

Stronger Communities Programme (Round 9)

Round 9 of the Stronger Communities Programme (SCP) is now open! The Stronger Communities Programme provides grants of between \$2,500 and \$20,000 to community organisations and local governments for infrastructure projects that deliver social benefits for local communities.

Below is an overview of Round 9 of the Stronger Communities Programme.

Please check the grant guidelines before submitting an EOI for the most complete and up-to-date information: <https://business.gov.au/-/media/grants-and-programs/scp-round-9/stronger-communities-programme-round-9-grant-opportunity-guidelines-pdf>

Eligibility criteria

Eligibility criteria is further outlined in section 4 of the grant guidelines (page 7-9).

Who is eligible? To be eligible you must:

- Be invited to apply by your MP
- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and
- Be one of the following entities:
 - o An incorporated not for profit entity
 - o A Commonwealth, state or territory government agency or entity that is a fire service, rural fire service, country fire authority, state emergency service or similar. Stronger Communities
 - o Non-distributing co-operatives
 - o Companies limited by guarantee
 - o Australian Indigenous corporations
 - o Religious organisations incorporated under legislation.
 - o An incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust with responsibility for a community asset or property. You will be required to provide relevant trust documents
 - o A local governing body as defined by the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995.

Project sponsors

If you are an organisation that may not be able to incorporate you may be able to nominate an eligible project sponsor. Please see section 4.2 of the guidelines for further details.

Grant objectives and activities

Proposed projects must link with an objective (or objectives) from section 2 of the grant guidelines and be one (or more) of the activities from section 5.1 of the guidelines.

Objectives

The objective of the program is to deliver infrastructure projects that provide social benefits for local communities, by supporting one or more of the following:

- Support or encourage interstate or international tourism
- Support or celebrate Indigenous Australians
- Commemorate Australians killed or injured in war or who contributed to Australia's war efforts
- Support veterans and defence force members and their families and communities
- Support the participation and settlement of newly arrived (i.e. within the last 5 years) immigrants who are not citizens
- Support the acquisition or deployment of greenhouse gas emissions mitigation measures
- Support the dignity of persons (including children) with disabilities by enhancing their access to public infrastructure
- Support access for children to public infrastructure which enables interstate or overseas travel, accommodation, or education or health care infrastructure or services
- Address gender inequality or discrimination in access to public infrastructure or sport
- Provide medical services or facilities, or services or facilities incidental to the provision of medical services
- Provide benefits to a specific cohort or cohorts of students
- Enable or foster the use of electronic communications.

Activities

To be eligible, project activities must directly align and give effect to at least one of the objectives of the program (Section 2) and be one or more of the following:

- Build, fit out, alterations and/or extensions to a tourism premise available to interstate or overseas tourists
- Information signage of people, places, of natural local significance
- Establish new or update to a website/social media presence that supports or encourages interstate or international tourism
- Establish new or update to a website/social media presence to support newly arrived immigrants who are not citizens
- Support towards NAIDOC week celebrations
- Information signage for places of First Nations significance

- Purchase of First Nation themed uniforms
- Installation of First Nations art in public spaces
- Construction of or upgrade to a First Nations cultural space
- Build, fit out, alterations and/or extensions to a premise for the specific purpose of providing services to First Nations persons
- Installation or upgrade to a native garden
- Upgrades to existing or installation of new war memorials
- Signage or flags (information, themed and or national) that commemorate Australians killed or injured war or who contributed to Australia's war efforts
- Build, fit out, alterations and/or extensions to a premise specifically available to support Veterans and/or Defence Force members and their families
- Establish new or update to a website/social media presence to support and/or commemorate veterans and Defence Force members and their families and communities
- Localised welcoming and/or information events for newly arrived immigrants who are not citizens
- Establish new or update to a website/social media presence to support newly arrived immigrants who are not citizens
- Acquisition and installation of the highest energy efficient appliances/systems available and relevant to your requirements/available funding
- Acquisition and installation of renewable energy sources
- Acquisition and installation of renewable energy storage
- Acquisition and installation of native or drought tolerant vegetation suitable to local conditions
- Acquisition and installation of energy efficient windows and or window attachments relevant to your localised requirements/available funding
- New or upgrades to disability access and or amenities in public buildings or facilities
- Construction of or upgrade to child friendly spaces/facilities at airports
- Construction of or upgrade to child friendly spaces/facilities at community supported accommodation
- Construction of or upgrade to child friendly spaces/facilities at child-care/education/health care services
- Provision of women's facilities at sporting grounds/buildings
- Provision of gender-neutral facilities for public access
- Construction of or upgrade to parent rooms at sporting grounds/buildings and or public spaces
- Construction of or upgrade to breastfeeding rooms at sporting grounds/buildings and or public spaces
- Purchase and installation of defibrillator/s and or other first aid equipment, including first aid kits
- Upgrade to or construction of first aid rooms/spaces

- Upgrades to public libraries and/or community facilities to benefit pre-school, school and university students
- Purchase and installation of ICT equipment and or software in public libraries and/or community facilities to benefit pre-school, school and university students
- Establish new or update to a website/social media presence for a public library and/or community facility to benefit pre-school, school and university students
- Purchase, establish new or update to a website/social media presence
- Purchase of applications (apps) that deliver social benefits to your community
- Purchase of customer relationship management (CRM) systems and/or software that deliver social benefits to your community
- Purchase and or installation of audio-visual equipment that deliver social benefits to your community
- Purchase and or installation of ICT equipment that deliver social benefits to your community
- Installation of or upgrades to electrical works to allow or enhance the use of ICT equipment that deliver social benefits to your community.

Stronger Communities Programme (Round 9) Fraser Timeline

Expressions of Interest (EOI) process



Organisations with projects in Fraser submit their EOI.

EOIs open: 5pm 24/01/25
EOIs close: 5pm 21/02/25

Fraser Community Consultation



The community consultation committee will review EOIs and recommend projects to be nominated.

We will inform organisations whether their project has been nominated in early March.

Nominated organisations apply



Nominated organisations will be invited to apply for the grant. The Department will invite organisations to apply after confirming their eligibility.

Applications to Department close: 5pm on 28/03/25

Applications assessed



Applications are assessed against all eligibility and assessment criteria by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR).

Groups will be advised of outcomes following this.

Project Delivery



DISR will enter into a grant agreement with successful applicants and pay the grant.

Funded projects can then start. Projects must be completed by 31/12/25

This is a sample of the EOI for Fraser groups. This sample is to help groups prepare to fill out the EOI form at <https://forms.office.com/r/1eSXDpqUG2>

Some questions might not appear depending on the answers you select (e.g. questions 5 and 6).

Stronger Communities Programme Expressions of Interest



Expressions of Interest for funding under Round 9 of the Stronger Communities Programme are now open in the Fraser electorate.

Please complete the form below by **5pm on Friday 21st of February 2025**

Please note that the guidelines for this year's round have changed from previous rounds. Before submitting an EOI, please review the Grant information and guidelines at www.business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/stronger-communities-programme-round-9

This application is an expression of interest and will be reviewed by a community panel. The community panel will recommend projects to be nominated.

If you have any questions, please email the Office of Daniel Mulino MP (daniel.mulino.mp@aph.gov.au) or call the office on (03) 9070 1974.

* Required

Organisation Details



1. Name of Organisation *

2. Please provide your organisation's ABN *

3. What type of entity are you? *

You may be required to provide proof of incorporation if applicable.

- Incorporated not-for-profit Organisation
- Non-distributing co-operative
- Company limited by guarantee
- Australian Indigenous corporation
- Religious organisation incorporated under legislation
- Incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust with responsibility for a community asset or property
- State government agency that is a fire service, country fire authority, state emergency service or similar
- Local Governing Body e.g. Local council (This will limit your grant to 50% of eligible project expenditure)

4. Are you a trustee on behalf of a trust? *

- Yes
- No

5. Please provide the Trustee's ABN. *

6. Please provide the Trust's ABN.

7. Are you a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)? *

Yes

No

8. Are you registered for GST? *

Yes

No

9. Street address of your organisation

*

Please provide a street address, not a post office box.

10. Postal address of your organisation

If applicable, you may provide a PO box address here.

11. Are you applying as a sponsor on behalf of an unincorporated organisation? *

Yes

No

12. Sponsored organisation name

Nominee Contact Details

13. Your name *

14. Your position in the organisation *

15. Your email address *

16. Preferred contact number *

17. Address

*

Enter 'as above' if using the organisation address

Project Information

18. Project title

19. Project description

*

What are your key project activities and expected outcomes?

20. Objectives and aligning activities *

Please refer the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. List your chosen objective or objectives from section 2 of the guidelines and the aligning activity or activities from section 5.1 of the guidelines.

21. Project outcome *

Why is the project important? Explain how your project supports and encourages local community participation and delivers social benefits to the local community.

22. Project site location *

Please enter the address where the project will take place. Please ensure this address is within the Fraser electorate.

23. Have you checked that this location is within the Fraser Electorate? *

This is the 2022 (current) Federal Electorate Boundaries. If you are unsure - please contact us.

- Yes
- Other

24. What percentage of the project value will be undertaken at this site? *

Please enter a percentage value

22. Project site location *

Please enter the address where the project will take place. Please ensure this address is within the Fraser electorate.

23. Have you checked that this location is within the Fraser Electorate? *

This is the 2022 (current) Federal Electorate Boundaries. If you are unsure - please contact us.

- Yes
- Other

24. What percentage of the project value will be undertaken at this site? *

Please enter a percentage value

25. Total cost of the project

*

Amount should be between \$2,500 - \$50,000. (Minimum for LGAs is \$5,000)

26. Amount of grant funding sought

*

Please enter the amount of funding you are seeking from this grant (\$).

Local Governing Bodies (LGAs) can only apply for a grant amount of **50%** of eligible project costs. LGAs must provide matched funding contributions towards their eligible project.

27. Can you complete the project by 31st December 2025? *

Yes

No

28. If your EOI is successful, will you be able to submit your grant application online by 5pm on March 28th 2025? *

We strongly recommend those groups with successful EOIs submit their application as soon as possible after they receive the link. Our office can always be contacted for assistance.

Yes

Yes, please contact me about technical assistance to submit if our EOI is successful

Other