

ARTS GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2025





Everything you need to know about applying for an Arts Grant

The Community Grants Program provides a framework for Manningham Council to fund a range of activities that will achieve positive outcomes for the community.

The Arts Grant seeks to deliver outcomes that address the following priority areas identified in the Council Plan 2021-2025 and Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025:

- Youth Mental Health
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Reconciliation
- Prevention of Family Violence
- Legal Services to support at risk residents
- Improved Social and Emotional Wellbeing
- Increased Active Living
- Increased connection to and engagement in community life
- Access to Healthy Eating
- Reduced Injury and Harm

These Guidelines describe how groups and organisations can access funding from Council for activities that have a direct benefit to the people who live, work or recreate in Manningham.

To apply for an Arts Grant, please follow these steps:

- 1. <u>Learn more about the Arts Grants objectives and funding details</u> to make sure that your program is suitable for this grant (page 3)
- 2. Check out the eligibility criteria to ensure that your organisation is able to apply
- 3. <u>View our strategic documents and council plans</u>. Remember that your application needs to align with Council's plans
- 4. Learn the steps involved in applying for a grant and understand all the information you will need to provide
- 5. Read the assessment criteria so you know what our Community Grants team is looking for in your application
- 6. Complete the checklist to make sure you have all the information you need ready to fill out an application
- 7. View the Terms & Conditions and Glossary
- 8. View the sample Project Plan, Evaluation Framework and Budget templates (pages 11 13)
- 9. Speak to a member of our Community Grants team prior to submitting an application or for assistance contact the Grants Team on 9840 9333or by email: grants@manningham.vic.gov.au
- 10. Submit your application in SmartyGrants: https://manningham.smartygrants.com.au/

Community Grants - Key Dates			
Grants Open	Monday 3 February 2025, 9.00am		
Grants Close	Tuesday 11 March 2025, 5.00pm		
Assessment of Applications	March - May 2025		
Recommendations considered by Council	June 2025		
Applicants Notified	July 2025		
Information Sessions and Grant Writing Workshop (Free)			
Community Grant Information Session (in-person)	Tuesday 4 February 2025, 10.00am - 11.00am		
Grant Writing Workshop (in-person)	Wednesday 12 February 2025, 10.00am - 12.00pm		
Questions and Answers Session (online)	we) Wednesday 19 February 2025, 4.30pm - 5.00pm		

To find out more visit the website.

1 Arts Grant

The Arts Grant category enables not-for-profit groups and organisations to deliver arts, cultural and heritage activities. These activities reflect the diversity of the Manningham community and align with the priorities outlined in Council plans and strategies. They focus on positive ageing, youth wellbeing, accessibility, and social isolation.

The Arts Grant category will support applications that:

- contribute to the vibrancy of life in Manningham
- enable the delivery of community-led, arts, cultural and heritage activities across Manningham
- encourage partnerships between groups, organisations and businesses for the delivery of improved outcomes
- encourage innovation and best practice.

1.1. Objectives

Art Grants aim to:

- enable diverse arts and cultural expression across a range of different types of art (these may include digital arts, literary arts, participatory arts, performing arts, visual arts)
- enable participants with a sense of belonging through activities that include all members of the Manningham community
- enable artists and participants with a sense of feeling valued
- support the local creative industry by ensuring local artists are engaged as part of the project

Arts Grant applicants must demonstrate how the activity will achieve <u>at least two</u> of the grant objectives above to be eligible for funding.

1.1.1. Funding details

Allocation	Funding between \$3,001 and \$20,000 is available. Allocations are for one financial year and are not recurrent. The total notional allocation is \$50,000 per annum.
Timing	There is one Arts Grant funding round per year - available annually in February. Applications are presented to Council for endorsement in June.
Funding announcements	Applicants will receive notification of the outcome of their application within three weeks of Council approval. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a formal funding agreement (FASA). Applicants who are unsuccessful may request feedback from Council officers regarding why they were unsuccessful and how the application may be improved for the future.

1.1.2. What types of activities might be funded?

Examples could include:

- 1. An arts activity that encourages Manningham residents to celebrate significant occasions.
- Community arts initiatives, such as an artist led mural or performance.
- 3. Artist-led place activation creative initiatives.
- 4. Arts projects and artists fees that feature within festivals and events.
- 5. Cultural projects that support and/or celebrate local history.

2. Eligibility: Who can apply for a grant?

All grant applications are checked against eligibility criteria. At this stage of the assessment process, anyone who is not eligible will be removed from the process.

Grant applications must be from:

- a not-for-profit constituted body such as an Incorporated Association or a Company by Limited Guarantee, or
- a community group/organisation auspiced by an incorporated not-for-profit organisation that is able to accept legal and financial responsibility for the grant and activity, or
- A school. Schools are encouraged to partner with community groups in activities that benefit the wider community.

What does "Auspice 'mean?

If a not-for-profit organisation is not incorporated or has limited organisational capacity, another eligible organisation can auspice on their behalf. In this context, the auspice organisation would receive the grant funding and have responsibility for ensuring that the activity is completed on time. A letter from the auspicing organisation that confirms the arrangement must be submitted with the grant application form.

In addition to the above criteria, organisations must also:

- be located or deliver activities within the Manningham
- determine and adhere to legislative requirements related to the funded activity. For example, if the funded activity involves contact with children, a Working with Children Check may be required
- have no outstanding debts to Council
- provide an Incorporation Number
- provide an ABN or completed Statement by Supplier form
- have a public liability insurance policy for a minimum of \$20 million coverage
- provide a financial statement as per the requirement of operating an Incorporated Association, Charity or Company Limited by Guarantee
- provide written quotes for all expenditure items over \$500 that are essential for the delivery of the activity. Goods and services are to be provided by ABN registered suppliers.
- apply before the closing date.

Council's Community Grants Program also offers grants in the following categories: Community Development, Festival and Events, Healthy Ageing, Community Partnership, Small Grants and Seniors Club Support.

Applicants may apply for a grant in more than one grant category each financial year however the application must be for a different activity. A separate application form for each grant category must be completed and submitted by the due date.

Late applications will not be accepted under any circumstances. For more information on application requirements please refer to the checklist on page 15.

Funding in this category is for one-off projects and activities, however requests for funding for a second year of a project or activity may be accepted. To meet the criteria for second-year funding applicants will need to demonstrate how the second year expands on the initial project and to demonstrate the need for additional funding.

2.1. Who is not eligible to apply?

Applicants will not be eligible for funding if they are:

- an individual
- a community organisation that is unincorporated, unless they partner with a not-for-profit incorporated organisation ("auspice")
- a for profit organisation.

What is an "Incorporated Association"?

Being incorporated refers to an organisation that has a legal identity of its own, recognised by State and Federal Government and is separate and distinct from the individuals who form the group. For more information visit www.consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-not-for-profits/incorporated-associations

2.2. What will not be funded?

The Grant Program will not fund programs and activities that:

- are inconsistent with Council Plan and Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities or Community Grant Program objectives
- are the responsibility of other tiers of government (e.g. State, Federal)
- spend grant funding prior to signing of funding and service agreement (retrospective funding)
- have a religious or political purpose which seeks to promote core beliefs
- involve gambling, tobacco, drugs and/or alcohol
- receive other funding, sponsorship or grants from funders whose primary focus is gambling, tobacco, drugs and/or alcohol
- offer social outings and gatherings, unless it can be demonstrated it is a core part of the project delivery
- provide catering, unless it can be demonstrated that catering is integral to the activity and not the sole purpose of the funding
- would normally be part of a reasonable operating budget for the organisation, i.e. staff salaries or administration. Please note: project management and administration costs for the grant-funded program may be accepted up to a maximum value of 20% of the grant value
- are funded through other Council programs or activities, including grants and sponsorship programs
- are Council owned and run
- seek conference sponsorship or fundraising support e.g., financial or technical support
- seek debt payment support
- duplicate existing services/activities unless it can be demonstrated that it meets an unmet community need
- are solely curriculum based (kindergarten, primary or secondary school). Only applications that demonstrate a broader community partnership approach will be considered
- are for fixed / permanent equipment, building maintenance or capital improvements (such as heating or cooling systems, shade sails, solar panels)
- are for the purchase of capital assets i.e., motor vehicles
- are listed as a sports club responsibility as set out in <u>Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure</u>
 Guidelines
- are contrary to Council's Sponsorship Policy

Please note: Council owned kindergartens / childcare centres / playgroups / toy libraries can apply to the Minor Capital Works Funding Program to request small refurbishments for building or playground works. For more information contact the Community Facilities Project Officer on 9840 9333.

3. How to apply

3.1. Application Process

Step 1. Confirm that your organisation is eligible to apply

Step 2. Determine the appropriate grant category for your application

Step 3. Discuss your application with Council's Grant Team

 This step is mandatory for Community Development, Healthy Ageing, Arts and Festival and Events Grant applications

Step 4. Consider the assessment criteria and prepare your application, including supporting documentation

Step 5. Login to SmartyGrants and complete your application

· Visit: https://manningham.smartygrants.com.au

3.2. Help with your application

Before applying for a grant, we suggest that a project proposal be developed outlining a brief project description, the objectives of the project, timeline and budget to identify the appropriate category to submit your application.

Applicants applying for the Arts grant are required to contact the Arts team on 9840 933 before applying for the grant to discuss your project idea prior to contacting other Council departments.

Council's Grants Team is available to provide support on how to apply online (SmartyGrants) or to request assistance with a translator/ interpreter.

The application form in SmartyGrants can be provided in Simplified Chinese, on request.

Contact the Grants Team on 9840 9333 or by email: grants@manningham.vic.gov.au

We encourage applicants to submit their applications earlier than the closing date to avoid any technical difficulties or unexpected errors that may prevent the application being submitted. Late applications will not be accepted.

Organisations are also encouraged to attend Grant Information Sessions and training opportunities. For bookings, or to find out more about upcoming events, visit our website.

4. Assessment Criteria for Arts Grants

Arts Grant applications will be assessed against four criteria. The points below are provided to assist in guiding your responses. The assessment criteria scores applications to a maximum total of 100%.

All applicants are required to provide clear evidence that the activity directly responds to a specific community need, interest or service gap. Please refer to the Assessment Criteria below for further details.

details.		
Assessment Criteria	What you should include in your application	Criteria weighting
What is the activity you are	 Provide a clear description of the activity you are seeking funding for and its objectives. 	Required
applying for and what will it	 Include an explanation as to how the activity aligns with two (2) or more of the grant category objectives (see page 3). 	15 per cent
achieve?	 Include details about the proposed short- or medium-term impacts of the activity (the desired end result). Provide a description of how the activity incorporates innovative practices. 	10 per cent Total 25 per cent
Why is the activity	 Provide a clear description of the community need, issue or opportunity that your activity is responding to. 	10 per cent
needed?	 Include information that supports your application, such as demographic data, letters of support, feedback from consultation, community plans or strategies. 	5 per cent
	 Provide evidence to demonstrate how the activity aligns with one or more of Council's key plans and strategies (see page 2 for more information). 	10 per cent Total 25 per cent
Who will benefit from the activity?	 Provide a description of the groups and/or individuals in the community that are being targeted (e.g., socially isolated, vulnerable, older residents, diverse, women, men, LGBTQIA+, First Nations people). 	15 per cent
	 Where appropriate, explain if the activity will attract a broader audience including residents from outside of the municipality. 	5 per cent Total 20 per cent
How will the funded activity be managed over the	 Provide an overview of your group/organisations capacity to deliver the activity. This must include information demonstrating experience in effectively delivering and marketing similar initiatives and details of the project manager. 	20 per cent
funding period?	 Include information on the groups and/or organisations you will partner with for the delivery of the activity and their role/s. Applicants must including supporting documentation that confirms any commitments made by nominated project partners. 	5 per cent
	 Provide an outline of how the benefits of the activity will be sustained once funding has been used. 	5 per cent Total 30 per cent
Project Plan and Evaluation Framework	 Complete the Project Plan listing the key tasks, person/s responsible and timeframes to complete the activity. Complete the Evaluation Framework listing the objectives, outcomes, timelines and measure of success. 	Required
Budget	 Ensure your budget reflects the scope of the activity including all expenditure and income contributions. Please also include any financial and in-kind assistance from your group/organisation and activity partner/s. All expenditure items over \$500 will require a written quote. Goods and services are to be provided by ABN registered suppliers. Applications that include formal estimates/quotations for specific goods or services that are below \$500 will be considered favourably. Subject to the nature of the application, Council may require written estimates for all expenditure. 	Required

4.1. Project Plan

A completed Project Plan guides the management and implementation of your activity and includes answers to questions such as:

- What key tasks must be completed to successfully deliver the activity?
- Who will be responsible for delivering the activity?
- When should the task be completed by?

If your application is successful, the plan will form part of your Funding and Service Agreement (FASA).

The Project Plan template is included in the SmartyGrants application form. A sample Project Plan is available in Appendix A on page 11

4.2. Evaluation Framework

A completed Evaluation Framework is required for the Arts Grant. An evaluation is important as it enables organisations to plan for specific program and activity outcomes, to measure how well the activity was delivered and whether it achieved what it set out to do.

The Evaluation Framework template is available in the SmartyGrants application form. A sample Evaluation Framework is available in Appendix B on page 12

4.3. Budget and quotes for budgeted expenses

The budget should reflect the scope of your activity and include all income and expenditure that relates specifically to your proposed activity. Please also include any financial and in-kind assistance from your group/organisation and activity partner/s. When you have completed your budget, **the Total Income and Total Expenditure must be equal**.

4.3.1. Income

You must provide all income contributions, both financial and in-kind, related to your activity. For example:

- your organisation's financial contribution
- your organisation's "in-kind" contribution
- the grant amount you are seeking from Manningham Council
- grants you are seeking from other funding bodies
- sponsorship, donations or other funding

What is "in-kind" contribution?

An in-kind contribution is when an organisation contributes goods or services in-lieu of providing funds (cash). For example, volunteers' hours, use of organisation equipment or facilities (i.e., photocopiers). In-kind contributions must have a dollar value, for example the estimated value of volunteer time is \$45 per hour.

Applicants who provide evidence of in-kind and / or financial contributions will be considered more favourably.

4.3.2. Expenditure and quotes

Quotes are mandatory for all expenditure items over \$500 that are essential to the delivery of the activity. Quotes may be submitted as a catalogue item (web or hard copy) or quotes from a provider. Failure to do so may result in your application being deemed ineligible or unsuccessful. A sample budget is available in Appendix C on page 13

Applications that include formal estimates/quotations for specific goods or services that are below \$500 will be considered favourably. Subject to the nature of the application, Council may require quotes for all proposed expenditure.

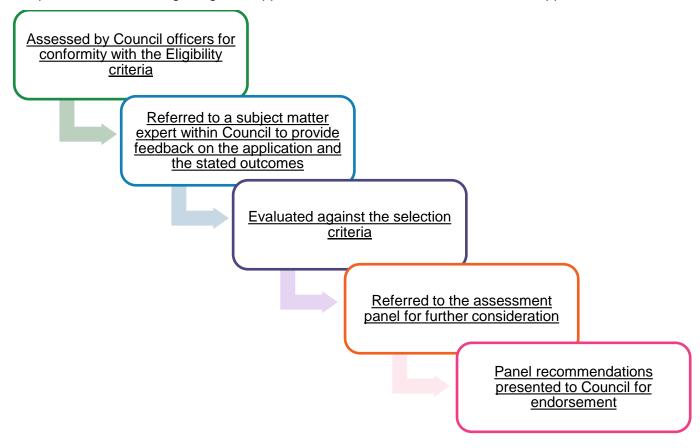
4.3.3. GST status

Organisations must indicate their GST status in their application. Successful organisations with an ABN that are not registered for GST, will receive their grant without GST.

Successful organisations with an ABN and registered for GST, will be required to complete an Agreement for Issuing Recipient Created Tax Invoices (RCTI). You will receive the grant amount plus 10% GST.

4.4. Assessment process

The process for assessing the grants applications will, at a minimum, ensure that applications are:



To assist with decision making, the applicant may be asked to provide additional information during the assessment process.

4.4.1. Notification process

Applicants will receive notification of the outcome of their application within three weeks of Council approval. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a formal funding agreement (FASA).

Funding is provided for the term specified in the Funding and Service Agreement. Applicants are to consider their ability to continue to fund the program or activity beyond the funding period in the program planning (for example, through sponsorships or other fundraising activities).

Unsuccessful applicants may request feedback from Council officers regarding the unsuccessful outcome and how the application may be improved for the future.

A list of <u>successful applicants</u> will be published on Council's website approximately one month after all applicants have been notified of the outcome of their application.

4.5. Conditions of Funding

Successful applicants will be required to read, accept and sign a Funding and Service Agreement, which outlines the terms and responsibilities of the grant.

It is important the applicant agrees with the terms of the funding, including any special conditions before returning the signed agreement.

4.5.1. Grant Variations

At times things don't go to plan and you may require changes to your activity.

Any changes to the use of Council funding for the purposes other than outlined in the Funding and Service Agreement must be approved by Council in writing.

Organisations are required to contact Council's Grants Team to advise of any changes to the proposed activity and complete a Grant Variation Request. The request will be reviewed and approval will need to be provided prior to proceeding.

If the grant is not utilised for the stated purpose, the Grant Recipient will be required to repay the funds.

4.5.2. Recognition of Council Support & Promotional Material

For an event or project launch, organisations must invite a Council representative including the Mayor, Councillors and other Council staff.

All organisations receiving a community grant are required to acknowledge Manningham's financial support in any promotion, publication, or advertising of the funded activities. All promotional material must be approved by Council's Grants Team.

4.5.3. Activity Completion Report

Grant recipients will be required to complete an Activity Completion Report within 2 months of the completion of their activity, event or program or within 12 months of receiving funds. Failure to complete the project completion report may result in applicants being ineligible for future funding.

The Activity Completion Report outlines:

- the achievements and challenges of your project
- learnings/highlights
- how the funding was spent
- receipts/evidence of expenditure
- photos and documentation of your project
- feedback about your experiences with the grant process.

It is important to document the activity from commencement, including tracking process, taking photos and keeping receipts for all purchases/payments.

The Activity Completion Report will be linked to your application online at http://manningham.smartygrants.com.au, or contact the Community Grants Officer grants@manningham.vic.gov.au.

Appendix A – Project Plan Examples

Project Plan example - Activity

Anticipated Project Start Date: August 2025 Anticipated Project End Date: August 2026

Key tasks List key tasks in order that they will be completed		Person responsible List who will be responsible for the completion of the task	What will show that you have completed the task? List the key outputs	Date to be completed by
1.	Establish project committee to provide guidance for the duration of the activity	Project Officer	Project committee established Meeting agenda and minutes prepared and documented	August 2025
2.	Finalise activity objectives and evaluation measures	Committee Chair	Activity objectives and evaluation measures confirmed	September 2025
3.	Confirm activity milestones including completion of mural	Project Officer	Activity milestone endorsed by Committee, noted in Minutes	October 2025
4.	Engage young people and mentors to participate in the activity	Project Officer and activity partners	Engagement of young people Concept design developed Mentors paired with participants	November 2025
5.	Confirm venue for design development and creation of mural	Project Officer	Venue booked	November 2025
6.	Forward concept design of mural to Manningham Council's arts team for approval. (Requirement if mural is to be installed in a public place)	Project Officer	Concept design of mural approved by Council	December 2025
7.	Finalise and launch Marketing Plan	Project Officer and activity participants (young people and mentors)	Events and Marketing Plan developed and launched	February 2026
8.	Installation of mural	Activity committee	Installation of mural at permanent site	June 2026
9.	Evaluate activity and submit Activity Completion Report	Project Officer	Activity Completion Report submitted via SmartyGrants	August 2026

Appendix B - Evaluation Framework Example

Evaluation Framework example – Activity

Project / program objectives	Proposed outcome(s)	Measure or Indicator	Timeline	Evaluation Reporting
List the objectives of the activity below	List the key proposed outcome(s)	List how you will measure the outcome(s) of your activity	When will the outcome(s) be delivered	This column is to be populated once the activity has been completed and measures collected
To enhance the health and wellbeing of young people with a mental illness	Project committee established	Demonstrable improvements in the health and wellbeing of young people involved	August 2025	15 young people participated in the activity.
by supporting them to produce an arts piece	Objectives and evaluation measures finalised		November 2025	Participant survey indicates: improved sense of health and wellbeing development of social networks improved leadership skills and participant confidence Survey findings attached
To develop the leadership capacity of young people with a mental illness through mentoring and leadership opportunities	Young people and mentors are engaged in the project Events and Marketing Plan developed and launched	Improved participant leadership skills and competency Social networks established between participants and mentors	February 2026 March 2026	 150 people attended launch. Attendee reviews indicate: positive feedback (100 percent) increased knowledge and awareness of health and wellbeing issues (70 percent) Refer to attached survey findings
	Launch of the mural to the wider community	Attendance audience knowledge and understanding of the issues associated with mental health and wellbeing enhanced, including those specific to young people	June 2026	

Appendix C – Budget Examples

Budget example - Activity

Income	Amount
Your organisation's financial contribution What is your organisations budget for the activity?	\$ 1,000
Amount you are seeking from Manningham Council If registered for GST, don't add GST here, we will do so if you are successful.	\$ 3,000
Fundraising activity – chocolate drive	\$ 500
Other (please detail) Please detail any other types of funding here, this could include another funding body	\$ 560
Your organisation's in-kind contribution What is your organisations in-kind contribution to the activity?	\$ 4140
Total Income (A)	\$ 9,200

Expenditure	Amount
Project Facilitator / Manager	\$ 1,000
Example: artist in residence @ \$45/hr x 60hrs Note: ongoing salaries are not eligible	
Project Workers (please detail) Example: Support worker to attend all workshops @ \$40/hr x 60	\$ 820
Materials (please detail) Example: canvas \$800, paints \$500, mounting board \$500	\$ 1,800
Insurance e.g., public liability for workshops	\$ 200
Venue Hire e.g., concept design sessions and creation of mural Note: please provide a quote for date/s of venue hire. Bond amounts are not eligible for funding	\$ 500
Transport / logistics Example: community bus to and from workshops	\$ 240
Advertising and Promotion example: fliers and posters (all other will be free publicity)	\$ 500
In-kind example three volunteers @ \$45 for 92 hours	\$ 4140
Total Expenditure (B)	\$ 9,200

Note: Income (A) and Expenditure (B) must balance.

After completing the budget ask yourself: Does the total amount at (A) equal the total amount at (B)? Yes/No

Checklist: Information you must provide

Eligibility requirements			
To apply your community organisation must be one of the following:	YES		
Not- for- Profit (NFP) or Incorporated Association			
Company Limited by Guarantee			
Auspice by a Not-for-Profit organisation			
School			
Be located or activity delivered in Manningham refer page 4			
Please note that individuals and for profit organisations are not eligible to apply.			
Prior to commencing your application:			
Develop a project proposal outlining a brief project description, the objectives of the project, timeline and budget to identify the appropriate category to submit your application.			
Determine which Grant Category you would like to apply in:			
Community Development Grants(\$3,001-\$20,000)			
• <u>Arts Grants</u> (\$3,001-\$20,000)			
• Festival and Events Grants (\$3,001-\$20,000)			
Healthy Ageing Grants (\$3,001-\$20,000) Obside Obside Obside (\$3,001-\$20,000)			
Seniors Club Support Grants (up to \$8000) Small Crants			
 Small Grants Community Strengthening Category (up to \$3,000) 			
 Equipment Purchase Category (50% co-contribution of the total cost of the equipment up to \$1,500) 			
Contact Council's Grants Team on 9840 9333 to discuss your application (not required for Small Grants)			
Attend an Information Session or Grant Writing Workshop (optional). Visit our website.			
Register with Council's Events Team if you are planning an event			
Call 9840 9333 Email: events@manningham.vic.gov.au			
Adhere to all Federal and State legislative requirements for your proposed activity i.e. Health and Safety,			
Child Safe Standards, Accounting & Auditing, EEO, Human Rights etc. Obtain a Working with Children			
Check if your activity involves interaction with children			
Acquit all previous grants - funding will not be paid until all outstanding grants have been acquitted.			
Have no outstanding debts to Council			
You must include with your application:			
Incorporation Number			
GST Status			
ABN or complete a <u>Statement by Supplier</u> form			
Current Financial Statement			
Current Public Liability Insurance with a minimum \$20 million coverage			
If you are being auspiced by a NFP, your organisation will need to provide written consent from the organisation that has agreed to manage the grant and / or the funding			
Provide quotes for expenditure items over \$500 (required)			
This can include a catalogue item or quote from a provider. Quotes for items over \$500 must be provided or the application may be deemed ineligible.			
Include any letters of support (optional)			
How to complete your application:			
Log in/ Register with <u>SmartyGrants</u> to complete your application			



Contact Details

For further information, please contact Council's Grant Team on 9840 9333 or visit manningham.vic.gov.au/community-grant-program



Interpreter service 9840 9355

普通话

廣東話

Ελληνικά

Italiano

العربية فارسى

