Fact Sheet

Stronger Communities Funding Round 2

How do we know if our proposed project is eligible?

Check the criteria we have established which outlines how a project will be assessed for eligibility. In short, your project must deliver social, cultural, economic or environmental benefits to our community, and must meet an identified community need.

Will an infrastructure project be eligible for funding?

As long as it meets the criteria for eligibility, it will be considered for funding. Don't forget, for any infrastructure project, you may need to apply for approval by submitting a Development Application. Give our team a call if you would like to discuss whether a Development Application (DA), Complying Development Certificate (CDC) or Construction Certificate (CC) is likely to be needed, and to obtain a quote for the fees associated with this approval. Any fees payable should be built into the expenses in your application.

Do we have to apply for a large amount of money? What if we only need $5,000 for our project?

We expect to receive applications for projects across a broad range of budgets. You can apply for any amount of funding, from $5,000 up to $50,000. All projects that fall within this budget range will be considered provided they meet the criteria for eligibility.

If your project requires funding of under $5,000, there are other grants available that you may want to consider.

How do we demonstrate a community need?

You'll need to provide evidence that your project is not duplicating an existing service or project in your area, along with research data that demonstrates the community want or need whatever your project is offering – for example, the results compiled from a community consultation.

Relevant statistics that demonstrate a community need will also strengthen your application. For example, if you plan to establish a service for young people in your area, statistics that tell us how many young people live in your area, and what percentage of the total population could benefit from your project, will be relevant.

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What does "ongoing costs need to be met by the community group" mean?

Ongoing costs are expenses that your project or service will incur once established. It may be staff wages, electricity, rent, or other ongoing costs that are required to keep the project operational.

In your application you'll need to demonstrate that the project will generate enough income to cover these costs without having to rely on further funding applications.

The funding is to be offered in two rounds with $50,000 available each year. If we applied for funding in the last round, can we apply again this year?

Each community group or organisation can apply for up to $50,000 of Stronger Communities funding in total. If you successfully applied for $25,000 last year, you can apply for up to $25,000 again this year (and this may be allocated to your original project, or a different project).

If you successfully applied for $50,000 last year, you will not be eligible for funding in the 2018 funding round.

If our application is successful, when can we expect the funding, and how long do we have to complete our project?

This funding round closes at 4.30pm on Friday 9 June 2017. It is anticipated that the Committee's recommendations for funding will be considered by the Assessment Panel in early July, with an announcement being made at the end of July. Funding will be available in August.

You'll need to complete your project within 12 months and provide an acquittal by 31 December 2018.

I don't understand the GST component of the application

When you complete the financial section of your application, please make sure to include GST (where it is incurred) in all your expenses. The total funding amount that we approve and allocate to your project is GST-inclusive, which means you will not receive GST on top of the approved amount.

I have another question that you haven't answered!

For any other questions, send an email to community@midcoast.nsw.gov.au with your contact details and we'll get in touch with an answer as soon as possible.