



2.56.002

## MEDIA RELEASE

# Alexandrina Council set to release new round of grant funding

### 13 July 2020

Recognising the significant impacts COVID-19 continues to have on our local communities, Alexandrina Council is offering two new grants in 2020-21, in place of its usual Community Grants Program format.

The Economic Development Recovery Grant and the COVID-19 Community Reactivation Grant both open on 14 July and are set to help re-invigorate local businesses and community groups.

Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes is confident the restructured grants program will help allocate funding where it is needed most.

“In light of our unique circumstances around COVID-19 this year, with less community events going ahead and increased strain on local businesses and community groups, Council has decided that it makes sense to modify our Community Grants Program to direct our contributions to parts of the community where it can be best utilised.

“The aim of both of these new grants is to ensure that our local economy and groups that service our community are in a position to recover from impacts caused by the pandemic and continue with the excellent work they do,” he said.

The primary objective of the **Economic Development Recovery Grant** is to assist businesses to survive and recover from the negative impact caused by COVID-19 and associated restrictions. This grant is an essential catalyst to support and empower the Alexandrina Council business community to enact change that will rebuild the local economic landscape.

Eligible entities will be able to apply for between \$2,000 and \$5,000 for new activities that will generate growth. Businesses may be supported to adapt to online trading, improve shopfront appeal or activate main streets in our townships.

Funding will be offered in two rounds. Round 1 will be open from Tuesday 14 July to Monday 10 August and Round 2 will open from mid-January to mid-February 2021. Round 1 will focus on

supporting Economic Development initiatives while Round 2 will continue to focus on Economic Development but also offer funding for community groups for Events.

Information sessions will be held for the Economic Development Recovery Grant at the Strathalbyn Library and Community Centre on Tuesday 21 July (4-6pm) and at the Alexandrina Business Hub in Goolwa on Thursday 23 July (4-6pm). For more information on the Economic Development Recovery Grant, please contact Council's Business Development Officer on 8555 7000.

The aim of the **COVID-19 Community Reactivation Grant** is to support existing community groups that make a positive contribution to the wellbeing of the Alexandrina region and whom have been adversely affected by restrictions imposed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Recognising that the impacts vary widely, eligible groups will be able to apply for up to \$1,000 to fund a wide range of activities that aim to counteract the negative impacts of the pandemic, including loss of income, increased social isolation and reduced community wellbeing.

The COVID-19 Community Reactivation Grant is a flexible funding program designed to provide assistance where it is most needed. Eligible requests include assistance with utilities payments, or community projects that aim to enhance quality of life by reducing social isolation and increasing community connectedness and wellbeing.

Applications open on Tuesday 14 July and will be accepted and assessed on an ongoing basis until funds are exhausted. For more information on the COVID-19 Community Reactivation Grant, please contact Council's Grants Officer on 8555 7000.

Further information and guidelines about both of the fantastic grant opportunities can be found at **[alexandrina.sa.gov.au/grants](http://alexandrina.sa.gov.au/grants)**