What will be funded

Initiatives that will be considered for funding fall under two categories:

- Operational funding support due to hardship from the impact of COVID-19.
- Programs for the community and vulnerable residents.

Applicants may seek assistance in one or both categories.

Please note: all requests will consider the size and resources of the organisation, the financial impact of COVID-19 on the organisation and whether this support provides a direct benefit to Glen Eira community members.

Operational funding support due to the impact of COVID-19

Organisations must demonstrate a loss of income that can be directly attributed to COVID-19. This may include loss of sponsorship, loss of revenue due to the closure of services or facilities, inability to fund raise, or a decline in fees from participants or members.

- **Rent assistance/relief**

Organisations must outline efforts to seek a reduction or deferral of rental payments. This also applies to requests for assistance with utility bills and similar operational costs. Assistance will not be provided for Council rates or for groups that utilise Council facilities for which assistance packages are already in place.

- **Shortfalls in income required to meet operational commitments**

This relates to non-discretionary costs or for costs committed to prior to pandemic restrictions coming into place or in anticipation of return to normal operations following the initial easing of restrictions. Organisations are required to demonstrate that these costs have already been incurred and that the organisation has insufficient funds to carry these costs without funding support.

- **Equipment and technology**

Requests for equipment and/or technology will be considered where this equipment is for the direct benefit and use by community participants. Priority will be given to organisations with limited capacity to fund IT and to projects that demonstrate: support for a project or program that targets vulnerable groups; and/or cost effectiveness and appropriateness of the IT request. For example, expensive IT solutions where cost effective alternatives are available or where a low number of participants benefit does not demonstrate value for money.

- **Communications, connection and re-connection with members**

This relates to additional cost or effort from the organisation in connecting or reconnecting with its members during and following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

This may involve initiatives to engage and retain members during periods of forced closure or reduced operations such as online training sessions for sporting clubs, expanding the reach of existing programs to new audiences, advertising campaigns to re-engage with existing members and attract new members once restrictions have eased.

Priority will be given to initiatives that target vulnerable members of the community, build resilience or reach new audiences.

- **Matching funds from other sources**

This program will consider matched funding requests of up to $10,000 where the funded initiative is also consistent with *COVID-19 Community Action Grant Guidelines*. For example, if you have received an $8,000 grant

towards a community kitchen upgrade, you would not be eligible for matched funding because capital works projects are not eligible for funding under this program. However, your organisation could apply for funding to deliver a meals program for vulnerable people once the kitchen has been upgraded.

Programs for the community and vulnerable residents

The *COVID-19 Community Action Grants Program* has already aided community organisations to respond to a growth in demand for emergency relief services including additional meals for those in need in the community and to assist organisations to provide more material aid to very vulnerable people who may have complex mental health issues or are at risk of homelessness.

Council has also assisted community groups that are reaching out to the community with materials for programs that allow people to stay connected and contribute whilst remaining safe in their homes.

Programs for the community and vulnerable residents include:

- mental health and wellbeing initiatives;
- welfare and aid assistance;
- transitional programs and communications;
- online and other activities that connect people during isolation; and
- recovery and resilience programs that encourage return to community life after the pandemic.

What will not be funded

- **Capital works**

Capital works projects will not be funded. These include renovations such as adding an internal wall, upgrading kitchen or restroom facilities and items which cannot easily be removed from the property such as carpet and hot water systems.

- **Supplement support packages from other levels of government**

Applications that seek to make up a shortfall from other levels of government will not be funded, eg. gap between Job Keeper and usual wage/salary.

- **Support for religious organisations to deliver their worship services to online formats**
- **Equipment and technology for administration purposes**

Equipment and technology requests will not be granted for administration purposes.