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Media Release

Date: 14/06/2017	Pages: 2 (Including Cover)
From: Greg Wood	Position: Chief Executive Officer
Subject: Community Action Grants Program is BACK!!	

Hindmarsh Shire Council's Community Action Grants Program will be back in 2017/18 with \$30,000 available over the course of 2017/18. The program was first established in 2013 to support communities with community development, social action and connectedness. Round 1 has been divided into four categories of Event Sponsorship, Small Equipment Grants, Minor Facility Upgrades and Community Assistance.

Hindmarsh Shire Council Mayor, Cr Debra Nelson said "We are excited to have online applications this year; in addition to the more traditional method of obtaining an application form and filling in the details. Applications are still available to print off from Council's website or as a hardcopy from our Customer Service Centres but for those wanting the convenience of submitting their application online, this is now an option."

Cr Nelson lauded the benefit of the grants program explaining that "Community Action Grants are a great opportunity for community groups or sporting organisations that require financial assistance to complete new projects that help address a community need or improve social connection and build community wellbeing."

Three event sponsorship rounds during the 2017/18 financial year will provide grants of up to \$500 towards the costs of hosting an event in Hindmarsh Shire.

The small equipment category will have two rounds with grants of up to \$1,000 available to assist with the cost of purchasing small equipment items. There will also be two rounds during the 2017/18 Financial Year for grants of up to \$2,000 to assist with the cost of upgrading community facilities.

Cr Nelson said "For worthwhile projects that don't quite fit the above criteria grants up to \$1,000 will be available through the Community Assistance category. It is important that groups take note of the criteria and deadlines for each category within

each round of funding and submit applications accordingly. Groups that received funding in the 2015/16 financial year are invited to apply again.”

Round 1 of the Community Action Grants program closes at 5.00pm on Friday 28 July. Applications will be considered for all four categories at this time. The four categories and deadlines for the 2017/18 Community Actions Grant Program are detailed below:

Category	Round 1 Closing Date	Round 2 Closing Date	Round 3 Closing Date
Community Assistance	Friday 28 July 2017		Friday 23 February 2018
Event Sponsorship	Friday 28 July 2017	Friday 27 October 2017	Friday 23 February 2018
Minor Facility Upgrades	Friday 28 July 2017		Friday 23 February 2018
Small Equipment	Friday 28 July 2017		Friday 23 February 2018
Council Meeting Date	Wednesday 16 August 2017	Wednesday 15 November 2017	Wednesday 21 March 2018

Community Action Grant application forms are available on Council's website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au and at each of Council's Customer Service Centres.

For more information or to receive a grant application via email, please contact Michelle Farinha, Community Development Officer on 03 5391 4443, or email grants@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

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