



Community Donations Guidelines 2026/2027

July 2026

fremantle.wa.gov.au



Program details

Community Donations

Applications	Open until funding exhausted
Funding amount available	Donations up to \$500
Assessment timeframe	Up to 15 working days
Funding agreement length	N/A
Funding Tier	This program is classified as Tier 3 based on TOTAL support (cash + in-kind) under the City of Fremantle Grants and Sponsorships Policy. Tier classification determines approval authority, agreement type, and acquittal requirements.

Overview

The City of Fremantle provides community groups, organisations, businesses and individuals a range of funding opportunities to bring to life our vision of a vibrant, inclusive, resilient and creative city.

Community Donations provide one-off financial assistance to small community groups, organisations and charities for an initiative that benefits the City of Fremantle community. The Program may also be used for donations to disaster relief appeals.

Objectives

- Provide projects, events or programs to benefit the Fremantle community.
- Encourage active participation in the community.
- Create opportunities for social connection.
- Provide opportunities for local schools or community groups to host events such as open days, volunteer thank-you events or fundraisers.



Eligibility criteria

Standard criteria

All applicants must:

- Apply before the project/activity begins.
- Deliver the project within Fremantle or demonstrate a clear contribution to the City of Fremantle Strategic Community Plan.
- Demonstrate capacity and capability to deliver the proposed project or activity.
- Ensure their organisation/activities align with City values and commitments.
- Not lobby or attempt to influence Elected Members or City staff (applications will be deemed ineligible).
- Agree to all funding conditions, including acquittal, reporting and recognition requirements (where applicable).

The City will not fund:

- Political parties or organisations whose primary purpose is lobbying.
- Elected Members, City employees (not including casual employees) or their immediate family (unless part of an eligible organisation and conflicts managed or if immediate family member is applying to an individual assistance program).
- Applicants engaged in legal action against the City.
- Applicants with outstanding debts or unacquitted City funding.
- Applicants that have received City funding for the same project in the current financial year.
- Applicants whose conduct or values conflict with City values.
- Recurrent operational costs including wages, salaries, or administrative overheads. (This does not include time-limited project costs, such as artist/facilitator fee or one-off services paid for under individual assistance programs).
- Grant funding cannot be used for City of Fremantle venue hire costs.



Multiple applications and funding limits

Applicants may receive support across different tiers concurrently. Total City support across all tiers may be considered as part of the assessment process.

Program specific criteria

Who can apply:

- Local charity or group is recognised through its incorporated not for profit status as a charity or deductible gift recipient entity, or a local school.
- Individuals, on the provision of adequate supporting material.
- Organisations that have not previously received a donation in the same financial year as the application.
- Requests for disaster relief appeal donations will only be approved where there is an established connection to Fremantle (community, business, tourism) and the receiving organisation has a record of providing community aid with the ability to actively provide assistance in the circumstance.

What will not be funded under this program:

- Projects held at private residences.
- The application disparages or excludes any groups in the community.
- The application contravenes an existing City of Fremantle Policy or Plan (i.e. Grants and Sponsorship Policy, Reconciliation Action Plan, Access and Inclusion Plan).
- Large capital expenditure e.g. lease payments, repair or maintenance of buildings, or purchase or major equipment.
- Funding for alcohol purchases.
- Retrospective funding or reimbursement payments.
- Funding requests for training or education in government or private institutions, or research activities that will be offered for assessment in such institutions.
- Applications for conferences, tradeshow, award ceremonies.
- Funds for State or Federal Government departments, other councils.
- Commercial organisation operating on an expected profit base.



- Fundraising events that do not directly benefit City of Fremantle community members.

Application process

1. **Complete the Community Donations Application Form online** via [the City's Smarty Grants portal](#). Please note that it is advised that you submit your application at least one month prior to requiring funding (to allow for the assessment and payment processing periods). Please ensure all questions are answered with as much project detail as possible.
2. **Submit your application.** Once you have submitted your application you will receive an email of acknowledging receipt.

Please note that the City seeks to provide an outcome within 15 working days. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions via email.

Assessment process

Applications will be assessed against the outlined program outcomes and eligibility criteria.

Important information

In kind valuation

All in-kind support is assigned a monetised value for the purposes of tier classification, funding agreements and reporting. In-kind support includes any non-cash contribution provided by the City, including foregone revenue (such as venue hire fee waivers), permits, staff time, equipment, facilities or communications support. The total value of support (cash + in-kind) determines the program's Tier and reporting requirements.

Fee waivers

The City may provide fee waivers for services, facilities or approvals as a form of financial assistance. Fee waivers are assigned a monetary value based on the City's schedule of fees and charges and are included in the total value of City support for tier classification and reporting purposes. Where fee waivers form part of a funding agreement, they are subject to the same conditions and acquittal requirements as other forms of support.



Total City support

The City assesses financial assistance on a whole-of-organisation basis. This includes all forms of support provided by the City, including grants, sponsorships, in-kind contributions, fee waivers and discretionary rates concessions. The combined value of all City support may be considered as part of the assessment and reporting process. Where the total annual value of City support to a single organisation exceeds \$50,000, Council approval may be required regardless of program or funding tier.

Existing funding relationship

Recipients must not use an existing funding relationship with the City as a basis for seeking additional financial support outside the approved funding agreement. Any additional requests will be assessed independently in accordance with relevant City policies.

Variations

Significant changes to scope, budget, timelines or key personnel require written approval from the City.

Breach of Agreement

The City may withhold, reduce, cancel, or recover funds, and declare applicants ineligible for future funding if conditions are breached.

Fraud and misuse

Suspected fraud or misuse of funds will be investigated under the City's Fraud & Corruption Control Policy and may be referred to authorities.

Reputational harm

The City may suspend, withdraw, or cancel funding, and/or terminate a funding agreement, if the funded individual, group or organisation becomes involved in any incident, behaviour or matter that may bring them into disrepute or has the potential to cause reputational damage to the City. In such circumstances, the City may also require the repayment of any funds already provided.

Assessment and decision-making

- Applications assessed on merit, value for money, alignment with objectives and procedural fairness.
- Decisions made under delegated authority according to the program Tier.
- The City's decision is final, subject to available budget.

Reviews / Appeals

Applicants may request feedback on unsuccessful applications or request a review on grounds of procedural error, failure to consider relevant information, or bias. Requests should be made in writing



within 10 business days.

Contact information

Email: grantfunding@fremantle.wa.gov.au

Phone: 1300 MY FREO (1300 693 736)

Website: [Grants - City of Fremantle](#)