



ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL

Community Funding

Policy Review

Community Funding Investment Policy

Policy Purpose:

- To guide RLC in the allocation of community funding, to communities, groups and organisations within the Rotorua District.
- The policy supports community alignment and contribution towards Council outcomes and priorities as well as the needs of communities and neighbourhoods to be safe, thriving and resilient
- Provides guidelines around:
 - Application process
 - Eligibility
 - Allocation and management of Council's community funding



Current Investment Framework



Neighbourhood Matching Fund

Match volunteer contribution
Small grants under \$5k
Large Grants under \$20k
Total fund = \$120k
46 recipients over 3 years



Community Grants

3 yr secured funding
\$1k-\$5k
Total fund = \$105k
44 Recipients



Partnership Agreements

3yr secured funding
\$5k-\$40k
Total fund = \$210k
15 Recipients



Highlights

- Community and Council alignment – Tatau Tatau
- Estimated volume of reach to >20,000 community members per year
- Sustainable funding practice amongst funders: RLC, Rotorua Trust, Bay Trust, Dept. of Internal Affairs and Geyser Community Foundation
- In 2023/2024 alone the Neighbourhood Matching Fund leveraged \$437,444 worth of volunteer contribution towards community activities, a 264% return on investment
- Community sector deliver a more holistic and preventative approach to safety, rather than safety enforcement



Why Is This Policy Review Happening Now?

- Policy review is underway
- Draft Long Term Plan is open
- Run in parallel as one relies on the other
- Funding level adjustments has implications for community

Long Term Plan Consultation

Community Funding Allocation

Proposal to cease delivery of Community Grants

Community Funding Policy Review

Realignment to Council's key priorities

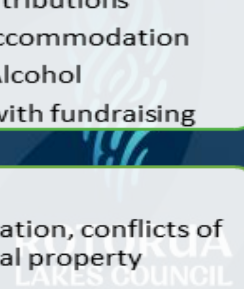
Policy Name Change

Inclusion of funding Scope

Inclusion of Social Enterprises in Eligible Applicants

New exclusions:
Building or resource consents or development contributions
Vehicles, travel and accommodation
Purchase of Alcohol
Any costs associated with fundraising

Added:
Funding panel representation, conflicts of interest, intellectual property



Proposed Changes Based on Feedback

- Policy name change to **Community Funding Policy**
- Review reporting process to reflect community impact
- Neighbourhood Matching Fund name changed to **Community Matching Fund**
- Amend Neighbourhood Matching Fund food allowance from \$200 to \$500



Proposed Changes Continued...

Inclusion of:

- Council's proposed 9 key priorities, to replace Council's 2030 goals
- Scope
- Social Enterprises in *Eligible Applicants*
- Funding panel representation, conflicts of interest disclosure, intellectual property of applicants

New exclusions:

- Te Rākau Tū Pakari fund
- Building or resource consents or development contributions
- Purchase of vehicles or alcohol
- Travel and accommodation
- Any cost associated with fundraising



Questions

