8.6. Draft Grants & Subsidies 2021/22

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ATTACHMENTS:

1. D 4-07 Community Grants Subsidies Policy (1) [8.6.1 - 4 pages]

PURPOSE:

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 and to address identified social needs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Grants and Subsidies Program for 2021/22 is presented as follows:

- Category A: Community Centres and Cultural Facilities
- Category B: Child Care Centres
- Category C: Centres of local & sub regional importance
- Community Housing
- Aged Care Accommodation
- Recreational Facilities Program
- Subsidies for individuals
- Ongoing North Sydney community services not in Council buildings
- Internet/telephone support for seniors
- Small Grants: new and innovative & sport and well-being
- Food grants

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Council's total cash subsidy for community services in 2021/22 is \$1,040,873 of which \$133,444 is for parking subsidies. The balance is made up of \$560,506 for the community centres, \$27,768 for parent-run childcare and \$229,500 for small group support. Additional subsidies in kind are made as detailed in the report, the most substantial of which are trade waste removal (\$70,672) and building maintenance and rates (\$796,500). The recommendations are provided for in the Draft Delivery Plan 2021/22.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Draft Community Grants and Subsidies 2021/22 report be placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days, aligning with the Amended Delivery Program/Draft Operational Plan 2021/22.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

- 4. Our Social Vitality
- 4.1 North Sydney is connected, inclusive, healthy and safe
- 4.2 North Sydney is creative and home to popular events
- 4.3 North Sydney supports lifelong learning

BACKGROUND

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

- Direct service (minimal)
- Contract management
- Stimulating the not-for-profit and volunteer sector (particularly the volunteer Boards of the community centres and childcare centres) through Joint Strategic Plans, professional support and a grants program.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

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

DETAIL

1. Introduction

Each year Council invites community organisations to apply for a donation from the Council to assist in the provision of services for the North Sydney community. Council's objectives in helping to fund selected projects and services are:

- To help organisations meet high priority needs within the local government area and to avoid reductions in prevailing levels of community support; and
- To provide financial contributions in recognition of the value of selected services to the community. (Note: 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.

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.

Grant funds have been distributed equitably over the following sections of the community:

- Services for Older People
- Indigenous Affairs
- Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CALD)
- Disability Services
- Cultural and Recreational Activities
- Family Support
- Children's Services
- Youth
- Educational Projects
- Counselling Services
- Advocacy
- Information Resources

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.

The categories of funding, responding to community needs and priorities as set out in the Community Strategic Plan and sub-plans, is expressed in the following breakdown:

- Category A: Community Centres and Cultural Facilities (2.2 Tables 1-3)
- Category B: Child Care Centres (2.2 Tables 4-8)
- Category C: Centres of local & sub regional importance (2.2 Table 9-10)
- Community Housing (2.2 Table 11)
- Aged Care Accommodation (2.2 Table 12)
- Recreational Facilities Program (2.2 Table 13)
- Subsidies for individuals (2.2 Table 14)
- Ongoing North Sydney community services not in Council buildings (2.2 Table 15)
- Internet/telephone support for seniors (2.2 Table 16)
- Small Grants: new and innovative & sport and well-being (2.3) (i)
- Food grants: (2.3) (ii)

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

2. Service Infrastructure

2.1 Joint Strategic Plans Model

A Joint Strategic Plan (JSP) with Council has been developed for each of the community centres. The plan is reviewed annually and provides a detailed picture of the community

centre's financial and operational progress. Though the centres have struggled over the past year due to Covid-19, they have also risen to the challenge and have not only managed to keep running essential services but have put services online and adapted services to Covid-19 restrictions. Where possible, they have continued to develop and improve services they provide to the aged, youth, families, children and people with disabilities.

All the major centres have renewed or are renewing their strategic plans for the next three years. The JSPs also assist Community Centres to align their planning with the North Sydney Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028.

2.1.1 Crows Nest Centre (CNC)

The Centre's current lease has been renewed and will expire in June 2025. Excluded from the lease are:

- The joint Council/NSW Health's Early Childhood Centre (Level 4)
- Studio A, a not-for-profit organisation that works with artists with a disability to enable them to enter the workforce (Level 4)
- Lower North Shore Community Transport Office (Level 3)
- Occasional Care Centre (KidsNest) (Level 2)

When the building opened in 1989, in order to support the Centre and ensure its financial stability, Council allocated Level 4 - at the time of the building's opening - to Council's commercial property portfolio and diverted the derived income to the Centre's operational budget. This arrangement has since been replaced with a fixed grant, with offsets also made for exclusion of the premises mentioned above.

For the 2019/20 financial year Council provided CNC with grants totalling \$454,600. Federal and State Government support amounting to a further \$808,017 which represents a significant increase (\$256,172) over the previous year. The increase is due to Job Keeper payments and other grant opportunities made available to ageing and disability services due to Covid-19. CNC reported a shortfall in hall and room hire income over 2019/20 which amounted to \$62,056 and this trend is likely to continue into 2021/22. The surplus of \$235,095 will provide a buffer in years to come against shortfall in room hire and other eventualities.

The Centre's performance was reviewed against the Joint Strategic Plan and reported to Council at its meeting 22 February 2021. Council supports the Centre in-kind through nominal rent, parking and trade waste services.

The total recommended cash subsidy for 2021/22 for this Centre (North Sydney's principal agency for delivering services to the aged and disabled) is \$405,000.

Year	Result	Reserves (Equity)	Funded Liabilities
2014/15	\$39,362 surplus	\$369,022	
2015/16	\$5,947 surplus	\$374,969	
2016/17	(\$7,929) deficit	\$367,040	

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

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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

2.1.2 North Sydney Community Centre (NSCC)

The Centre's lease expired in 2021 and has been renewed for another 5 years. NSCC continues to provide a strong suite of programs in the newest building in Council's community services portfolio. Following near insolvency during the Centre's demolition phase in 2006 and a reduced subsidy initiated by the Centre itself to \$67,514 (a reduction of \$20,166) in 2010/11. The Centre delivered a surplus for 10 years in a row. For 2019/20 the Centre has returned a deficit of \$77,205 due to loss of income from venue hire due to Covid-19.

The Centre's performance was reviewed against the Joint Strategic Plan and reported to Council at its meeting 30 November 2020. Council supports the Centre in-kind through nominal rent, parking and trade waste services.

The total recommended cash subsidy for 2021/22 for this Centre (North Sydney Council's principal agency for adult education classes and operator of the Northside Produce Markets) is \$64,000.

Year	Result	Reserves (Equity)	Funded Liabilities
2014/15	\$33,247 surplus	\$302,208	
2015/16	\$42,697 surplus	\$344,905	
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

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

2.1.3 The Kirribilli Centre (TKC)

The Centre's lease expires in 2020 and is in the process of being renewed, along with a lease over The Centre in the Park (Blue Knot Foundation left these premises in 2019 and now occupy a commercial tenancy in Council's No 1 James Place, made possible by a significantly increased Federal Grant).

Some of TKC's activities were funded by a Federal Government (Department of Social Services) grant which expired in June 2020. This grant was aimed at carergivers who provide support and respite for people suffering from a mental illness. In 2019/20 continued to offer support to the 233 existing carergivers. Over the life of the program the Centre served 876 carergivers.

The Carer's Program at its peak in 2015/16 provided \$420,151 of Federal Grants to the Centre, reducing each year since that time. This is the source of the healthy surplus reported each year.

For 2019/20, The Kirribilli Centre received the last of the Federal Government payments (May 2020) for the Carers program. This will result in a reduction of \$256,073 in income for 2020/21. COVID-19 Government grants amounted to \$113,000 and will continue to some extent in 2020/21. The grants contributed to TKC ending 2019/20 with a surplus of \$125,508. As both the Carers program funding and the Covid-19 Government grants won't be available in 2021/22, TKC's surplus will help the Centre to continue to manage their costs. TKC have been planning for the reduction in funding by steadily increasing its room hire charges in recent years and in December 2020 increased its stall holder fees.

In 2019/20, room hire fell by \$49,669, income from the markets by \$114,456 and non-Covid-19 grants by \$14,596. Salaries were contained reflecting a fall of \$29,973. Excepting the grants, these income and expenditure streams are expected to return to normal in 2021/22. In future years, TKC will continue to be reliant on income from the markets and room hire to maintain existing service levels.

The Centre's performance was reviewed against the Joint Strategic Plan and reported to Council at its meeting 22 March 2021. Council supports the Centre in-kind through parking subsidies, trade waste services and the use of Bradfield Park Central for the Kirribilli Markets.

The total recommended cash subsidy for 2020/21 for this Centre (North Sydney Council's only significant community facility on the eastern side of the Warringah Freeway ,the centre provides adult education classes and operates the Kirribilli Markets) is \$53,206.

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Year	Result	Reserves (Equity)	Funded Liabilities
2014/15	\$57,673 surplus	\$298,096	
2015/16	\$1,582 surplus	\$299,678	
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

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

2.1.4 May Gibbs' Nutcote

After three successive years of deficits, Nutcote ended 2019/20 with a surplus of \$27,687. The majority of this is due to JobKeeper payments for three Nutcote staff when Nutcote was required to close March to June due to Covid-19 and to a higher than usual number of government grants. These grants offset significant falls in income from sales (\$27,708) and admissions fees (\$14,847) a downturn that will continue into 2021-22.

In 2019/20, rent from the Trust-owned, residential flat at 2A Wallaringa Avenue contributed \$42,000 towards the Nutcote Trust's operations (staff wages). 2A Wallaringa Avenue is not part of Council's lease of Nutcote (5 Wallaringa Avenue) to the Trust.

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

The Centre's performance was reviewed against the Joint Strategic Plan and was reported to Council at its meeting 22 February 2021.

The total recommended cash subsidy for 2019/20 for the Nutcote House Museum (North Sydney Council's only property listed on the National Heritage Register) is \$31,900. Nutcote's Financial Position

Year	Result	Reserves/	Funded Liabilities
		Endowment	
2013	(\$12,429) deficit	\$319,898	
2014	(\$24,879) deficit	\$335,279	
2015/16	(\$15,781) deficit	\$346,833	
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	\$374,000	\$10,649*

*Accrued Employee Benefits

2.1.5 Primrose Park Art and Craft Centre

Under its Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2016-19, Council approached the Board in early 2017 with a proposal to refurbish the Art and Craft Centre interior, installing a lift and accessible amenities, as well as enhancing the building's heritage fabric and relocating and widening the entrances. The Board agreed and, after considerable preparations commencing March 2018, granted Council vacant possession on 25 June 2018. The Centre was reopened by the Mayor on 27 April 2019.

During the renovation period contribution levies were suspended. Insurance was maintained. Post renovations tenant storage changes and restocking amounting to \$3,600 was incurred, additionally \$1,000 was contributed towards supporting the NSC Art Awards. These costs were met from accumulated reserves.

The Centre's lease expired December 2020 and has been renewed for another 5 years. The Centre's performance was reviewed against the Joint Strategic Plan and reported to Council at its meeting 30 November 2020.

Direct Grant	NSC	Other		
	Nil	Nil		
Turnover	Year	Income	Expenditure	
	2018/19	\$2,649	\$9,086	
	2019/20	\$9,326	\$12,156	
Sustainability	Year	Result	Equity	Liabilities

2018/19	(\$6,447) deficit	\$16,684	N/A
2019/20	(\$3,190) deficit	\$13,494	N/A

2.2 Contributions and Subsidies

Category A: Community Centres and Cultural Facilities

1: Direct Grants		(\$)
Crows Nest Centre - programs		405,000
Crows Nest Centre - recognition of LNS Comm	unity Transport Lease	22,746
Crows Nest Centre	Subtotal	427,746
North Sydney Community Centre	Subtotal	64,000
The Kirribilli Centre	Subtotal	53,206
Neutral Bay Community Centre	Subtotal	8,000
Nutcote - programs		31,900
Nutcote – contribution to public liability and insurance premiums		6,800
Nutcote	Subtotal	38,700
North Sydney Men's Shed	Subtotal	6,400
Primrose Park Art & Craft Centre	Subtotal	Nil

2. Service Subsidies	(\$)
Crows Nest Centre - parking (permanent spaces guaranteed under	57,207
lease (Centre; including Meals on Wheels and other Volunteers))	
Crows Nest Centre - daily trade waste	19,656
Crows Nest Centre - 4 event banners per year	800
North Sydney Community Centre - parking (children's services	11,000
discounts)	
North Sydney Community Centre - daily trade waste;	5,824
Northside Produce Markets (twice per month): 14 waste and 12	12,096
recycling bins per month + 2 banners per month	
Kirribilli Centre - daily trade waste;	5,096
Kirribilli Markets (twice per month) 40 waste and recycling bins per	28,000
month+ 2 banners per month	
Kirribilli Centre - on street parking - volunteers (7)	2,000 (est.)
Nutcote Museum - rates and maintenance	18,500
Kelly's Place Child Care Centre - parking subsidy (permanent spaces)	9,273

3. Rates, insurance, gardening, building maintenance etc.	(\$)
Crows Nest Centre (Includes whole building but Level 4 tenanted by	198,000
Early Childhood and a disability arts service that pays rent)	
North Sydney Community Centre	67,200
Kirribilli Centre (TKC) (Fitzroy Street)	38,600
North Sydney Indoor Sports Centre Complex	218,800
Primrose Park Arts and Craft Complex	38,600
TKC's Centre in the Park (Forsyth Park Scout Hall)	8,100
Men's Shed (Smoothey Park Scout Hall)	7,400
Kelly's Place Child Care Centre	26,900
Neutral Bay Community Centre (includes Seniors Room)	105,900
McMahons Point Community Preschool (includes Community Hall	68,500
with stage on Level 2)	

4. Kelly's Place	Long Day Care	Equity	Funded	
Centre*			Liabilities	
Year	End of year			
	result			
2016	(\$3,517) deficit			
2017	\$17,257 surplus			
2018	(13,463) deficit			
2019	**(\$58,298)			Leased until 31
	deficit			August 2021.
2020	TBC			
Direct Grant	\$9,180			
Rent	Nil		TBC	
	•1	TBC		

*Founded by Council

Point Community	Equity	Funded	
		Liabilities	
Result			
(\$9,861) deficit			
(\$37,538) deficit			Leased until 30
(\$1,681) deficit			April 2021 – new
\$34,557 surplus			lease in process.
TBC	TBC	TBC	
\$9,588			
Nil			
	(\$9,861) deficit (\$37,538) deficit (\$1,681) deficit \$34,557 surplus TBC \$9,588	Result (\$9,861) deficit (\$37,538) deficit (\$1,681) deficit \$34,557 surplus TBC \$9,588 TBC	Result Liabilities (\$9,861) deficit (\$37,538) deficit (\$1,681) deficit \$34,557 surplus TBC TBC \$9,588 TBC

**Founded by Council.

6. KidsNest Occas	ional Care*	Equity	Funded Liabilities	
Year	Result			
Yr. end October 2016	(\$7,615) deficit			

Yr. end October 2017	(\$19,730) deficit			Leased until 30
Yr end October 2018	(\$4,996) deficit			June 2020. New lease for another 5
Yr end October 2019	\$2,415 surplus			years has been completed.
Yr end October 2020	\$59,560 surplus			
Direct Grant	\$9,000	#02.005	\$21.171	
Rent	\$6,400	\$92,905	\$31,171	

*Founded by Council: the only dedicated occasional care facility in North Sydney **High surplus due to Covid-19 Government grants.

7. Cammeray Children's Centre*		Equity	Funded Liabilities	
Year	Result			
2016	(\$9,860) deficit			
2017	\$43,454 surplus			
2018	\$22,764 surplus			
2019	**(\$53,813) deficit			
2020	\$78,834 surplus	TBC	TBC	Leased until 15
Direct Grant	Nil			April 2021. New
Rent	\$13,028			lease in process.

*Originally an offshoot of Kidnest, it is now a parent-managed Long Day Care centre. **One-off improvements to the centre plus additional outdoor cleaning from bushfire smoke: year of Rating and Assessments: costs won't be incurred in coming years.

Category B (ii): Child Care Centers operated by not-for-profit entities

8. Facility	Maintenance p.a.	Rent p.a.
Forsyth Park Community	\$63,400	\$38,165
Centre (Preschool; Vacation		
Care; Playgroup)		
Kendall Community Centre	\$77,100	\$12,788
(KU Preschool)		
Kendall Community Centre		\$13,028
(Cammeray Children's		
Centre) Parent run		
Grandstand Kindergarten	\$26,450	\$11,821

Category C: Centres of Local and Sub-Regional Importance

9. Service Subsidies	(\$)
Early Childhood Centre (Crows Nest) - parking	27,000
Early Childhood Centre (Cremorne) - parking	10,909

Early Ed Clinic - parking	1,800
St Mary's Refuge – parking subsidy	21,164

10. Facilities	Maintenance p.a.	Rent p.a.
Early Ed Clinic -	\$16,700	Nil
Cunningham St North		
Sydney		
Early Childhood Centre -	\$30,000	Nil
Cremorne		
Early Childhood Centre –	Inc. in Crows Nest Centre	Nil
Crows Nest Centre		

Community Housing

11. Managers/Co-owners	Expenditure July	Income July –
	– December 2020	December 2020
Link Housing -131 tenancies & 23 addresses	\$621,536	\$651,537
*Taldumande Youth Services – 1 tenancy, 1	Unknown	Nil
address		

**Council doesn't incur expenditure on this refuge.*

Aged Care Accommodation

12. Co-owner and Operator	Value of Lease	Revenue forgone by NSRT for supported and partially supported residents
North Sydney Retirement	\$707,200	\$1,3400,000
Trust (NSRT) :		
James Milson Village		

Recreational Facilities

13. Service Subsidies	(\$)
North Sydney Tennis Centre – parking	2,000
North Sydney Indoor Sports Centre (NSBA) - parking	6,000
North Sydney Olympic Pool - pensioner, seniors and benefit card discount	Nil
North Sydney Olympic Pool - crèche subsidy	Nil
North Sydney Olympic Pool - Park'n'swim: totally offset by parking meter revenue	Nil
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

Subsidies for Individuals

14. Service Subsidies

Voluntary pensioner rate rebate (there is also a statutory rebate; but this is reimbursed to Council by the State Government and not reported here)	
Graffiti removal: private properties (416 instances; 806 sq. m)	\$21,761.51

Ongoing Support for North Sydney Community Services not in Council Buildings

15. Direct Grants	(\$)
Ensemble Theatre - contribution to rates	4,000
Royal Art Society - contribution to rates	5,600
North Sydney Symphony Orchestra – operational	4,600
North Sydney Orchestras – contribution to venue hire	4,600
Story to Screen (youth arts program with local schools managed by Council's arts team)	18,000
Pensioner Christmas Relief	12,700
Pensioner Christmas dinners	3,600
Baptist Care (formerly Constant Companion): North Sydney residents	2,000
Phoenix House Youth Services	3,100
Taldumande Youth Refuge	4,000
Aboriginal Projects	5,000
Community Groups Insurance (Live Poets, Greenway Tenants, Neutral Bay Seniors)	4,000
Highland Dancers - Australia Day	3,000
Waverton Hub	3,300
Crows Nest Fair – fully funded from Streetscape Levy – includes 50% contribution to clean-up	73,000
North Sydney Sub-branch PA hire for ANZAC & Remembrance Days	3,000
Centre Playgrounds – play equipment and tree inspections contribution	25,000

Internet/Telephone Support for Seniors

16. Service subsidies	(\$)
Neutral Bay Seniors - annual Internet connection	500
McMahons Point U3A - annual Internet connection	500
Primrose Park Art and Craft Centre - annual Internet connection	500
Cammeray Croquet Club - annual Internet connection	500
Waverton hub – message bank in Don Bank	500
Greenway Tenants Union annual Internet connection	500
TOTAL	\$3,000

2.3 (i) New and Innovative Small Grants 2019-20 TBC			
Name of Organisation	Description	Amount to be distributed	

TOTAL \$25,000

2.3 (ii) FOOD GRANTS – To be determined in November 2021 in time for Christmas				
Name of Organisation	Description	Amount to be distributed		
TOTAL		\$11,000		



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Policy Owner: Director Community and Library Services

Category: 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 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.
- 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 are ongoing support for 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:
 - the applicant has the experience and expertise to deliver the activity effectively; and
 - a history of appropriate financial management; and

- 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 *Plan of Management* 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; 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
- 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