Thriving Cohesive Communities

Funding Information Paper 2019-2021 —
Tranche 2

Stream 1 - Community-led Social Cohesion Planning and Action in Toowoomba, Rockhampton and Townsville
1 About the Thriving Cohesive Communities Grants — Tranche 2

The Thriving Cohesive Communities (TCC) grants (tranche 2) provide funding towards projects that enable people from all backgrounds, ages and abilities to be included and to actively contribute to their local community. Funded projects will form part of the Queensland Government’s social cohesion program to build cohesive and resilient Queensland communities and to foster a strong sense of belonging for all Queenslanders.

Tranche 2 grants are offered under 3 funding streams:

Stream 1: Community-led social cohesion planning and action (this stream).

Stream 2: Pathways to economic inclusion.

Stream 3: Engaging young people to become global citizens.

These grants support implementation of *Thriving Cohesive Communities: An Action Plan for Queensland 2019-2021 (Stage 2)*. The intent of the Stage 2 Action Plan is to promote communities where Queenslanders of all backgrounds and abilities are respected, treated fairly and have the opportunity to meaningfully participate.

The grants support the Queensland Government’s *Our Future State: Advancing Queensland Priorities* and the Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors *Thriving Communities Thriving Queensland Commitment Statement*.

The grants are targeted to the Toowoomba, Rockhampton and Townsville regions.

2 Funding period

Non-recurrent grant funding will be available for projects of up to 16 months duration (March 2020 – June 2021).

2.1 Available funding

Total funding of $1,200,000 (exc. GST) is available for the period 2019-2021.

Funding up to $400,000 (exc. GST) per project is available for applications under *Community-led social cohesion planning and action*.

**Funding applications are invited from a consortia or partnership in each of the three target locations of Toowoomba, Rockhampton and Townsville.**

These consortia/partnerships must have a lead ‘applicant’ organisation as auspice for the project. The applicant organisation(s) need to demonstrate that the proposed project is the result of collaboration between a broad section of community groups and local organisations within the target location.
3 TCC funding priorities - Stream 1

This Funding Information Paper supports applicants for Thriving Cohesive Communities funding under Stream 1: Community-led social cohesion planning and action.

Projects funded under this stream will support implementation of Action 1 of the Thriving Cohesive Communities: Action Plan for Queensland 2019-21 (Stage 2), being:

Work with local partners to facilitate community-led social cohesion planning and activities in the priority locations of Toowoomba, Rockhampton and Townsville.

The objectives of Community-led social cohesion planning and action are to:

Provide funding for activities to:
1. increase community members’ understanding of the factors that build and maintain social cohesion in their local community and region of Queensland;
2. increase the visibility and understanding, by other community members, of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members’ perspectives on how best to strengthen and promote local community cohesion;
3. build and sustain positive relationships between people from all backgrounds, ages and abilities through community-led activities.

Examples of project activities potentially funded under this stream include, but are not limited to:
- Community development work to build connections between community members and groups;
- Employment forums to:
  - Connect the available workforce to local employers;
  - Increase visibility of entry-level opportunities and understanding of local employer needs.
- Anti-poverty initiatives to reduce barriers to social and economic participation;
- Using e-platforms to engage community members of different ages, abilities and backgrounds;
- Case management support for young people in the critical 3 to 6 month period when they transition from school to employment, volunteering or further education;
- Outreach to connect residents at risk of social or economic isolation to existing opportunities and support.

4 Who is eligible to apply?
The following types of organisations can apply for funding under this Thriving Cohesive Communities grant stream:

- Not-for-profit organisations, including Neighbourhood and Community Centres and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations;
- Local Government Authorities (LGAs);
- P&C Associations;
- Co-operatives;
- Unincorporated community groups and user-led groups who are auspiced* by an eligible entity.

*If you are not incorporated you can ask an eligible organisation that has operations or delivers services in Queensland to auspice your project. If successful in receiving funding, the auspicing organisation will enter into the funding agreement to receive the funds and to submit reports.

Eligible organisations and associations must:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN) that is not for a commercial entity or individual and have operations or deliver services in Queensland;
- have no overdue reports, outstanding financial liability, or service delivery or performance issues for funding previously and currently provided by the Queensland Government;
- hold the appropriate public liability insurance required to undertake their project and all related activities, consisting of a minimum value of $10 million;
- not be a state or federal government agency;
- have access to premises in one of the three target areas. Organisations seeking to deliver a project from outside the three locations without local partnerships or consortia members on the ground are ineligible to apply.

Projects must not replicate or replace those that are known to be currently funded in the same location, for example, through Queensland State Government agencies, Local Government, or Australian Government programs or non-government organisations.

Please refer to the Thriving Cohesive Communities (tranche 2) Fact Sheet and FAQs for more information.

5 What can funding be used for?

- Salaries and on-costs for workers to deliver the project;
- Hire of venues for project-related activities;
• Project consumables;
• Purchase of small equipment essential for project delivery;
• Vehicle mileage for use of vehicles associated with project delivery;
• Telecommunication, marketing/communication expenses and other administration specific to the TCC project.

6 What can’t funding be used for?

Funding will not be provided for:

• Capital expenditure for equipment that is not essential to project delivery;
• Recurrent or retrospective funds — including the reimbursement of costs already incurred or expended, and any projects or activities that have taken place prior to the application being approved. No component of the project, or related activities, that take place prior to receiving funding approval will be eligible for funding;
• Recurring maintenance or operational costs of existing programs or facilities;
• Interstate and overseas travel;
• Professional development activities for staff members that are not specifically related to the effective delivery of the project;
• Activities that involve commercial ventures for personal gain or fundraising activities;
• Purchase of vehicles or similar depreciable assets;
• Funding solely for the purposes of design/planning work or concept plans/feasibility studies;
• Capital works or upgrades to existing infrastructure;
• Project activities delivered outside of Queensland;
• Projects with limited community benefit;
• Audit fees and contingencies.

7 How to apply

Ensure you carefully read this information paper to determine whether your project meets the program requirements.

Funding applications are submitted online through SmartyGrants using the on-line application form. A downloadable copy of the application form is available to applicants via SmartyGrants when the submission process has commenced.

Submitting applications
Applicants are asked to submit applications online after registering their organisation with SmartyGrants. If you have successfully completed your application you will receive an acknowledgement email from SmartyGrants. If you do not receive an acknowledgement email, your application has not been submitted. Check your application to ensure all sections have been completed and resubmit.

Applications will need to include specific support materials as requested in the online application, such as

- incorporation certificates; and
- partnership agreements.

Please check your application prior to submission to ensure you have provided all relevant attachments.

**Key dates**

Key dates for submissions are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SmartyGrants application stages</th>
<th>Key dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications open</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 December 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications close</td>
<td>2:00pm Friday 28 February 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding offers announced</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completed applications must be submitted through SmartyGrants with all required documents **by 2:00pm Friday 28 February 2020**

**Late applications**

An application submitted after the closing time and date will be considered a late application. Late applications may be accepted at the discretion of the Assessment Panel. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

**8 How will applications be assessed?**

An initial check will be conducted by the Department to ensure the eligibility of the applicant and alignment of the application with the funding objectives of Stream 1 – Community-led planning and action of the Thriving Cohesive Communities grants (tranche 2)

Eligible applications will be progressed to an **assessment panel** who will rate applications according to how strongly they meet the assessment criteria in this funding information paper. Applications must respond to all sections of the Thriving Cohesive Communities grants application, attach all supporting criteria, and submit the application through SmartyGrants.

**Assessment criteria**
Eligibility requirements

The project aligns with the objectives of Stream 1: Community-led social cohesion planning and action in Toowoomba, Rockhampton and Townsville and meets program and operational eligibility requirements as follows:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN) that is not for a commercial entity or individual and have operations or deliver services in Queensland;
- have no overdue reports, outstanding financial liability, or service delivery or performance issues for funding previously and currently provided by the Queensland Government;
- hold the appropriate public liability insurance required to undertake their project and all related activities, consisting of a minimum value of $10 million;
- not be a state or federal government agency;
- have access to premises in one of the three target areas. Organisations seeking to deliver a project from outside the three locations without local partnerships or consortia members on the ground are ineligible to apply.

Projects must not replicate or replace those that are known to be currently funded in the same location, for example, through Queensland State Government agencies, Local Government, or Australian Government programs or non-government organisations.

Assessment criteria

The application must include a response to each of the following criteria:

1. Project rationale
   Tell us:
   - what you want to do;
   - why you think this project is needed and what evidence you have of this need.

2. Community buy-in and anticipated individual and community benefits
   Tell us:
   - who you have worked with to develop this application;
   - who the target group is for the project; e.g. community-wide or specific groups/sections of the community;
   - how your project will add value to and build on the work already being done in your community and with your target group(s);
   - what social impact and individual and community benefits you expect to achieve; i.e. expected outcomes in relation to the funding stream objectives.

3. Project plan
   Tell us how you will deliver this project, including:
   - how you will get community members to participate;
   - the activities you plan to deliver, the timeframes and locations;
- who else you will work with to help make this project a success; e.g. community leaders, other groups or services;
- how you will ensure all groups, including young people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders will be represented in the project.

4. **Applicant capability**
   
   Tell us:
   - the proposed governance structure for your consortium/partnership and roles and responsibilities for each agency/participant group;
   - about the experience the applicant organisation(s) has that will assist you to successfully deliver this project; i.e. relevant experience in delivering projects, recruiting and managing staff, managing a budget, training, working with volunteers etc;
   - the risks to the project's success and how will you manage these risks.

5. **Value for money**
   
   Tell us:
   - How you plan to use the grant funds; i.e. your budget;
   - About any additional value you will bring to the project, such as in-kind resources and staff.

We need to understand if your project is financially feasible and how it demonstrates a clear social and financial return for investment. Please submit your project budget as per the template provided in the on-line application form.

---

**9 Announcement**

Grant recipients will be announced by the Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors and will be listed on the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors [website](#).

**Funding decisions are final and unsuccessful applications will not be reconsidered.**

Grant recipients will be required to enter into an agreement with DCDSS, outlining the obligations of both parties, including, but not limited to, funding and payment details, reporting requirements, agreed deliverables and acquittal conditions. The panel may decline certain components of an application, or limit the amount of funds approved for individual items. An example funding agreement is available on the Department’s site.

All successful applicants will be bound to the [grant agreement and contractual terms and conditions](#). Additional individual conditions may be specified at the time of approval. If necessary, a revised project plan may be negotiated.

Unsuccessful applicants will be given the opportunity to seek feedback by emailing a request to [grantqueries@communities.qld.gov.au](mailto:grantqueries@communities.qld.gov.au).

---

**10 Assistance**
Questions about the funding application form and process go to grantqueries@communities.qld.gov.au or refer to the SmartyGrants application site under the Q&A section.

Queries in relation to the grant application process will be responded to by email up to three working days before the grant round closes.

We also provide feedback on unsuccessful applications up to 8 weeks after the announcement of successful grants.

11 Applicant Q&A log

In addition to the pre-prepared Frequently Asked Questions document, the department will provide a list of any relevant Questions and Answers asked by applicants about the funding application form and grants’ process. Questions submitted by applicants and responses will be listed on Smartygrants and will be updated weekly each Wednesday. Applicants are encouraged to review all relevant responses before emailing the Grant Queries mailbox.

The last day for responding to questions will be Tuesday 25 February 2020.

Other sources of funding and assistance