



# Neighbourhood Fund Framework

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The Invercargill City Council allocates Neighbourhood Fund grants with the expectation that they benefit an identifiable neighbourhood and encourages community-led revitalisation projects. For the purposes of the Neighbourhood Fund, a Neighbourhood is defined as ‘a geographically localised community within a larger city, town, suburb or rural area’.

## Factors when assessing priority of applications

The following factors are used by Council when determining the success of an application.

- Alignment with Council’s vision and priorities.
- Addressing community need or strong community support.
- Clearly defined purpose of the application.
- Demonstration of innovation.
- Clearly defined project – what will be delivered and how.
- Capability, capacity and experience to deliver the project.
- Realistic, evidence-based budget demonstrating good value for public funds.
- Other contributions sought by the applicant and the contribution by the applicant.
- Council will not support ongoing projects unless applicants can demonstrate sound evaluation and development.

## Legislative requirements

To ensure that the funding fits within the Local Government Act requirements, applications must fit the following criteria:

- Take place in Invercargill City District.
- Be for a specific project or service and the application must clearly identify a benefit to the community.
- Projects seeking funding must not be the sole responsibility of Central Government or other agencies.

## What we will consider funding

Council will support projects and events in neighbourhood areas. Applicants will need to indicate how they plan to spend their grant if successful. Arts, culture and sports and recreation applications will first be considered for eligibility by the Creative Communities Invercargill and Invercargill Active Communities Funds. Applicants are not eligible to receive funding from more than one Council fund for the same project or event. This excludes Council administered funding schemes that are funded externally to Council, for example Creative Communities Invercargill and Invercargill Active Communities.

## What we will not fund

Council will not fund the following:

- Debt servicing or repayment;
- Legal expenses;
- Activities for religious or political purposes;
- Public Services that are the sole responsibility of Central Government;
- Operating and administrative costs;
- Capital works and infrastructure (*Note that applications for assets of a value less than \$5,000 will be considered eligible and assessed on a case-by-case basis*).

## Priorities

Every year Council receives more applications for Community Grants. It is not possible to meet all applications for funding. Council aims to deliver the outcomes that are significant to the Community and align with Council's vision and strategic direction.

Past funding does not represent a commitment to future funding.

## Accountability

A letter detailing the decision on your application will be sent in the month following the close of the funding round, there will be four funding rounds each year. If your application is successful an agreement for your organisation to sign will be sent. The agreement will contain details of your accountability requirements.

The processes and documentation that organisations are asked to complete will be appropriate to the size of the grant, the situation of the applicant and the level of risk presented to Council. If you have previously applied for funding, but have not submitted your accountability form, you may be ineligible for funding until the next funding round.

Failure to provide accountability reports and receipts when requested will result in your forfeiting the grant and repaying the sum to the Invercargill City Council.