



Local Government Partnership Fund for Homelessness

Information Session Tuesday, 7 September 9:30 – 11:30am



WALGA

WORKING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

WALGA's work regularly takes us across the State and as such we would like to acknowledge the many traditional owners of the land on which we work throughout Western Australia.

We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

Pictured right: Artwork by Jade Dolman, a young Whadjuk/Ballardong Nyoongar, Eastern Arrernte, Irish woman from Perth.



Welcome and Introductions



- Julia Prior, Manager, Department of Communities
- Kate Waylen, Policy Officer, Department of Communities
- Ryan Medrana, Principal Policy Officer, Department of Communities
- Vikki Barlow, Senior Policy Advisor WALGA
- Kelly McManus, Principal Policy and Advocacy Advisor WALGA

The session will cover

- Presentation providing details on the fund background, guidelines, eligibility requirements ECT.
- Responses to pre-submitted questions
- Open to the floor for Q & A



Housekeeping

- We would love to see your faces, so feel free to have your video on.
- Please mute your microphones until the end of the presentation
- Please type questions into the chat function – these will be answered at the end of the presentation.
- All materials from today's session, including a recording of the webinar, will be available on the Department of Communities [website](#).

WA Local Government Association Homelessness Advocacy Position



WALGA recognises that Local Government through its planning, health, community development and regulatory powers can facilitate positive local and regional responses to end homelessness, however does not see that it has a lead role. Rather, Local Government's role is one of a stakeholder that requires early engagement in the understanding of collaborative approaches that improve the quality of life for people experiencing homelessness in all of its manifestations.

Background



- McGowan Government committed \$6 million to establish a new Fund to support place-based proposals put forward by local governments to address homelessness in their community.
- This is a key initiative to support implementation of All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness.
- The Strategy identified a number of priorities, including:
 - The need for more place-based responses to address homelessness and the key role that local governments can play in achieving this
 - The need for innovation and opportunities to test new ways of working.
 - Increasing opportunities to leverage funding from different sectors in the community and encourage cross-sector partnerships.

Role of Local Government



- All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness recognises that local governments are uniquely placed to facilitate partnerships and create place-based solutions for homelessness.
- The Strategy identifies that the role of local governments can include:
 - Making information on local services and supports available and accessible.
 - Ensuring front-line staff are informed and supported to interact with people experiencing homelessness and, where appropriate, refer them to local services.
 - Ensuring people experiencing homelessness are connected and referred to local services and supports.
 - Coordinating volunteer and charity groups through a place-based approach that better meets the needs of people experiencing homelessness.
 - Utilising land and assets to create places that are inclusive and can support vulnerable people.

Fund Overview



Program amount:

- The McGowan Government has committed a total of \$6 million over four years from 2021-22 to 2024-25 for the Fund.
- Grants will be awarded through four annual grant rounds, each totalling \$1.5 million.
- The individual grant amount ranges from **\$25,000 to \$200,000** per project.

Key dates:

- The first grant round opened on **Tuesday, 3 August 2021.**
- The closing date for applications is **4pm on Friday, 15 October 2021.**
- Allow up to **12 weeks** from the closing date to assess and award grants to successful applicants.

Fund Overview

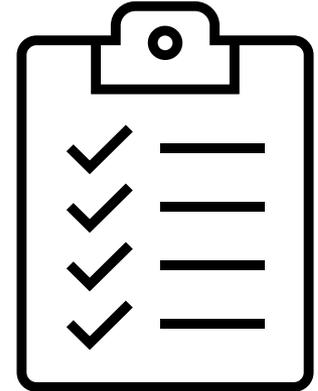


- The key objectives of the Fund are to:
 - Enable the development of place-based initiatives that respond to and prevent homelessness around Western Australia;
 - Create opportunities for local government, the community sector, business and philanthropic organisations to collaborate and co-fund initiatives that will address homelessness and service gaps in their local community; and
 - Encourage the development and delivery of locally designed, innovative initiatives that support implementation of All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness.

Eligibility Requirements



- Local Government Authorities are the primary applicant for the Fund.
- Not-for-profit community organisations may also apply, provided that they:
 - Have an established local presence within the local government area in which the project will be delivered;
 - Demonstrate an active partnership with the relevant local government authority through a formal letter of support.
- Projects must be completed within two years of receiving funding.



Eligibility Requirements



- Only **one** application per local government area can be submitted per grant round.
- Applicants must demonstrate matched funding that is equal to or greater than the grant amount being requested, and may include financial or in-kind support or a mix of both.

Expenditure items



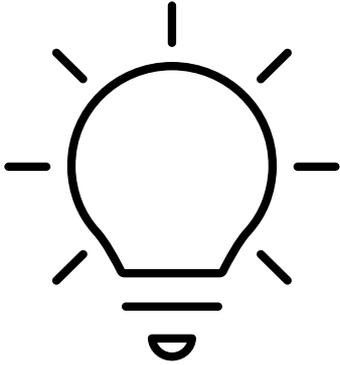
Eligible grant expenditure	Ineligible grant expenditure
Staff, consultants and facilitators directly related to the project	Recurring maintenance or operational costs of existing programs or facilities
Resource materials and publication costs	Purchase of capital items, infrastructure or equipment
Publicity, communications and marketing	Projects that duplicate an existing or similar project or service within the community
Equipment, transport and venue hire	Projects that are traditionally funded through other sources
Project evaluation	Gifts or payments for project participants
Intrastate travel	Interstate and overseas travel
Food and non-alcoholic beverages provided for community engagement activities	Activities that involve commercial ventures or fundraising activities
	Projects that could be delivered as part of agreed services under an existing service or grant agreement the organisation has with the Department of Communities.

Assessment criteria



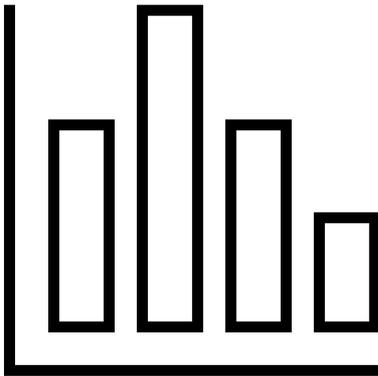
- Eligible applications will be assessed against the following criteria:
 - Cross-sector collaboration and formalised local partnerships
 - Alignment with Strategic outcomes and priorities
 - Demonstrated community need and impact
 - Innovation
 - Organisation capability and capacity
 - Value for money
- Priority weighting may be given to applications that demonstrate service development and implementation led by Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.

Project examples



- Partner with local ACCOs to provide a culturally appropriate assertive outreach and case management services for people sleeping rough.
- Establish a one-stop-shop community resource hub to provide information, referral to services and educational sessions to people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- In collaboration with local providers, co-design a physical health and wellbeing program utilising local government recreational facilities to help people exiting the justice system to reintegrate into the community.
- Partner with local ACCOs to employ community based Aboriginal wellbeing officers to provide a wellbeing support services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Deliver training for local government services so front-line workers have the confidence and capabilities to engage positively with people experiencing homelessness.
- Partner with community service providers to engage dedicated support workers who are co-located with existing local government services, such as libraries.

Evaluation



- Evaluation and gathering data is a key component of the Fund.
- Local governments are encouraged to use the [Community Development Evaluation Framework and Toolkit](#), available through Local Government Professionals WA.
- If there are limited resources or capabilities within the local government to undertake project evaluation, funding for this component can be included within the requested grant amount.
- Consider looking to project partners to see if they have the capabilities to assist with evaluation.

Project planning



- Contact the Department to talk through your ideas whether they are eligible for funding
- Applicants are encouraged to read through all documents relevant to the Fund, including:
 - Application Form
 - Program guidelines
 - FAQs
 - **All Paths Lead to a Home: WA's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness.**
- Meet with local partners early to bring ideas and resources together, and ensure sufficient time to formalise partnerships.

Submitting a strong application



To ensure your application is competitive,

ENSURE that the expected outcomes of the project will directly contribute to the outcomes and priorities of the State Homelessness Strategy.

ENGAGE with key stakeholders to understand current service provision and determine service gaps within the local community.

BUILD a strong evidence base to demonstrate community need.

RESEARCH innovative responses that have demonstrated positive outcomes and could be adapted to your local area. This may include connecting with nearby local governments and sharing key learnings about current initiatives.

DESCRIBE the key components of your project, how it will be implemented within two years, and the measurable difference it will make for your local community.

DEMONSTRATE capacity to deliver the project and match requested funding amount.

Application review process



- All applications will undergo an initial eligibility check.
- If an application is determined to be ineligible, the application will not be assessed further.
- Eligible applications will be progressed to a competitive assessment phase that ranks applications against the assessment criteria.
- The assessment panel will be comprised of Department staff and other representatives with appropriate knowledge and expertise.
- The panel will provide recommendations to the Minister, who will make the final decision as to which applications are successful.

Support for applicants



- Department of Communities:
 - Homelessness Policy Team:
homelessness.strategy@communities.wa.gov.au
 - Grants Team (for technical assistance):
grants@communities.wa.gov.au
 - Regional Executive Directors: District Offices
- Western Australian Local Government Association
- Local Government Professionals WA (for information regarding the evaluation toolkit)
- Connecting with other local governments

Pre-submitted questions



- Clarification around matched funding
- Priority/weighting of outcomes and assessment criteria
- Funding for crisis accommodation and safe night spaces
- Evaluation requirements
- Funding for local homelessness plans
- Community sector information sessions

Q&A



Thank you



- All materials from today's webinar will be available on the Department of Communities website:
www.communities.wa.gov.au/Local-Government-Partnership-Fund-for-Homelessness
- Contact Department of Communities:
 - Homelessness Policy Team:
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 - Grants Team (for technical assistance):
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