

## **Council Policy**

### **Mayoral Discretionary Fund**

#### **Policy Statement**

The Mayoral Discretionary Fund provides the opportunity for the Mayor, on behalf of Council, to respond to requests for financial assistance from individuals and community organisations. The Policy identifies the key responsibilities of authorisation and accountability for the Mayor and Council staff and ensures transparency in the expenditure of funds.

#### **Purpose**

The Mayoral Community Benefit Fund purpose:

- To support individuals and community organisations through small financial donations. Groups do not have to be incorporated.
- To assist community organisations to undertake initiatives and services that benefit the local community.
- To assist local residents to attend events/conferences that further develop their education or sporting endeavours at a representative level.
- The amount allocated to the Fund is designated each year in the Annual Budget.
- The maximum amount able to be allocated to an individual or community organisation is \$1000 and only one payment can be made to an individual or community organisation within the same financial year.
- The Chief Executive Officer or General Manager Customer and Corporate shall certify that the expenditure is in accordance with the policy and that funds are available.
- Fund is not to be used for projects/programs aimed to support or promote political parties or specific religious beliefs.
- Recipient and project details will be reported to Council annually.

#### **Scope and application**

This policy applies to all members of the public who request financial assistance, employees, agents and officers of Northern Beaches Council, along with all Councillors.

#### **References and related documents**

Local Government Act 1993 Sect 226, Sect 356 and Sect 377

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Sect 207 (Responsibility for Accounting Records)

Policy on Payment of Expenses and Facilities to Mayor and Councillors

#### **Responsible Officer**

Executive Manager Governance & Risk

#### **Review Date**

July 2021

#### **Revision History**

Revision	Date	Change	HPE CM Ref
1	May 2017	First draft Northern Beaches Council policy for exhibition	2017/136008