

FAQs Community Grants Program

Strathbogie Shire Council's Community Grants offer three funding opportunities, Community Strengthening, Sustainability, and Quick Response grants, to support community groups deliver projects that bring people together to connect, collaborate, celebrate, upskill, share resources, and put ideas into action.

The following FAQs have been created to provide you an overview of Community Grants. Please refer to the specific grant guidelines [here](#) for more information

Where is the funding coming from?

The funding is from the Strathbogie Shire annual budget to provide opportunities for groups to undertake projects that complement the focus areas identified as priorities for Strathbogie Shire Council.

What can the grants be used for?

The Strathbogie Shire Community Grants encourage community organisations and groups to apply for funding to support inclusive community led projects delivered in Strathbogie Shire that strengthen our community by supporting social connection, health, wellbeing, safety, community arts, positive cultural or environmental outcomes, economic development, or increased visitor economy.

What can't the grants be used for?

- ✘ Projects that have already received Council funding or been approved for another grant from Council in the same financial year
- ✘ Projects delivered outside of the Strathbogie Shire municipality
- ✘ Retrospective funding for projects that have already occurred or have commenced excluding ongoing projects as part of a Council approved Community Plan

- ✘ Projects that don't align with our Community Vision
- ✘ Projects for political purposes and/or promotion
- ✘ Projects that are the responsibility of other agencies
- ✘ Applications that can't confirm they will be able to obtain the required permits and permissions
- ✘ Costs of attending conferences or sporting events; travel or accommodation
- ✘ Fundraising prizes
- ✘ Operational costs e.g. rent, utilities, and insurance for projects
- ✘ Staff wages (this does not include payment of contractors or services to deliver the project) or payment to a service provider under the same ABN as the applicant
- ✘ Projects that will result in a Council asset that has not received prior approval

For more information on eligibility please refer to the specific grant guidelines.

Who can apply for these grants?

Community groups that are incorporated, have an ABN, a bank account, and have at least \$20mil Public Liability insurance.

What happens if we are not incorporated, don't have an ABN, bank account, or Public Liability insurance?

If your group does not have one or more of the above, you will need to find an incorporated community group, organisation or club with an ABN, bank account, and \$20mil Public Liability Insurance who is not on the 'who cannot apply for these grants' list below and would be willing to endorse your project. This is called 'auspice'.

The auspice organisation receives the grant money on your behalf and is ultimately responsible to ensure the project is completed and funds are spent according to the agreement with Council. The auspice organisation does not deliver the project.

Who can't apply for these grants?

You cannot apply for any Council grants if you are:

- ✘ An individual
- ✘ Emergency services
- ✘ Educational institutions
- ✘ Religious organisations or institutions
- ✘ Political organisations
- ✘ Commercial, profit-making organisations
- ✘ State or federal government agencies
- ✘ State sporting organisations or governing bodies
- ✘ An elected member or employee of Strathbogie Shire Council
- ✘ Groups who have an overdue acquittal from a previous Council grant
- ✘ Groups who owe money to Council from a previous grant
- ✘ A group or organisation that receives revenue from electronic gaming machines
- ✘ Groups who have already received or been approved for funding from the same grant category in the same financial year
- ✘ An auspice organisation that has provided auspice to another application in the same grant category in the same financial year

How much funding can I apply for?

You can apply for up to:

- \$20,000 Sustainability Grant
- \$10,000 Community Strengthening Grant
- \$1,000 Quick Response Grant

You must provide an applicant contribution for the Sustainability and Community Strengthening categories. These can be cash or 'in-kind' contributions.

What's an 'in-kind' contribution?

'In-kind' contributions are contributions by volunteers and suppliers in terms of time, goods or professional services donated to the project

You can calculate the value of in-kind time for services as:

- General committee/community member contribution (e.g. planning, coordination, etc) at \$40 per hour
- Specialist or expert contribution (e.g. tradesperson, professional services) at \$80 per hour

Council can also provide in-kind contributions to your project e.g. equipment, venue hire, handyman services. You must confirm approval for your Council in-kind request prior to submission of your application.

Any in-kind contributions requested from Council must be included in the total amount you are applying for which cannot exceed the grant limit. For example, if you are requesting the maximum of \$10,000 for a Community Strengthening grant and request a \$1,000 Council in-kind contribution for venue hire, Council's contribution would be in-kind to the value of \$1,000 and grant funds (cash) to the value of \$9,000.

What do I need for my application?

Before you start your application, you will need:

- To contact a Council Officer on 1800 065 993 or by email info@strathbogie.vic.gov to discuss your project before you commence your application.
- A copy of your group's or your auspice organisation's Public Liability Insurance Certificate of Currency
- Confirm approval of any Council in-kind contributions or Council assets resulting from the project
- To consider what permits and landowner permissions you may require for your project

When are applications due?

Applications for the **Community Strengthening and Sustainability Grants** open on 22 April 2026 and close 5pm on 31 May 2026. Late applications will not be accepted.

Applications for **Quick Response Grants** open on 1 June 2026 and close 31 May 2027 or when funds are expended.

How do I apply?

Applications are to be completed online [here](#)

How are applications assessed?

Applications will be assessed by a panel of at least three Council Officers from various departments and areas of expertise relating to your application.

When will applicants find out if they are successful?

Applications for the **Community Strengthening and Sustainability Grants** will be assessed in **June** and applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application at the **early July**.

Quick Response Grant applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within four weeks from receipt of the application.

How will we receive the funds?

If your application is successful, you will be required to sign a Funding Agreement with Council which will act as an invoice. On receipt of the signed Funding Agreement, the approved funds will be paid directly into your groups or your auspice organisations bank account.

Who can I contact for further information?

Applicants can contact Jean McKinnon 1800 065 993 or email info@strathbogies.vic.gov.au, or click [here](#) to visit our website.

Application Timelines

Sustainability Grants: 22 April to 31 May 2026

Community Strengthening Grants: 22 April to 31 May 2026

Quick Response Grants: 1 June 2026 to 31 May 2027 or when funds are expended.