

1.1 Objectives:

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a governing framework and consistent management of the various Ipswich City Council Grants, Donations, Bursaries, and Scholarship Programs to ensure that Council is able to report in accordance with its legislative requirements under the Local Government Finance Standard (LGFS) 2005.

1.2 Related links:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government Finance Standard 2005

1.3 Preamble:

Ipswich is experiencing unprecedented growth and by 2026, the current population is expected to more than double. The challenge for Council is to manage this growth and deliver positive and sustainable outcomes for the Ipswich community, but more importantly, ensure that the community have an opportunity to directly participate in this critical growth phase.

The community sector itself is often best positioned to develop, implement and deliver projects. Through provision of the various Grants, Donations, Bursaries and Scholarship Programs, Council seeks to support the role of community organisations and their delivery of community programs, services and initiatives.

1.4 Policy Statement

1. In adopting the annual budget, Council may approve an allocation of funds to support a range of Grants, Donations, Bursaries and Scholarship programs for eligible community organisations and individuals.
2. Grants, Donations, Bursaries and Scholarships provided by Council will contribute to Council's Corporate Plan Themes and the Ipswich 2020 and Beyond Plan and will assist Council in achieving its Corporate Goals.
3. Availability of Grants, Donations, Bursaries and Scholarship Programs provided by Council will be promoted through a range of Council media including Mayoral and Electorate Offices.

4. Relevant Procedures and/or Policies will be established for each Grant, Donations, Bursary or Scholarship defining eligibility, assessment and acquittal criteria under which Council funding will be provided.
5. For the purpose of reporting in accordance with the Local Government Finance Standard 2005, community organisations will be defined as per Schedule 2 of this Standard as follows:
 - an entity that carries on activities for a public purpose; or
 - an entity whose primary objective is not directed at making a profit.
6. Council may contribute to business or other partnerships where there is no financial gain and where projects, events or activities will contribute significantly to individual, community, cultural, social, recreational and environmental enhancement and re-vitalization of the Ipswich community.
7. Organisations and individuals are expected to apply responsible management of any Grants, Donations, Bursaries and Scholarships received from Council.
8. Where funding is provided to an individual, the recipient should reside permanently within the boundaries of the City of Ipswich, and will demonstrate exceptional ability and potential and be willing to contribute this skill within the Ipswich community.
9. Council may consider applications from organisations or individuals outside the City of Ipswich boundary where it is considered that the project, activity or initiative will benefit the City of Ipswich.
10. Community Donations shall not be made to individuals.

1.5 Scope:

This Policy, and supporting Procedures and practices, apply to all Departments and Branches in which Grants, Donations, Bursaries and Scholarships are provided.

1.6 Roles and Responsibilities:

The Community Development Branch within Ipswich City Council will provide a support role across all Council Grants, Donations, Bursaries and Scholarship programs to ensure adoption of a consistent management approach.

The maintenance of this Policy will be designated to the Community Development Manager, Economic and Community Development Department.

1.7 Definitions:

Grant

A grant is a sum of money given to organisations or individuals for a specified purpose directed at achieving goals and objectives consistent with government policy. It generally includes a funding arrangement where the recipient is selected on merit against a set of criteria.

Donation

A donation is a cash and/or non-cash contribution to an organisation that may be associated with a particular event, purpose or project but does not carry with it any specific requirements for use. In addition, the contribution does not seek benefits in exchange.

Bursary

A non-repayable monetary award based on specific eligibility criteria and financial need.

Scholarship

Financial aid based on academic merit and/or scholarly knowledge

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