spaces, assets, and resources. The outcome is increased community participation, engagement, and wellbeing.

Council's contribution is not intended to be the sole source of funding for any project or service. The grants have made possible an important spread of services benefiting residents of the North Sydney local government area. The projects they support represent community initiatives displaying creativity, co-operation, originality, and access and equity principles.

Applications are assessed in accordance with Council's Community Grants and Subsidies Policy. All groups seeking financial support have valid roles to play in extending the reach and variety of services available to the community. Over the period the program has existed, Council has maintained a balance between groups in supplying funding.

All grants are acquitted annually, either through the Joint Strategic Plan reviews, or through specific acquittal forms.

During the exhibition period, applicants for the Small Grants program were reviewed by the assessment panel, and recipients determined in the separate report to Council on 27 May 2024.

### **Consultation Requirements**

Community engagement has occurred in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Protocol*. The detail of this report provides the outcomes from the engagement for Council to consider prior to adoption.

The 30-day public exhibition ran from 3 May 2024 to 2 June 2024.

The following summary details the methods used to promote the draft proposal and their reach:

- web page - 36 page views
- Council's eNewsletters including:
  - Council eNews, May 2024 - 1,713 subscribers, 438 (45%) opens average, 3 click links
  - Business eNews, May 2024 - 949 subscribers, 438 (46%) opens average, and 8 click links
  - Precincts eNews - weekly throughout the exhibition period, (163 subscribers average, 74 (45%) opens average, and total 16 click links.

No submissions were received during the exhibition process.

## Financial/Resource Implications

Direct grants for community services and projects total \$1,283,330. These amounts were incorporated into the draft budget estimates for 2024/25. The main categories are:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	\$10,000
Arts and Culture	\$113,280
Community Centres	\$770,000
Community Childcare Centres	\$125,720
Cultural Centres	\$44,120
Food Grants	\$15,600
Older People	\$141,200
Small Grants	\$29,210
Volunteers	\$8,000
Youth Services	\$26,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,283,330</b>

## Legislation

Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 describes how a council can provide financial assistance to others.



## COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES POLICY

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**Policy Owner:** Director Community, Planning & Environment

**Category:** Strategic

**Direction:** 4. Our Social Vitality

### 1. STATEMENT OF INTENT

- 1.1 To provide clarity and direction to North Sydney Council and the community, on the equitable investment of resources and funds to strengthen the capacity of the community, to address identified social needs.
- 1.2 Council supports the provision of community services through financial assistance by way of small grants and subsidies to not for profit community organisations. Dollar allocations are determined according to a project review, the project's capacity to address areas of high priority social need and the organisation's financial capabilities.
- 1.3 Grants and subsidies will be seen as a contribution rather than a commitment to fund the entire service.
- 1.4 A key objective of Council's small grants and subsidies program is to support the provision of projects or services that are principally for the benefit of residents of the North Sydney local government area.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Grants will only be awarded to:
  - a) incorporated not for profit organisations based in and/or servicing the North Sydney local government area; or
  - b) community groups in the North Sydney local government area auspiced by an incorporated not-for-profit organisation.
- 2.2 The organisation must undertake the project for which the grant has been awarded within the specified time frame.
- 2.3 Previous grant funding gained through this program must have been acquitted.
- 2.4 One-Off Funding - one-off funds may be provided to service organisations experiencing financial difficulties or to assist funding of particular projects.

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**COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES POLICY**

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- 2.5 Bulk Mail Requests - the General Manager, on delegated authority, will reply in the negative to bulk mail donation requests.
  - 2.6 Activities which promote or advance a specific religious or political belief system will not be considered for funding under this program.

**3. DEFINITIONS**

- 3.1 Grants - generally are cash grants from Council, though they may include services on which a dollar valuation is placed.
- 3.2 Small Grants Program - new and innovative projects which target defined needs aligned to the *North Sydney Community Strategic Plan*.
- 3.3 Subsidies - ongoing support to community services/organisations operating in the North Sydney local government area.

**4. PROVISIONS**

- 4.1 Determinations will be made annually (usually May) for the following financial year, as part of Council's budget process.
- 4.2 In accordance with Council's financial year (1 July to 30 June), applicant organisations will be asked to forward submissions by the first week in March each year.
- 4.3 Applications, using the specified Application Form, must be submitted to Council by the closing date to be eligible for consideration.
- 4.4 Applications will be assessed in accordance with the following assessment criteria:
  - a) the project/or service contributes to the goals within the *North Sydney Community Strategic Plan*;
  - b) the project outcomes are a priority for the community and are aligned with demonstrated community needs or aspirations;
  - c) the project fosters innovative, creative ideas and solutions to community need(s);
  - d) the project stimulates community or cultural development in North Sydney;
  - e) the project contributes to community connectedness, reduces social isolation or engages previously disengaged members of the community;
  - f) the project promotes social equity or justice;
  - g) the project enhances the quality of service delivery;
  - h) organisational capacity:

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**COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES POLICY**

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- the applicant has the experience and expertise to deliver the activity effectively; and
  - a history of appropriate financial management.
- i) project budget - the proposed budget includes income and expenditure targets.
- 4.5 Council will determine the level of funding according to:
- a) The applicant's financial status:
- income and expenditure details for the preceding financial year;
  - previous, current and projected budget details;
  - monies in reserve;
  - services planned; and
  - impacts of previous funding.
- b) Service needs, as regards:
- maintenance of service viability;
  - alternative funding sources; and
  - financial difficulties for the service provider.
- c) Organisational management:
- soundness of structure;
  - legal status (incorporated, non-profit organisations);
  - provision of a statement of funds in the event of an organisation ceasing to function;
  - provision of award conditions for staff;
  - provision of equal employment opportunities, anti-discrimination and affirmative action policies in staffing matters; and
  - encouragement of (service) user participation.
- 4.6 An annual *Joint Strategic Plan* review applies to Community Centre subsidy allocation.

**5. RESPONSIBILITY/ACCOUNTABILITY**

- 5.1 Requests will be referred to Council's Manager Community Development in the first instance, and in some cases may be referred to Council.
- 5.2 Recipient organisations will participate in community forums or interagencies, assist in service planning and continuously evaluate their service.
- 5.3 Recipient organisations will be able to nominate an identifiable outcome in the project/service program and organisations will be asked to provide expenditure information at the end of the project year.

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## 6. RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS/LEGISLATION

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following Council policies and documents:

- Community, Cultural and Recreational Facilities Policy
- Community Strategic Plan
- Joint Strategic Plans (various)
- Long Term Financial Plan

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents/legislation:

- Local Government Act 1993 (Section 356 Financial Assistance)

Version	Date Approved	Approved by	Resolution No.	Review Date
1	16 February 2009	Council	61	2012/13
2	18 February 2013	Council	61	2016/17
3	25 June 2018	Council	214	2020/21
4	10 October 2022	Council	324	2024/25

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Re-adopted by Council 10 October 2022



## 10.7. Draft Community Grants and Subsidies 2024/2025

<b>AUTHOR</b>	Kate Stewart, Manager Library Services
<b>ENDORSED BY</b>	Marcelo Occhiuzzi, Director Community, Planning and Environment
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Community Grants and Subsidies Policy 2022 [<b>10.7.1</b> - 4 pages]</li> <li>2. Community Centres [<b>10.7.2</b> - 3 pages]</li> <li>3. Cultural Centres [<b>10.7.3</b> - 2 pages]</li> </ol>
<b>CSP LINK</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Our Social Vitality</li> <li>4.1 North Sydney is connected, inclusive, healthy and safe</li> </ol>

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the proposed Community Grants and Subsidies budget for 2024/2025, which allocates operational and special purpose funding support for Community Centres, Community Childcare Centres, Community Housing, Cultural activities, and a range of other Community groups and initiatives.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The proposed grants and subsidies budget for 2024/2025 was formulated to direct Council support to the following community groups and areas of need:
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
  - Aged Care Accommodation
  - Arts and Culture
  - Children and Families
  - Community Centres
  - Community Childcare Centres
  - Community Housing
  - Cultural Centres
  - Community Transport
  - Food Grants
  - Migrants and Refugees
  - Older People
  - Recreational Facilities
  - Small Grants – New and Innovative Projects and Sporting Organisations
  - Volunteers
  - Youth Services
- In addition to financial contributions, Council encourages local community organisations to build capacity by strengthening their relationships with each other, seeking to build better local connections, and sharing their spaces, assets, and resources.
- The outcome is increased community participation, engagement, and wellbeing.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1. THAT** the Draft Grants and Subsidies 2024/2025 report be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- 2. THAT** a further report be prepared for Council's consideration at the end of the submission period to facilitate the endorsement of the final Grants and Subsidies 2024/2025 budget.

## Background

North Sydney Council provides buildings and spaces to not-for-profit (NFP) Child and Family Health Centres, Community Centres, Community Childcare Centres, and Cultural Centres. The centres provide much-needed services, particularly in areas where Council doesn't provide direct service to the community. The centres pay a peppercorn rent and Council maintains the building (including building repairs, fire systems, air conditioning, insurance, and cleaning) and gardens, and provides subsidies including parking, rates, and insurance.

North Sydney Council's method of delivery of community services is a combination of:

1. direct service;
2. contract management; and
3. stimulating the NFP and volunteer sectors (including volunteer boards of community and childcare centres) through Joint Strategic Plans, professional support, and grants programs.

All funding requests submitted to Council are evaluated in terms of:

- the type of need being met, the unique qualities of the project, its level of innovation, and the degree to which it meets the objectives of Council's social planning programs;
- the financial status of the organisation or service provider, the quality of its management and organisational structure, its funding levels and sources, and its ability to account for funding sources, fund applications, and outcomes;
- Council's Community Grants and Subsidies Policy and criteria (Attachment 1).

Grants are acquitted annually, either through Joint Strategic Plan reviews or through specific acquittal forms.

## Report

Following are the proposed Grants and Subsidies 2024/25 budgets for each community group and area.

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Projects including NAIDOC Week	\$10,000
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### Aged Care Accommodation

Co-owner and operator	Value of lease	Revenue forgone by NSRT for supported and partially supported residents
North Sydney Retirement Trust (NSRT) James Milson Village	\$736,914	\$1,819,793

### Arts and Culture

Community Grants	Funding Amount
Creative grants	\$10,000
Crows Nest Festival	\$74,000
Ensemble Theatre- contribution to rates	\$4,160

<b>Community Grants</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Live Poets Society- insurance	\$1,100
National Dancing Association of Australia- Celtic Festival	\$3,120
North Sydney Community Centre Community Choir	\$5,000
North Sydney Symphony Orchestra- operational	\$4,500
North Sydney Symphony Orchestra- concert venue hire	\$5,800
Royal Art Society- contribution to rates	\$5,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$113,280</b>

### Children and Families

<b>Child and Family Health Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates- Cremorne	\$56,700
Building maintenance and rates- Crows Nest	Included in Crows Nest Centre
Parking- Cremorne	\$17,400
Parking- Crows Nest	\$36,000
Waste and recycling- Cremorne	\$3,000
Waste and recycling- Crows Nest	Included in Crows Nest Centre
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$113,100</b>

<b>Early Education Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$17,850
Waste and recycling	\$2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,850</b>

<b>Mary's House Services</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Parking	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

### Community Centres

#### Joint Strategic Plans (JSP)

Council works closely with each community centre to develop a Joint Strategic Plan (JSP) which aligns to the North Sydney Community Strategic Plan. The JSP describes the vision and strategic direction of the centre and provides a detailed picture of the centre's financial and operational progress. It is reviewed annually and helps to inform the annual operational grants and subsidies budget outcome for each centre. These are described in a separate report to Council.

North Sydney's community centres provide a wide range of valuable services and activities including:

- services for older people and/or people with a disability including a linen service, Meals on Wheels, shopping support, meal preparation, assisted transport, and community restaurant;
- adult education courses, workshops, and a community choir;

- community forums;
- community volunteer program;
- music & movement classes for children;
- support for people who are homeless or at-risk;
- English conversation classes;
- Japanese and Spanish-speaking mothers' groups;
- book, film, writers, and discussion groups;
- Dementia Café;
- fortnightly markets (produce, arts, and general markets);
- venue and room hire for children's parties, meetings, and workshops;
- health and wellbeing classes including yoga, exercise classes for older people, and walking groups;
- language classes;
- employment workshops for skilled migrants; and
- self-help groups and support services.

#### Venue Hire

Council's Customer Service team oversees casual venue hire for:

- Neutral Bay Community Centre and McMahon's Point Community Centre - upper level; and
- Forsyth Park Scout Hall and Kendall Community Centre - upper level (weekends only).

<b>Community Centres- Operational</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Crows Nest Centre- operational	\$467,000
Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre- operational	\$75,000
Neutral Bay Community Centre- operational	\$63,000
North Sydney Community Centre- operational	\$165,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$770,000</b>

Attachment 2 includes detailed information on each centre which informed the proposed 2024/25 budget.

<b>Crows Nest Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$192,150
Parking	\$68,500
Waste and recycling	\$23,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$284,150</b>

<b>Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$42,000
Waste and recycling- Fitzroy St	\$8,900
Waste and recycling- Forsyth Park Scout Hall	\$2,000
Waste and recycling- Kirribilli Markets (2 x per month)	\$18,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70,900</b>

<b>Neutral Bay Community Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$113,400
Waste and recycling	\$11,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$124,400</b>

<b>North Sydney Community Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$66,150
Parking	\$25,000
Waste and recycling- Centre	\$7,000
Waste and recycling- Northside Produce Markets (2 x per month)	\$2,800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,950</b>

### Community Childcare Centres

Council enables and facilitates access to children's services by leasing its buildings to NFP children's services providers. The providers deliver long day-care, pre-school, occasional childcare, after-school, and vacation care. Where there is capacity, the centres pay rent.

<b>Community Childcare Centres- Operational</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
After School and Vacation Care Service - Management fee for Gowrie	\$67,000
Kelly's Place Children's Centre - operational	\$12,000
KU Greenwood- Management fee	\$34,240
McMahon's Point Community Preschool - operational	\$12,480
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$125,720</b>

<b>Cammeray Children's Centre (Kendall Community Centre- upper level)</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates (\$77,700 shared with KU Cammeray - same building)	\$38,850
Waste and recycling	\$3,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$41,850</b>

<b>Cammeraygal Montessori Preschool, Vacation care, Playgroup (Forsyth Park Community Centre)</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$66,150
Waste and recycling	\$3,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$69,150</b>

<b>Kelly's Place Children's Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$29,400
Parking	\$11,520
Waste and recycling	\$5,900
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$46,820</b>

<b>KU Cammeray (Kendall Community Centre- lower level)</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates ((\$77,700 shared with Cammeray Children's Centre - same building))	\$38,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$38,850</b>

<b>KU Grandstand (St Leonards Park)</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$28,350
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,350</b>

<b>KU Greenwood</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$38,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$38,850</b>

<b>McMahon's Point Community Preschool</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$68,250
Waste and recycling	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$78,250</b>

### Community Housing

<b>Managers/Co-Owners</b>	<b>Expenditure July 2022-June 2023</b>	<b>Surplus to 31 March 2024</b>	<b>Accumulated Surplus 31 March 2024</b>
Link Wentworth Housing - 131 tenancies 23 addresses	\$674,573.13	\$156,515	\$108,638.89
*Taldumande Youth Services - 1 tenancy, 1 address	n/a	n/a	n/a

\*Council does not incur expenditure for this refuge

### Cultural Centres

<b>Cultural Centres- Operational</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
May Gibbs' Nutcote- operational	\$34,000
May Gibbs' Nutcote- Contribution to public liability insurance	\$7,000
North Sydney Men's Shed- operational	\$3,120
Primrose Park Art & Craft Centre	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,120</b>

Attachment 3 includes detailed information on each Cultural Centre which informed the proposed 2024/25 budget.

<b>May Gibbs' Nutcote</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$19,240
Waste and recycling	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,240</b>

<b>North Sydney Men's Shed</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$7,350
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,350</b>

<b>Primrose Park Art &amp; Craft Centre</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Building maintenance and rates	\$39,900
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$39,900</b>

#### **Community, Childcare and Cultural Centres - garden, playground, and graffiti maintenance**

Landscape gardening contract (Aruma)	\$44,795
Centre playgrounds- tree inspections and arborist works	\$13,900
Centre playgrounds- sandpit refills	\$4,000
Graffiti removal- public and private infrastructure	\$155,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$217,895</b>

#### **Community Transport**

Lower North Shore Community Transport - Management fee for Community Connect	\$186,715
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#### **Food grants**

Applications for the Food Grants Program open in October each year and close mid-November. The program provides financial contributions to local NFP organisations which give food assistance and meals to those most in need in our local community. This can be meals for people experiencing homelessness, people needing emergency assistance, or people in financial need. Special emphasis is given to food activities that help address problems of social inequity. Funding amounts are generally in the range of \$500 to \$2,000.

<b>Food grants</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Food grants	\$15,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,600</b>

#### **Older People**

<b>Community Grants</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Greenway Tenants Group- insurance	\$1,250
Neutral Bay Community Centre- insurance	\$2,650
Pensioner Christmas Relief direct payments	\$13,000
Pensioner Christmas Dinner at Crows Nest Centre	\$4,000
Voluntary pensioner rate rebate*	\$117,000
Waverton Hub- operational	\$3,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$141,200</b>

\* there is also a statutory rebate, reimbursed to Council by the State Government and not reported here



### Recreational Facilities

<b>Council Recreational Facilities</b>	<b>Subsidy Amount</b>
Cammeray Public School- free use of playing fields	Nil
Neutral Bay Public School- free use of playing fields	Nil
North Sydney Demonstration School- free use of playing fields	Nil
North Sydney Indoor Sports Centre- parking	\$8,500
North Sydney Olympic Pool- creche subsidy	Nil
North Sydney Olympic Pool- Park'n'swim	Nil
North Sydney Olympic Pool- Pensioners, Seniors, and benefit card discounts	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,500</b>

### Small Grants Program

Applications for the Small Grants Program open in mid-January each year and close mid-March. Successful recipients receive their funding in the first quarter of the next financial year. The program's objectives are to fund projects which encourage health and wellbeing, cultural diversity, access and inclusion, and social equity. Council's contribution is not intended to be the sole source of funding for any project or service. Funding amounts are generally in the range of \$500 to \$2,000.

<b>Small Grants Program</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Small grants program- new and innovative projects	\$26,000
Small grants program- sports and wellbeing	\$3,210
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,210</b>

Applications for the 2024/2025 Small Grants Program closed on 15 March 2024 and are currently being assessed by the selection panel.

### Volunteers

<b>International Volunteers Day</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Contributions to Volunteer celebrations	\$8,000

### Youth Services

<b>Youth Services</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Phoenix House Youth Services	\$4,000
Youth Arts Programs	\$18,000
Taldumande Youth Refuge	\$4,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,200</b>

### Consultation requirements

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

### Financial/Resource Implications

Direct grants for community services and projects total \$1,283,330. These amounts were incorporated into the draft budget estimates for 2024/25. The main categories are:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	\$10,000
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### Legislation

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## COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES POLICY

D4-07

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**Policy Owner:** Director Community, Planning & Environment  
**Category:** Strategic  
**Direction:** 4. Our Social Vitality

### 1. STATEMENT OF INTENT

- 1.1 To provide clarity and direction to North Sydney Council and the community, on the equitable investment of resources and funds to strengthen the capacity of the community, to address identified social needs.
- 1.2 Council supports the provision of community services through financial assistance by way of small grants and subsidies to not for profit community organisations. Dollar allocations are determined according to a project review, the project's capacity to address areas of high priority social need and the organisation's financial capabilities.
- 1.3 Grants and subsidies will be seen as a contribution rather than a commitment to fund the entire service.
- 1.4 A key objective of Council's small grants and subsidies program is to support the provision of projects or services that are principally for the benefit of residents of the North Sydney local government area.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Grants will only be awarded to:
  - a) incorporated not for profit organisations based in and/or servicing the North Sydney local government area; or
  - b) community groups in the North Sydney local government area auspiced by an incorporated not-for-profit organisation.
- 2.2 The organisation must undertake the project for which the grant has been awarded within the specified time frame.
- 2.3 Previous grant funding gained through this program must have been acquitted.
- 2.4 One-Off Funding - one-off funds may be provided to service organisations experiencing financial difficulties or to assist funding of particular projects.

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Re-adopted by Council 10 October 2022

**COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES POLICY**

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- 2.5 Bulk Mail Requests - the General Manager, on delegated authority, will reply in the negative to bulk mail donation requests.
- 2.6 Activities which promote or advance a specific religious or political belief system will not be considered for funding under this program.

**3. DEFINITIONS**

- 3.1 Grants - generally are cash grants from Council, though they may include services on which a dollar valuation is placed.
- 3.2 Small Grants Program - new and innovative projects which target defined needs aligned to the *North Sydney Community Strategic Plan*.
- 3.3 Subsidies - ongoing support to community services/organisations operating in the North Sydney local government area.

**4. PROVISIONS**

- 4.1 Determinations will be made annually (usually May) for the following financial year, as part of Council's budget process.
- 4.2 In accordance with Council's financial year (1 July to 30 June), applicant organisations will be asked to forward submissions by the first week in March each year.
- 4.3 Applications, using the specified Application Form, must be submitted to Council by the closing date to be eligible for consideration.
- 4.4 Applications will be assessed in accordance with the following assessment criteria:
  - a) the project/or service contributes to the goals within the *North Sydney Community Strategic Plan*;
  - b) the project outcomes are a priority for the community and are aligned with demonstrated community needs or aspirations;
  - c) the project fosters innovative, creative ideas and solutions to community need(s);
  - d) the project stimulates community or cultural development in North Sydney;
  - e) the project contributes to community connectedness, reduces social isolation or engages previously disengaged members of the community;
  - f) the project promotes social equity or justice;
  - g) the project enhances the quality of service delivery;
  - h) organisational capacity:

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- the applicant has the experience and expertise to deliver the activity effectively; and
  - a history of appropriate financial management.
- i) project budget - the proposed budget includes income and expenditure targets.

4.5 Council will determine the level of funding according to:

- a) The applicant's financial status:
- income and expenditure details for the preceding financial year;
  - previous, current and projected budget details;
  - monies in reserve;
  - services planned; and
  - impacts of previous funding.
- b) Service needs, as regards:
- maintenance of service viability;
  - alternative funding sources; and
  - financial difficulties for the service provider.
- c) Organisational management:
- soundness of structure;
  - legal status (incorporated, non-profit organisations);
  - provision of a statement of funds in the event of an organisation ceasing to function;
  - provision of award conditions for staff;
  - provision of equal employment opportunities, anti-discrimination and affirmative action policies in staffing matters; and
  - encouragement of (service) user participation.

4.6 An annual *Joint Strategic Plan* review applies to Community Centre subsidy allocation.

**5. RESPONSIBILITY/ACCOUNTABILITY**

- 5.1 Requests will be referred to Council's Manager Community Development in the first instance, and in some cases may be referred to Council.
- 5.2 Recipient organisations will participate in community forums or interagencies, assist in service planning and continuously evaluate their service.
- 5.3 Recipient organisations will be able to nominate an identifiable outcome in the project/service program and organisations will be asked to provide expenditure information at the end of the project year.

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## 6. RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS/LEGISLATION

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following Council policies and documents:

- Community, Cultural and Recreational Facilities Policy
- Community Strategic Plan
- Joint Strategic Plans (various)
- Long Term Financial Plan

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents/legislation:

- Local Government Act 1993 (Section 356 Financial Assistance)

Version	Date Approved	Approved by	Resolution No.	Review Date
1	16 February 2009	Council	61	2012/13
2	18 February 2013	Council	61	2016/17
3	25 June 2018	Council	214	2020/21
4	10 October 2022	Council	324	2024/25

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**ATTACHMENT #2****COMMUNITY CENTRES**

1. Crows Nest Centre
2. The Kirribilli Centre
3. Neutral Bay Community Centre
4. North Sydney Community Centre

**1. CROWS NEST CENTRE (CNC)**

The Crows Nest Centre's vision is for a 'connected community' with a focus on providing services for older people, people with a disability, parents and children, migrants, and people who are homeless or at risk.

The Crows Nest Centre is Council's principal agency for delivering services to older people and people with a disability. In this regard, Covid-19 remains an ongoing challenge impacting the safe provision of in-home and centre-based services to vulnerable older people.

In addition to Council's operational grant, the Centre relies on Federal Government funding for aged care services as well as revenue from room hire. Major changes in aged care funding have been flagged for some time, and will result in a significant loss of income and an increase in regulatory and administrative requirements. Planned local developments may also impact the Centre's venue hire over the coming years.

The operating result in 2022/23 was better than anticipated with a \$18,788 deficit

The total recommended grant for 2024/25 for the Crows Nest Centre is \$467,000.

**Crows Nest Centre's Profit (Loss) from Ordinary Activities After Tax:**

Year	Result	Reserves (Equity)	Funded Liabilities
2016/17	(\$7,929) deficit	\$367,040	
2017/18	(\$8,440) deficit	\$358,600	\$421,892
2018/19	\$8,488 surplus	\$367,088	\$409,017
2019/20	\$235,095 surplus	\$658,107	\$451,378
2020/21	\$454,066 surplus	\$1,112,172	\$362,705
2021/22	(\$74,568) deficit	\$1,037,604	\$415,416
<b>2022/23</b>	<b>(\$18,788) deficit</b>	<b>\$1,018,815</b>	<b>\$481,310</b>

**2. THE KIRRIBILLI CENTRE (TKC)**

The Kirribilli Centre is Council's only significant community facility on the eastern side of the Warringah Freeway. The Centre provides spaces, activities and programs for a variety of age groups and operates the high profile Kirribilli Markets.

The Centre encourage casual community use with the library and outdoor play area, encouraging people to drop in and utilise the facilities. From 2022 to 2023 foot traffic through the Centre increased from 27,232 to 34,932.

The Centre promote a wide range of activities and classes both organised internally and through external providers. The Board have produced a new business plan in 2023 with a focus

on community and individual wellbeing, with key programs including free counselling for children, free legal advice, health and fitness classes, and a volunteer program supporting vulnerable residents with shopping and transport.

Centre and Council staff have been in discussions with Transport for NSW over a long period regarding the temporary relocation of the markets for the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway. It is expected that the interruption to the markets will affect income for the duration of the construction project, now projected to commence in mid-2024. Additional market dates were agreed in 2023 and 2024 as one means of offsetting this impact.

The total recommended cash subsidy for 2024/25 for this Centre is \$75,000.

**The Kirribilli Centre's Profit (Loss) from Ordinary Activities After Tax:**

Year	Result	Reserves (Equity)	Funded Liabilities
2016/17	\$68,206 surplus	\$367,884	
2017/18	\$150,575 surplus	\$518,460	\$131,229
2018/19	\$81,459 surplus	\$599,919	\$194,674
2019/20	\$125,058 surplus	\$724,977	\$149,149
2020/21	\$25,662 surplus	\$750,639	\$193,083
2021/22	(\$29,080) deficit	\$721,559	\$173,763
<b>2022/23</b>	<b>\$76,988 surplus</b>	<b>\$798,547</b>	<b>\$188,838</b>

**3. NEUTRAL BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE (NBCC)**

Neutral Bay Community Centre (formerly known as the Neutral Bay Senior Citizens Club) celebration 50 years of operation in March 2023.

The Centre's community room is a large open space with tables and seating and is available for use as a drop in space for gatherings and solo activities. The Centre provides multiple organized programs Monday-Friday including low-cost health and fitness classes, daily group meetings, social activities and regular special events.

A refurbishment of the Centre was completed in June 2022 with a new kitchen, furniture and other seating, as well as the installation of new signage and the launch of the Centre's new logo. In 2023 the Centre's website was upgraded and now offers an improved online booking system to classes and other activities.

The Centre has developed relationships with local business who offer support for the Centre's activities in a range of ways, including catering and promotion.

Council's grant funding enables the Centre to employ a part-time coordinator which has enabled the centre to significantly increase their offering to the community. The Centre receives no other recurrent funding and derives modest contributions from membership fees, fitness classes and low-cost computer lessons.

This Centre is Council's only community facility (excepting the Family and Children's Health Centre at Cremorne) serving residents and workforce in the north of the LGA.



The total recommended cash subsidy for 2024/25 for the Neutral Bay Community Centre is \$63,000.

Year	Result	Reserves (Equity)	Funded Liabilities
2020/21	(\$5,265) deficit	\$13,123	\$3,419.50
2021/22	\$26,588 surplus	\$43,700	\$2,189
<b>2022/23</b>	<b>\$36,435 surplus</b>	<b>\$80,397</b>	<b>\$4,718</b>

#### 4. NORTH SYDNEY COMMUNITY CENTRE (NSCC)

North Sydney Community Centre (NSCC) has a vision to encourage a collaborative, connected, caring and creative community. The Centre aspires to this vision through providing a diverse range of programs and services for the community. These include: classes and workshops for adults, Music & Movement classes for children, a farmers and artisan food producers' market, After School Care, Explorers Playgroup, community events and venue hire.

North Sydney Community Centre is Council's principal centre for adult education classes and is the operator of the Northside Produce Markets.

The Centre has been facing financial difficulty for several years, as a consequence of the loss of revenue from markets, adult classes and venue hire during the extended period of Covid lockdowns and restrictions. The Centre has utilised reserves to fund deficits in 2021/22 and 2022/23 and it is forecast that without additional support, cash reserves will be exhausted by 2026.

In 2022/23 there were close to 10,000 participants in adult classes, 5,348 children attending playgroup and 400 children registered for after-school care. These figures represent a steady increase in attendance across key services, but revenue to pre-covid levels has been slow to return. The Centre has implemented a range of measures to expand programs and boost attendance.

In November 2023 the North Sydney Community Centre Management Committee submitted a proposal for a short term (two year) increase in Council funding to support their financial recovery and sustainability. This proposal was endorsed by the Executive Leadership Team in December 2023 and the increase is reflected in this report and in Council's draft operating budget for 2024/25.

The total recommended grant for 2024/25 is \$165,000.

#### North Sydney Community Centre's Profit (Loss) from Ordinary Activities After Tax:

Year	Result	Reserves (Equity)	Funded Liabilities
2016/17	\$44,912 surplus	\$389,817	
2017/18	\$39,836 surplus	\$429,683	\$120,945
2018/19	(\$11,672) deficit	\$417,981	\$119,084
2019/20	(\$77,205) deficit	\$340,776	\$120,166
2020/21	\$261,757 surplus	\$602,533	\$135,673
2021/22	(\$204,661) deficit	\$397,871	\$172,594
<b>2022/23</b>	<b>(\$188,849) deficit</b>	<b>\$209,022</b>	<b>\$189,958</b>

**ATTACHMENT 3****CULTURAL CENTRES**

1. May Gibbs' Nutcote
2. Primrose Park Art & Craft Centre

**1. MAY GIBBS' NUTCOTE**

Nutcote at No. 5 Wallaringa Ave, Neutral Bay was the home of artist and author May Gibbs from 1925 until her death in 1969. Council bought the property in 1990 to save it for posterity. The property is owned by Council but operated and managed by the Nutcote Trust in accordance with a Joint Strategic Plan (drafted by council and the Trust) and a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) drafted by heritage consultants.

The whole of No.5 Wallaringa Ave is listed on the North Sydney Local Environment Plan 2013 as a local heritage item (10730) and is located within the Kurraba Point Heritage Conservation Area. The house and lower garden are listed as a heritage item on the NSW State Heritage Register (SHR 00505).

Nutcote's grant each year is towards operating costs and to sharing the cost of business and public liability insurance premiums (approximately 50%). Council supports the Centre in-kind through rates, parking subsidies and trade waste services.

The total recommended grant for 2024/25 for the Nutcote House Museum is \$34,000.

**Nutcote's Financial Position:**

Year	Result	Reserves/ Endowment	Funded Liabilities
2016/17	(\$10,793) deficit	\$352,428	
2017/18	(\$6,265) deficit	\$360,209	\$13,490
2018/19	\$21,342 surplus	\$366,940	\$20,800
2019/20	\$27,687 surplus	\$373,537	\$10,649*
2020/21	\$13,738 surplus	\$376,697	\$21,160
2021/22	\$410 surplus	\$350,000	\$22,883
<b>2022/23</b>	<b>\$41,014 surplus</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$31,622</b>

\*Accrued Employee Benefits

**2. PRIMROSE PARK ART & CRAFT CENTRE**

The Primrose Park Art & Craft Centre is in the heritage listed former Folly Point sewage treatment works pump house which is owned and maintained by Council.

The Centre officially opened in February 1991. The first tenants were the papermakers, photographers, a bookbinder and a fabric printer. The Australian Society of Calligraphers, Basketry NSW, Artists in the Park and Textiles Sydney have since joined the Centre.

<b>Direct Grant</b>	<b>NSC</b>	<b>Other</b>		
	Nil	Nil		
<b>Turnover</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	
	2018/19	\$2,649	\$9,086	
	2019/20	\$9,326	\$12,156	
	2020/21	\$11,410	\$7,719	
	2021/22	\$9,050	\$8,514	
	<b>2022/23</b>	\$12,146	\$16,188	
<b>Sustainability</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Equity</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
	2018/19	(\$6,447) deficit	\$16,684	N/A
	2019/20	(\$3,190) deficit	\$13,494	N/A
	2020/21	\$3,691 surplus	\$17,186	N/A
	2021/22	\$536 surplus	\$16,772	N/A
	<b>2022/23</b>	(\$3,972) deficit	\$12,750	\$3,000