

Call for Expressions of Interest

Pathways to inclusion in Waverley life - Grants to improve opportunities for people with disability

Waverley Council has made available up to \$20,000 for distribution under its Community Services and Cultural Grants Program to improve the opportunities available to people with disability to participate in local mainstream community activities.

Council is seeking Expressions of Interest:

From not-for-profit organisations that can demonstrate connections to the Waverley LGA

For a program or service enhancement that will improve the opportunities available to people with disability to participate in local mainstream community activities, including recreation and cultural activities, employment and volunteering

Proposals must align with the goals in Waverley's Community Strategic Plan, and Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan, and may not replicate services funded by another agency

To enable development over time, longer term grant agreements may be available for successful proposals
Partnerships are welcomed.

Expressions of interest will be assessed according to the criteria specified in the Community Services and Cultural Grants Guidelines. Selected applicants will be invited to develop a more detailed project proposal and to provide evidence of their ability to comply with requirements for funded organisations as specified in the Guidelines. A summary of key guidelines and requirements is attached.

How much money is available?

A total of \$20,000 is available for 2022/23, and Council may award one or more grants. Longer term grant agreements may be awarded for successful proposals to enable sustained program implementation and development over time.

For more information or to discuss an idea, please contact

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Summary of Key Requirements and Goals

Community Services Grants Guidelines

Who can apply?

Not-for-profit organisations that can demonstrate:

- Significant local connections, including for example, the provision of services across a region that includes Waverley, or sporting club membership across a region that includes Waverley
- Compliance with legislative requirements and quality standards relevant to their sector
- The employment of practitioners (whether paid or voluntary) appropriately qualified to deliver the service
- Relevant Insurances.

Proposals must:

- Provide a clear description of the proposed program including its aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes
- Align with one or more goals in the Waverley Community Strategic Plan and Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan, and provide benefit for Waverley residents with disability
- Provide evidence of a need for the program or an opportunity it creates in the Waverley LGA. This may include anecdotal information based on your organisation's local experience, or information about your organisation's own journey to date in facilitating the inclusion of people with disability in your activities
- Provide evidence of your organisation's capacity to deliver the program independently, or in partnership with another agency, over a period of up to three years. This grant opportunity is intended to allow organisations to pilot programs, learn from mistakes and build on successes.

Proposals may:

Consist of actions that your organisation thinks will achieve inclusion of people with disability in one or more levels of your organisation's activities.

Proposals may not:

Consist of capital works or consultancies.

Waverley's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-26

To develop its new DIAP, Council consulted with younger and older people with disability, families, carers and services with diverse experience of disability including physical, sensory, neuro diverse, cognitive, mental health, and chronic illness. People were asked: *what works well?* and *what needs further improvement?*, and reported the following:

Works well:

- Inclusive skill development opportunities eg: Learn to surf classes, Tactile Tours, and 'Our Vision for Inclusion'

For further improvement:

- Make it easier to participate in events, recreation and cultural activities
- Improve community perception about people's abilities and needs to support greater connection and opportunities to access employment

In response, Council included the following goals in our Disability Action Plan:

Focus Area 2. Liveable Communities

Outcome Statement 2. People of all abilities have opportunities to live independent lives in their community and to connect, engage and make choices about the services they access.

People with disability want the same opportunities as everyone to participate in community life.

- 2.2.3 Implement an Access and Inclusion Grant to increase opportunity for people to participate in mainstream activities.
- 2.2.2 Increase the number of accessible and inclusive events and cultural programs.
- 2.2.4 Identify sporting and recreational opportunities and gaps within the region and work with neighbouring councils and organisations to increase the number of recreational activities.

Focus Area 3. Meaningful Employment

Outcome Statement 5: People of all abilities have access to meaningful employment.

Meaningful employment and all the associated benefits of financial security, skills recognition, social interaction, and feelings of self-worth remain an important goal for many people with disability.

- 5.5.1 Support disability employment initiatives and facilitate connection with local business, encouraging skill development and employment opportunities.