



<b>Policy Title</b>	Community Assistance Policy
<b>Policy Category</b>	Council Policy
<b>Number &amp; Version</b>	SVC-FIN-PO-127
<b>Policy Owner</b>	Chief Financial Officer
<b>Approval by</b>	Council
<b>Effective date</b>	
<b>Date for review</b>	Every 2 years

### 1. STRATEGIC PURPOSE

Snowy Valleys Council (Council) is committed to supporting community groups, organisations, projects, activities, and events that reflect a vibrant community in the Snowy Valleys Local Government Area (LGA).

This policy establishes guidelines on how Council will provide assistance to the community through monetary and in-kind support. It aims to develop a robust, open, and transparent decision-making process for requests of support from Council to ensure that finite public funds for community causes are allocated in a manner that achieves greatest public benefit.

### 2. POLICY STATEMENT

Council recognises and values the strengths of the Snowy Valleys community, including the strong sense of belonging demonstrated through participation in a range of community and cultural activities. Council aims to draw on these strengths and provide support to assist the community to grow. Council acknowledges the important role of community and private organisations in developing projects and coordinating and managing activities.

This policy covers monetary and in-kind support provided to individuals, community organisations, community groups, Council committees and businesses.

Council officials must comply with this policy and ensure consistent and transparent decisions are made regarding community resources.

### 3. DEFINITIONS

**Council Officials** Are councillors, administrators, members of staff, independent conduct reviewers, members of council committees including the conduct review committee and delegates of the Council

**Applicant** An eligible community organisation or group, individual, group of individuals or business applying to Council for assistance

<b>Community Group</b>	An organisation that carries out activities for a public purpose, or another entity whose primary object is not directed at making a profit
<b>Monetary</b>	Relating to giving of money
<b>In-kind</b>	Paid for or given in goods or services instead of money
<b>Assistance</b>	Funding provided to aid covering costs
<b>Donation</b>	Money, goods or services that are given to help a person or organisation
<b>Grant</b>	Money provided to recipients who meet a specific program or fund criteria to deliver an agreed outcome whereby the evaluation process is usually competitive
<b>Scholarship</b>	Money provided to a student to assist with further study
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Contribution of any form in exchange for a negotiated benefit

#### 4. CONTENT

Council provides support to many organisations and individuals each year. In adopting the annual budget, Council may approve the provision of community assistance that aligns with Council's strategic priorities as detailed in the Delivery Program. Council's community assistance is categorised as:

- Donations
- Grants
- Event Sponsorship
- Scholarships
- Street Banners

Council may resolve to make a continuing annual contribution to a relevant applicant to facilitate continuity of the provision of a community service or benefit or the staging of an event or festival that contributes significantly to the cultural, social, recreational, or economic wellbeing of the general community. Approval of ongoing annual contributions cannot exceed any given Council term.

Applications must address the specific requirements of each category as outlined in Council's Donation Procedure, Community Grants Procedure and Events Sponsorship Procedure and must be submitted within the timeframes stipulated to allow for inclusion in Council's annual budget and operational plan.

Funds allocated must result in beneficial projects and activities for the Snowy Valleys Local Government Area (LGA). Previously successful applicants should not assume funding will always be granted.

#### **Ineligibility**

The following will not be considered for funding:

- Applications for assistance not included in Council's annual budget allocation are not eligible, but may be carried forward to the next annual budget approval process
- Political parties
- Applicants that have access to funds generated from permanently licensed premises or onsite gaming machines

- Applicants that have a debt with Council
- Applications that contravene existing Council policies
- Applicants that have failed to complete or acquit previously funded projects or grants

**Categories available for submission:**

- Under Council's donations program
  - Art prizes
  - Fee waivers
  - In-kind donations
  - One-off donations
  - Rates and charges payment relief
  - School bursaries, awards, and prizes
  - Special purpose donations
- Under Council's grants program
  - Capital sports grants
  - Community strengthening grants
  - Local heritage grants
- Under Council's event sponsorship program
  - Local and regional events support both monetary and in-kind
  - Promotional support
  - Training and development for event organisers
  - Assistance with bidding to host events in the region
- Under Council's scholarships program
  - CSU Foundation Scholarship program
  - Other scholarships as decided by Council from time to time
- Under Council's Street Banners Program

**5. SUPERSEDING POLICIES/PROCEDURES**

Athletes Assistance Policy Tumut FIN.11  
 Community Grants Policy SVC-ComDev-PO-055-01  
 Donations Policy SVC-COR-PO-034-01  
 Event Sponsorship Policy SVC-ComDev-PO-038-01  
 SVC Banners Policy SVC-ComDev-PO-043

**6. ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION**

Local Government Act 2009  
 Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

**7. ASSOCIATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS**

SVC Street Banners Procedure SVC-ComDev-PR-048  
 SVC Community Grant Program Guidelines  
 SVC Community Grants Procedure SVC-ComDev-PR-055  
 SVC Donations Procedure SVC-FIN-PR-017  
 SVC Event Sponsorship Procedure SVC-ComDev-PR-022  
 SVC-CSU Foundation Scholarship Procedure SVC-HR-PR-019

Annual operational budget and plan  
Fees and charges schedule

## 8. HISTORY

Date	Action	Name	Policy Number	Resolution Date	Resolution Number
18/01/22	Endorsement	Executive Leadership Team	SVC-FIN-PO-127	18/01/22	
17/02/22	Endorsement/ Adoption	Council	SVC-FIN-PO-127	17/02/22	
	Public Exhibition		SVC-FIN-PO-127		