



Sustained Impact Grant

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Funding amount

Up to \$10,000

What is this grant for?

This grant support larger scale programs, services, projects, initiatives or activities that will **significantly benefit the Whitehorse community** and deliver positive health and wellbeing outcomes for Whitehorse. It is designed to provide support for projects/ initiatives that **demonstrate long-term benefits** for the local community.

Who can apply?

- Not-for-profit and incorporated organisations, clubs and groups who are actively engaged in the local Whitehorse City Council community.
- An auspice of an appropriate organisation including a not-for profit and incorporated organisation.

Who should not apply?

- Applicants who are seeking funding for a small, one-off purchase (see Micro Funds Fact Sheet)
- Applicants who are seeking less funding for their project/ initiative (see Connection Grant, Innovation Grant or Collaboration Grant Fact Sheets)
- Applicants who are seeking more funding for a larger-scale, long-term program (see Social and Wellbeing Grant Fact Sheet)

Important things to note

- This grant requires the applicant to demonstrate how long-term benefits have been achieved for the local community. This means you will be required to report on the outcomes your grant has achieved in the community over **two years**.
- More than one applicant can apply for this grant as a partnership between organisations.

Conditions of funding

- Provide written acknowledgement of Whitehorse City Council's funding support in promotional material, publications and annual reports for the duration of the grant
- Agree to take part in occasional checks by Council to make sure the funding is being used as approved
- Meet any additional conditions outlined in your funding agreement
- Meet additional key requirements outlined in your application, including your commitment to Whitehorse City Council's environmental sustainability goals and the Victorian Charter of Human Rights.

Examples of eligible projects

Focus area	Project examples	Why they are eligible
<p>Social Connection & Wellbeing</p> <p>Projects that build ongoing relationships and skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community cooking program training local volunteers to gain employment after the grant period • Peer support groups (carers, older adults, young parents, new migrants) with a transition plan to become self-managed • Mental Health First Aid training for community leaders using a train-the-trainer model 	<p>Skills, leadership, and social networks remain in the community after funding ends.</p> <p>These initiatives can demonstrate how training builds knowledge and skills of participants, which in turn builds their confidence to apply these skills to help more people in the community in perpetuity.</p>
<p>Inclusion & Equity</p> <p>Projects that remove long-term barriers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-designed programs for people with disability embedding accessibility into mainstream services 	<p>Systems and services become more inclusive beyond the project timeframe</p>
<p>Environment & Sustainability</p> <p>Projects that change behaviour, not just awareness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community composting hubs with training community champions • Repair cafés with volunteer facilitators and ongoing sessions • Urban greening projects with long-term maintenance plans led by community groups 	<p>Environmental behaviour change continues through community ownership</p>

Examples of eligible projects (continued)

Focus area	Project examples	Why they are eligible
<p>Children, Youth & Families</p> <p>Projects that strengthen early intervention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth leadership programs facilitated by alumni members • Parenting programs with peer facilitators trained to continue delivery 	<p>Early intervention reduces long-term disadvantage and improves outcomes for children and young people</p>
<p>Community Capacity & Leadership</p> <p>Projects that strengthen local organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and financial management training for small community groups • Shared service models between neighbourhood houses or community centres 	<p>Local organisations become stronger, more capable, and resilient</p>

Assessment criteria

Criteria A: Community need or emerging priority	Criteria B: Achievement of community outcomes	Criteria C: Project sustainability	Criteria D: Capacity to deliver
Application demonstrates a clear community need for the proposed project/ initiative and is supported by relevant data, case studies and/or, local knowledge.	Application clearly articulates how their proposed project or initiative will achieve strategic community outcomes and how this will be measured.	Application demonstrates that the success of the project/ initiative will not rely on ongoing funding from Council.	Application demonstrates that the organisation has genuine capacity to deliver the project/ initiative and clearly shows how funding from Council will be used.
25%	35%	15%	25%

What assessors look for

Strong applications show:

- ✓ Strong evidence of community need (e.g. accurate statistics, verbatim from community, etc)
- ✓ Clear, long-term outcomes (not just the “what” or “how”)
- ✓ Measurable indicators (e.g. for increased participation, reduced isolation, improved skills, etc)
- ✓ A thorough consideration of associated risks and mitigation actions
- ✓ A detailed project plan with key milestones outlined

How funding levels are determined

Each application receives a weighted score based on the assessment criteria. This score helps determine how much funding may be offered, subject to available funds.

How well you score will directly impact how much funding you receive based on the below thresholds:

More than 85% — 100% of the requested funding

Over 75% to 85% — 85% of the requested funding

Over 65% to 75% — 75% of the requested funding

Less than 65% — funding may be considered subject to available funds in line with weighted score

Meeting the assessment criteria does not guarantee funding. Final funding decisions are subject to Council approval and available budget.

Example of how the assessment criteria will be applied to your application – Criteria A

Criteria A - Evidence of community need or emerging priority	Assessment applied and examples of why			
	Not demonstrated	Minimally demonstrated	Adequately demonstrated	Strongly demonstrated
<p>Requirements per policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the need or issue your project is responding to Provide evidence that the need exists in the Whitehorse community Explain why the project is important now 	<p>No evidence provided.</p> <p>Need described is vague, generic, or unrelated to the proposed project.</p> <p>Does not identify a specific issue or gap.</p> <p>No reference to Whitehorse or the local community.</p> <p>No explanation of why the project is needed now.</p>	<p>Limited or generic evidence.</p> <p>Assertions made without data or examples.</p> <p>The “why now” explanation is weak and generic.</p>	<p>Clear and relevant evidence provided.</p> <p>Clearly describes a community gap.</p> <p>Provides local context and informal evidence.</p> <p>Explains why the project is relevant at this point in time.</p>	<p>Clear and relevant evidence provided with multiple, high-quality evidence sources cited.</p> <p>Clearly defines the issue and who it affects.</p> <p>Provides strong, place-based evidence linked to Whitehorse.</p>

Example of how the assessment criteria will be applied to your application – Criteria B

Criteria B - Achievement of community outcomes	Assessment applied and examples of why			
	Not demonstrated	Minimally demonstrated	Adequately demonstrated	Strongly demonstrated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the outcomes your project will achieve Show how these outcomes align with Council's strategic priorities Explain how your project activities will lead to these outcomes 	<p>Outcomes are unclear, vague, or listed as activities only (e.g. "run cooking classes").</p> <p>No link between activities and change for participants.</p> <p>Does not explain <i>what will change</i> for participants or how success will be measured.</p>	<p>Some outcomes described but not measurable or time-bound. Weak connection between activities and outcomes.</p> <p>Identifies change but lacks clarity on <i>how much, by when, or how it will be measured</i>.</p>	<p>Clear outcomes described with basic measures. Logical connection between activities and outcomes is evident.</p> <p>Shows a reasonable outcomes framework but limited detail or evidence of measurement.</p>	<p>Outcomes are clearly articulated across a change pathway (awareness → knowledge → skills → behaviour change), with timeframes, indicators, measures and data sources clearly identified.</p> <p>Demonstrates strong outcomes thinking, clear causality, and practical evaluation methods aligned to Council priorities.</p>

Example of how the assessment criteria will be applied to your application – Criteria C

Criteria C - Project sustainability	Assessment applied and examples of why			
	Not demonstrated	Minimally demonstrated	Adequately demonstrated	Strongly demonstrated
<p>Outline how your project can continue or have lasting impact beyond the funding period</p> <p>Demonstrate how the project will be maintained, supported or embedded over time</p>	<p>No consideration of what happens after funding ends.</p> <p>Treats the project as one-off.</p>	<p>Sustainability mentioned but relies on ongoing Council funding.</p> <p>Sustainability is aspirational rather than planned.</p>	<p>Some elements of lasting impact identified, but limited detail.</p> <p>Identifies ongoing benefits but not embedded.</p>	<p>Clear plan showing lasting impact without further Council funding.</p> <p>Shows skills, relationships and behaviours will continue independently.</p>

Example of how the assessment criteria will be applied to your application – Criteria D

Criteria D - Experience and capacity to deliver	Assessment applied and examples of why			
	Not demonstrated	Minimally demonstrated	Adequately demonstrated	Strongly demonstrated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline how you will deliver the project as proposed Outline how you will manage the funding responsibly Demonstrate relevant experience, skills or partnerships 	<p>No evidence of experience, partnerships, or risk management.</p> <p>Does not show capacity to deliver responsibly.</p>	<p>Limited experience or vague delivery approach.</p> <p>Section completed partially.</p> <p>Experience is implied rather than evidenced.</p>	<p>Relevant experience and basic risk management identified.</p> <p>Shows competence but limited detail.</p>	<p>Strong track record, partnerships, and proactive risk management.</p> <p>Demonstrates readiness, credibility, and risk awareness.</p>