



Australian Government

**Community
Grants Hub**
Improving your grant experience



Local Multicultural Projects

Feedback for applicants

The Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs) has provided the following General Feedback for applicants of the Local Multicultural Projects grant opportunity.

Overview

The grant opportunity period opened on 7 February 2023 and closed on 6 March 2023, following an extension period from 20 February 2023.

The grant opportunity is to support a range of organisations with grants to develop new multicultural infrastructure, including places of worship, upgrade existing multicultural community facilities, and celebrate key multicultural events and festivities, in targeted locations around Australia.

The intended outcome of the grant opportunity is to contribute to an integrated and cohesive multicultural Australia where both newly arrived migrants and multicultural communities:

- actively participate in Australian society and local civics
- embrace Australian values and abide by Australian laws
- have social networks that cross ethnic and religious groups; and
- are welcomed and supported by the broader Australian community.

Activities can include all Australian citizens and residents who contribute to maintaining social cohesion and defining our national identity.

Local Members of Parliament have identified organisations and projects within their own electorates that meet the objectives of this grant opportunity. The announcement of these projects was a part of the election commitments during the 2022 Federal Election and committed as part of the October 2022 Budget.

Selection process

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) undertook the screening for organisation eligibility and compliance against the requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. The Hub provided information to Home Affairs for the final decision on whether an application did not meet the eligibility and/or compliance criteria.

Home Affairs assessed and considered all eligible and compliant applications through a closed non-competitive grant process. The Selection Advisory Panel (the Panel) established by Home Affairs comprised of subject matter experts. The Panel assessed all eligible and compliant applications and provided advice to inform the funding recommendations to the Financial Delegate.

The review and evaluation of each application by the Panel was based on:

- how well it described the project and need; and
- whether it provided value with relevant money.

Each applicant was required to address the following selection criteria:

Criterion 1 – Project proposal

Describe how your project proposal will contribute to the grant opportunity and intended outcomes.

Criterion 2 – Experience

Describe your organisation’s experience working with culturally diverse groups in your community.

Criterion 3 – Value for money

Describe how your project proposal represents value for money.

During the course of the Panel’s deliberations, where the Panel deemed the application response was insufficient, Home Affairs contacted the organisation and requested the documentation required to assess the application.

The majority of queries to applicants related to relevant value for money and specifically the Panel requested budgets and quotes from organisations. Where an organisation demonstrated their application and associated attachments met the grant opportunity requirements, the Panel endorsed the application.

Selection results

Assessment of applications was according to the procedure detailed in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and all assessed applications provided responses to the selection criteria, this included any additional information supplied during the Panel assessment and review.

This feedback is to assist grant applicants to understand what generally comprised a strong application and the content of quality responses to the assessment criteria for this grant opportunity.

The successful applicants provided strong responses to the selection criteria for supported items, which aligned strongly with the criteria and provided value for money.



Criterion 1: Describe how your project proposal will contribute to the grant opportunity and intended outcomes (refer to section 2).

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

Strength

Described the anticipated short, medium and long-term project outcomes and described how monitoring and evaluation of the outcomes would occur.

Demonstrated how the project would build upon Australia's multicultural success and encouraged new migrants to participate in activities, which promoted Australian values and liberal democracy.

Described how they would be able to measure success, or in other words, once achieved what would a successful outcome of the project look like?

Described how the project enabled interaction between new migrants and local elected members of government, such as Councillors, Mayors, and Commonwealth, State and Territory Members of Parliament in order to encourage greater participation in civic life in Australia.

Criterion 2: Describe your organisation's experience working with culturally diverse groups in your community.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

Strength

Provided details of the key personnel engaged in delivering the projects or demonstrated collaboration with relevant/specialist organisations.

Outlined the proposed governance arrangements to manage the project effectively and ensure compliance with relevant local State and Territory laws and regulations.

Provided examples of relevant grants the organisation had previously been awarded, and how the Organisation had achieved successful outcomes.

Criterion 3: Describe how your project proposal represents value for money (refer to Glossary).

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

Strength

Demonstrated how the project proposal represented an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources.

Identified any risks associated with the project, and mitigation strategies to manage these risks.



Individual feedback

Home Affairs will provide individual feedback for this grant opportunity upon request. Applicants seeking individual feedback should submit requests to programssection@homeaffairs.gov.au

Home Affairs will accept requests for individual feedback within 10 days following receipt of the outcome notification in regards to your application. Home Affairs will provide the individual feedback within 30 days following the receipt of your request.