Australian Government

Community Grants Hub
Improving your grant experience



Selection Plan – Conformance Assessment

Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure

Department of Home Affairs

Grant Opportunity ID: GO8040

Tracker ID: 2025-5141

Date: December 2025

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Implementation of the Key Principles of Grants Administration

1. Robust Planning and Design

- This grant opportunity is designed to align with government priorities and intended outcomes.
- Early engagement with stakeholders ensures the grant is fit-for-purpose and considers implementation risks.

2. Collaboration and Partnership

- The Community Grants Hub and Department of Home Affairs (the Department) work collaboratively to ensure effective implementation.
- Feedback mechanisms are in place to support continuous improvement.

3. Proportionality

- The level of effort and oversight is proportionate to the scale, complexity, and risk of the grant activity.
- Conformance Assessment, Preliminary Assessment and assurance processes are tailored accordingly.

4. An Outcomes Orientation

- This grant process is focused on achieving measurable outcomes and delivering public value.
- Performance indicators and reporting requirements are clearly defined in the subsequent grant agreement.

5. Merit Based Processes

- Selection processes align with the key principles of grants administration, ensuring fairness and transparency.
- Merit criteria are clearly defined and weighted to reflect policy objectives and operational needs.
- Preliminary assessment methodology is tailored to the grant's purpose and risk profile.
- Decisions are well-documented, publicly promoted, and equitably administered to maximise access and outcomes.

6. Achieving Value with Relevant Money

- All stages of the grant lifecycle from design to select and monitoring are guided by value for money considerations.
- This includes effective use of resources, competitive selection processes, and risk management.

7. Consistency with Grant Opportunity Guidelines and Established Processes

- Consistency with Grant Opportunity Guidelines promotes transparency, accountability, and alignment with government expectations.
- Established processes support efficient resource use, reduce duplication, and ensure compliance.

8. Governance and Accountability

- Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined, with appropriate delegations and decision-making authorities.
- The process is supported by internal controls, audit trails, and compliance with the PGPA Act.

9. Probity and Transparency

- The process is fair, impartial, and transparent.
- Conflicts of interest are managed, and decisions are documented and communicated appropriately.

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Legislative and Policy Framework

The grant selection process is governed by a robust legislative and policy framework that ensures transparency, accountability, and alignment with government priorities.

Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles (CGRPs) 2024

The grant process is governed by the CGRPs (2024), which set out mandatory requirements and principles for grants administration, with emphasis on value for money, robust planning, and transparent decision-making.

Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act)

The PGPA Act underpins the CGRPs and outlines the responsibilities of accountable authorities and officials in managing public resources, ensuring proper use of public funds and alignment with government priorities.

Enabling Legislation, Program Guidelines and Publications

- **Legislation:** Criminal Code Act 1995, Privacy Act 1988, Public Service Act 1999, Freedom of Information Act 1982.
- **Policy Obligations:** Australian Public Service Code of Conduct , Taxation Obligations, Australian Privacy Principles.
- **Program-Specific References:** GrantConnect, Portfolio Budget Statement, Grant Opportunity Guidelines.
- Supporting Multicultural Communities Program Outcome 2 under Program 2.5 - Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship.

Whole-of-Government Policies

- **Whole-of-government Grants Toolkit:** Available from the Department of Finance
- **National Agreement on Closing the Gap:** National Agreement
- **Gender Equality**: Compliance with the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 (WGEA)
- **Redress Scheme**: Consideration of the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse

Community Grants Hub Policies

The Conformance Assessment will be conducted in accordance with the Community Grants Hub (Hub) Standard Operating Procedures for the Select Phase of the grant lifecycle. These procedures ensure a consistent, transparent, and accountable approach to assessing grant applications, in alignment with the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles (CGRPs) and the broader legislative and policy framework.

Risk and Assurance Framework

The selection process is guided by the Selection - Risk Management and Issues Standard Operating Procedure, adapted from the Department of Social Services Risk Management Framework. This ensures consistent identification, assessment, and management of risks throughout the Select Phase of the grant lifecycle.

Risk registers are maintained and reviewed at key decision points, with escalation protocols in place for high or emerging risks. Internal assurance mechanisms including moderation, quality assurance, and oversight by the Selection Advisory Panel support the integrity and transparency of the process.

This approach aligns with the Commonwealth Risk Management Policy and promotes accountable, evidence-based decision-making.

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Purpose of the Selection Plan

This Selection Plan, developed in collaboration with Department of Home Affairs (the Department), outlines the administrative and procedural framework for theConformance Assessment process for the grant opportunity. It supports delivery of the grant in alignment with the objectives and operational parameters set out in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines (**Attachment A**).

The plan defines the roles, responsibilities, and processes agreed between the Department and the Community Grants Hub (the Hub) to ensure a consistent, transparent, and accountable selection process. Standard operating procedures will be applied where relevant, with any tailored or bespoke processes documented within this Selection Plan.

All selection activities will be implemented in accordance with the timeframes and requirements outlined in the Grant Round Timeline (GRT). Any deviations from the agreed approach will be managed collaboratively and may require updates to the GRT to reflect revised timelines or procedures.

Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Declarations

To uphold the integrity and transparency of the selection process, all personnel involved in the Select Phase must complete Conflict of Interest and Declaration of Confidentiality forms prior to accessing or assessing grant applications.

Hub Responsibilities:

Hub staff must complete both forms:

- Upon commencement in the Hub.
- Upon identification of a potential or actual conflict.
- Annually thereafter.

Where a conflict is identified, the Hub will implement appropriate mitigation measures and file the forms in accordance with its standard record-keeping procedures.

Department Responsibilities

The Department is responsible for ensuring that all selection advisory panel members, advisors, and Departmental staff involved in the Select Phase complete the required forms before accessing grant application information. These documents must be retained in line with relevant probity and governance requirements.

The Department may use its own approved forms or adopt the Hub's standard templates, which can be provided and adapted as needed.

The Department is responsible for:

- Distributing forms to relevant personnel.
- Ensuring completion prior to access.
- Implementing mitigation strategies for identified conflicts.
- Filing completed forms in accordance with the Departments record-keeping procedures.

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Probity

Both officials and grantees involved in grants administration must implement robust safeguards to prevent fraud, corruption, unlawful conduct, and other forms of misconduct. These measures are critical to maintaining the integrity of the grants process and ensuring compliance with the PGPA Act, including Section 10 of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 (PGPA Rule) and the CGRPs (2024).

Probity refers to the demonstration of ethical behaviour, including honesty, integrity, impartiality, and accountability. These values are central to the CGRPs and must be upheld throughout the grant lifecycle.

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring that all grant opportunity processes are:

- Conducted fairly and transparently.
- Aligned with published guidelines.
- Free from fraud, corruption, and other inappropriate conduct.

As part of this commitment, during the select phase of this grant opportunity, the Department or the Hub may seek advice from the nominated independent probity advisor to ensure compliance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the CGRPs.

For this grant opportunity, the Department's nominated probity advisor is:

s. 47G(1)(a)

The probity advisor may:

- Respond to probity advice requests within three business days.
- Deliver pre-reading probity briefings to departmental staff and panel members.
- Attend the selection advisory panel meeting.
- Provide a probity certificate at the conclusion of the selection process, where appropriate.

Requests for probity advice should be directed to s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@communitygrants.gov.au.

Grant Opportunity Overview

Purpose of the Grant:

This grant opportunity aims to provide direct support to multicultural community organisations demonstrating the Government's commitment to support both small and large communities and more diverse organisations with strong local links and who provide innovative support direct to their communities. It aligns with the strategic objectives outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Grant Opportunity Type:

Closed Non-Competitive Assessment

Assessment Responsibility:

Conformance Assessment – Compliance and Eligibility will be undertaken by the Community Grants Hub.
Preliminary Assessment will be undertaken by the Department.

Grant Application Period:

Opens: 14/11/2025
Closes: 11/12/2025

Anticipated Volume:

Expected number of grant applications: 39
Expected number of grant agreements: 39

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Timeframes for Select Services

Timeframes for completing the Conformance Assessment processes are outlined below in the grant process tasks, in accordance with the agreed workflow schedule. These timeframes are subject to the volume of grant applications received and the timely return of decisions to the Hub.

Task	Start Date	End Date	Owner
Conformance Assessment			
Provide applications including attachments, basic GPS export applicant list and Raw Data Report	16/12/2025	16/12/2025	Hub: Selections
Provide late applications including attachments, basic GPS export applicant list and Raw Data Report	23/12/2025	23/12/2025	Hub: Selections
Vendor Validation: Confirm legal entity status	12/12/2025	12/01/2026	Hub: ODM
Conformance Assessment - Integrity Review and Compliance and Eligibility Findings	12/12/2025	12/01/2026	Hub: Selections
Delegate decisions: Conformance Assessment - Integrity Review and Compliance and Eligibility Findings	12/01/2026	15/01/2026	Department: Grant Opportunity Delegate
Conformance outcome notifications distributed to grant applicants	15/01/2026	22/01/2026	Hub: Selections
Final Conformance Assessment Report including Application Data Report	15/01/2026	20/01/2026	Hub: Selections and ODM
Preliminary Assessment			
Preliminary Assessment of grant applications, Moderation and Quality Assurance	21/01/2026	11/02/2026	Department: Policy Partner
Selection Advisory Panel and Decision Making			
Selection Advisory Panel (panel) pre-reading: Materials distributed to Panel Members	17/02/2026	19/02/2026	Department: Policy Partner
Selection Advisory Panel meeting convened	20/02/2026	24/02/2026	Department: Policy Partner
Outcome Finalisation			
Selection outcomes provided to the Hub: Spending Minute, associated attachments and the completed Application Data Report	5/03/2026	2/04/2026	Department: Policy Partner
Selection outcomes actioned in the Grant Payment System	7/04/2026	8/04/2026	Hub: Selections
Successful and unsuccessful outcome notifications distributed to grant applicants	9/04/2026	15/04/2026	Hub: Grant Support Team

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Conformance Assessment

The Hub undertakes a staged assessment process to ensure grant applications meet the requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

All submitted grant applications will first undergo initial screening to confirm successful lodgement in the Grant Payment System (GPS). Following this, grant applications will proceed to an Integrity Review, which identifies submissions that may not meet key integrity requirements. This early review helps reduce unnecessary burden on applicants who are unlikely to progress further in the selection process.

Based on the outcome of the Integrity Review, remaining grant applications will then undergo formal Compliance and Eligibility Checks. These checks are conducted in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines to confirm that grant applications meet the defined criteria.

Together, the initial screening, Integrity Review, and Compliance and Eligibility Checks form the overall Conformance Assessment process for the grant opportunity.

Raw Data Report

Three days after the closure of the grant opportunity, the Hub will provide the Department with:

- All grant applications received on time and any associated attachments
- A basic GPS export
- A preliminary report containing raw application data

Eight days after the closure of the grant opportunity, following the late application timeframe, the Hub will provide the Department with:

- All late grant applications and any associated attachments
- A basic GPS export of late applications
- A preliminary report containing raw application data for the late applications

Important Note:
These reports will not have undergone Conformance Assessment. Applications listed may later be withdrawn, amended, or deemed ineligible or non-compliant following the completion of conformance checks.
The reports are intended for information only to assist the Department in undertaking preliminary assessment.

Integrity Review

To support transparent and informed decision-making, the Hub conducts an Integrity Review at the outset of the Conformance Assessment process. This review helps identify grant applications that may not meet key requirements, based on:

- Findings from the National Redress Scheme
- Instances of multiple grant applications
- Late submissions

The findings are compiled into an Integrity Review Findings Report and provided to the Grant Opportunity Delegate. This early check is designed to ensure that grant applicants who are unlikely to progress are not unnecessarily burdened with requests for additional information during the Conformance Assessment process.

Grant applications confirmed by the Grant Opportunity Delegate as not meeting the requirements of the Integrity Review will be withdrawn from the selection process. Grant applicants will be notified in writing once the Integrity Review decisions are received.

Note: These grant applications will be excluded from the final Application Data Report.

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Late Applications

Grant applications submitted after the published closing time of **9.00pm AEDT on 11 December 2025** will not be accepted unless the grant applicant can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, as defined in Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the Hubs Late Applications Policy.

Grant applicants must submit a written request via email within **three business days** of the grant opportunity closing. The Hub will accept late application requests until **9.00pm AEDT on 16 December 2025.**

Requests received after **9.00pm AEDT on 16 December 2025** will not be considered. Grant applicants will be advised that the timeframe has lapsed.

Upon receiving the email request, the Hub will issue a link to the Late Application Form and provide submission instructions. Grant applicants will have until **9.00pm AEDT on 19 December 2025.**

Multiple Grant Applications

Grant applicants may submit **one grant application** for each listed activity for this grant opportunity. If multiple grant applications are received from the same organisation, for the same activity, only the latest accepted grant application will be considered.

The Hub will identify multiple grant applications using the following criteria:

- Legal entity name
- ABN
- Reference Id (as located in Appendix A of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines)
- Project/activity title
- Project description

National Redress Scheme Eligibility

To be eligible, grant applicants must meet the requirements of the **National Redress Scheme**, as outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

The Hub will check all grant applications to ensure:

- The grant applicant, or any project partner, is not listed on the National Redress Scheme website as an institution that has not joined or signalled an intent to join the Scheme.

The Hub maintains a weekly report listing organisations that may be ineligible under the Scheme. During the Conformance Assessment, this report will be reviewed to assess all grant applicants and consortium members.

If a grant applicant or their partner is flagged, the Hub will refer the case to the National Redress Scheme for confirmation. If confirmed, the grant application will be withdrawn from the selection process.

Note: The Department is responsible for rechecking the National Redress Scheme website before briefing the Financial Delegate.

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Integrity Review Findings

To support transparent and informed decision-making, the Hub will provide the Grant Opportunity Delegate with an Integrity Review Findings Report, outlining grant applications identified during the initial stages of the Conformance Assessment process. This report will include:

- National Redress Scheme findings: identifying grant applicants or project partners listed as institutions that have not joined or signalled an intent to join the Scheme.
- Late application findings: identifying grant applications submitted after the published closing time with their exceptional circumstances request.
- Multiple grant application findings: Identifying instances of multiple submissions.

The report will highlight grant applications that may not meet key integrity requirements. These findings are presented for the Grant Opportunity Delegate's consideration and decision, ensuring a transparent and accountable Conformance Assessment process.

Grant applications confirmed by the Grant Opportunity Delegate will be withdrawn from the selection process. Grant applicants will be notified in writing upon receipt of the Grant Opportunity Delegates decisions relating to the Integrity Review Findings.

Note: These grant applications will be excluded from the final Application Data Report.

Compliance and Eligibility Assessment

Following completion of the Integrity Review, eligible grant applications will progress to the Compliance and Eligibility Assessment stage, ensuring they meet the minimum requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Attachment Compliance

The Hub will verify that grant applicants have submitted all mandatory attachments as outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. This includes confirming that attachments are present and not blank. It is the Department's responsibility to assess the content of attachments for relevance.

Grant applicants must provide:

- Activity Budget – mandatory template
- Project and Risk Management plan – mandatory template
- If applicable, pre-incurred expenses table – mandatory template.
- If applicable, evidence of pre-incurred expenses
- Evidence of land ownership or approval from land owner - mandatory

The Hub will undertake checks to confirm the presence of non-mandatory attachments however these attachments will not undergo a formal attachment check. The results of the non-mandatory checks will be provided to the Grant Opportunity Delegate for information only.

- Where available, evidence of regulatory and development approvals – non-mandatory

If a mandatory attachment is blank or not submitted using the required template, the Hub will request a corrected version from the grant applicant.

Note: This may impact delivery timeframes.

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Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA)

To be eligible for this grant opportunity grant applicants must meet the requirements of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency Act, as outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

The Hub will verify:

- If a grant applicant or any project partner is listed as non-compliant on the Workplace Gender Equality Agency website.

A weekly WGEA Compliance Report is prepared by the Hub and used during the Conformance Assessment.

The Department is responsible for conducting further reviews against the WGEA non-compliant list prior to briefing the Financial Delegate.

Organisation Legal Entity Eligibility

To be eligible for this grant opportunity grant applicants must be one of the listed organisations specified in **Appendix A** outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

The Hub will undertake the following checks:

- Verify that the grant applicant is one of the listed organisations specified in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.
- Review supporting documentation confirming legal entity type or request additional documentation if required.
- Verify the grant applicant's bank account details and request supporting documentation where applicable.
- Confirm Indigenous status through entity type, ACNC registration, and self-declared information.

Ratio Analysis and Financial Risk Assessments

The Hub will conduct Ratio Analysis for this grant opportunity to provide the Department with a basic indication of the grant applicant's financial health.

The required information will be captured electronically by requesting the financials in the grant application form and balance four ratio scores (current ratio, liquidity ratio, debt ratio and net profit ratio) to generate a low-high risk rating.

The Hub will provide the results of the ratio analysis to the Department for consideration as an attachment in the final Conformance Assessment Report to assist the Department when making their final recommendations.

Please Note: Where manual calculations are required, delivery timeframes may be impacted.

Where the Department requests further Financial Risk Assessments (Commercial and Financial Risk Scores or in-depth Financial Capacity Assessments) be undertaken, a list of relevant grant applicants is to be provided to the Hub.

The Department can request Financial Risk Assessments on:

- A shortlist of grant applicants once their grant assessment is complete, or
- Specific grant applicants as requested at a time agreed to in the workflow schedule.

The Hub will provide the results of any Financial Risk Assessments to the Department for consideration as part of their final recommendations.

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Compliance and Eligibility Finding Report

At the conclusion of the Compliance and Eligibility Checks, the Hub will prepare a Compliance and Eligibility Findings Report for the Grant Opportunity Delegate.

- The report will outline all potentially ineligible and non-compliant grant applications identified through the attachment, legal entity, vendor, WGEA checks.
- Supporting evidence will be provided to assist the Grant Opportunity Delegate in making informed decisions.
- The Grant Opportunity Delegate will have **three business days** to review the report and return their decisions to the Hub.

The report will highlight grant applications that may not meet key eligibility and compliance requirements. These findings are presented for the Grant Opportunity Delegate's consideration and decision, ensuring a transparent and accountable Conformance Assessment process.

Grant applications confirmed by the Grant Opportunity Delegate will be withdrawn from the selection process and notified in writing. Grant applicants will be notified upon receipt of the Grant Opportunity Delegates decisions relating to the Compliance and Eligibility Findings.

Note: These grant applications will be included on a separate tab within the Application Data Report for information and policy partner's reference.

Conformance Assessment Outcome Notifications

Upon receipt of the Grant Opportunity Delegate's decisions relating to Conformance Assessment – Integrity Review and Compliance and Eligibility Findings, the Hub will notify grant applicants who have been deemed ineligible or non-compliant using standard notification processes. These outcome notifications will be issued upon receipt of the decisions from the Grant Opportunity Delegate and prior to finalising the Conformance Assessment Report for the grant opportunity.

Selection

The Department will document their assessment process using their own documentation in alignment with the assessment process outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Final Selection Outcomes

Application Data Report

For the purposes of the panel decision-making process, the Hub will prepare the Application Data Report (**Attachment B**) containing relevant grant applicant information and the Conformance Assessment outcomes. The panel can utilise the report to record their funding recommendations and applicable justifications. The final endorsed Application Data Report can be used to inform the spending brief provided to the Financial Delegate.

To enable the Hub to reconcile GPS with funding for successful grant applicants, the Department is required to provide the final endorsed Application Data Report to the Hub.

The Hub requires the Department to complete and return the Application Data Report along with the signed spending brief and all associated attachments to progress to the establishment phase.

The Hub will provide detailed instructions in the final Conformance Assessment Report to the Grant Opportunity Delegate, outlining the required action for the Application Data Report.

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Conformance Assessment Report

The Hub will provide the final Conformance Assessment Report (including the pre- reading Application Data Report), as an assurance and confirmation of the outcomes and the completion of the Conformance Assessment process in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, CGRPs and this Selection Plan.

The final Conformance Assessment Report will include:

- a summary of grant applications.
- a summary of the conformance assessment outcomes.
- risks, issues, or probity advice to be noted.
- information regarding any deviation from this Selection Plan
- The Application Data Report as an attachment

The Department will be able to use the Conformance Assessment Report to assist when preparing the spending brief for the Financial Delegate.

Selection Advisory Panel (Panel) Members

The Department is responsible for recruiting and determining panel members for the Panel meeting. The Department will follow the SAP terms of reference documentation, including roles and responsibilities as set out in the relevant document.

Approval to Fund Applicants

In accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, the Financial Delegate will make the final decision to fund and not fund grant applicants. The Department is required to provide the Hub with the signed Spending Minute (including all attachments) to fund successful grant applicants.

In accordance with the CGRPs 2024 the Spending Minute must include:

- A clear explanation of the grant opportunity.
- Alignment with government policy objectives or program outcomes.
- A summary of the assessment process.
- How the grant applications met the eligibility and compliance criteria.
- Overall total recommendation for funding, including rationale.
- **A list of recommended successful grant applicants:**
  - Name of organisation
  - Overall justification of Fully Meets Criteria, Partially Meets Criteria or Does Not Meet Criteria (if funding an organisation that does not meet criteria provide a detailed rationale as to why they are being funded.)
  - Amount of funding recommended
  - Purpose of the grant/project
- **A list of unsuccessful grant applicants (optional but often included):**
  - Name of organisation
  - Summary of why they were not recommended e.g. did not meet criteria, ineligible, non-compliant
- Evidence that the grant represents an efficient, effective, economical, and ethical use of resources.
- Identification of key risks (financial, reputational, delivery) and any. mitigation strategies put in place.
- The duration and conditions of the grants
- Any co-funding or in-kind contributions.
- Confirmation that the grant complies with relevant legislation, including the PGPA Act.
- Any special conditions or approvals required.
- A summary of any consultations undertaken stakeholder views or support.
- Whether the Minister (or their office) has had any involvement in the assessment or recommendation process prior to the spending brief.
- Any declared interests or potential perceived conflicts with the Minister.

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- Whether any recommended grantees are located in the Minister's electorate.
- Be signed and dated by the Financial Delegate.

Failure to provide the signed Spending Minute including all attachments will result in delays in reconciling the outcomes in GPS and progressing the grant opportunity to the next phase.

Outcome Notifications

General Feedback

General Feedback will not be published for this grant opportunity.

Assessment Outcome Notifications

Following receipt of the Spending Minute, the Hub is responsible for distributing all selection outcome notifications (both successful and unsuccessful).

- The Hub will send successful notifications using standard notification processes.
- The Hub will request the Department provides wording to be included for individual unsuccessful notifications.

Requests for Reconsideration

Where a grant applicant requests reconsideration of the outcome of their grant application, the following steps will be taken in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines:

- **Refer to the Finality of the Decision**: Grant applicants will be informed that, as stated in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, there is no appeal mechanism. Final decisions were made by the Financial Delegate and are not subject to reconsideration.
- **Departmental Feedback**: For visibility the grant applicant's request will be referred to the Department, who may wish to provide additional feedback on the outcome to the applicant, where appropriate.
- **Complaints Process**: If a grant applicant is not satisfied with the responses provided to them, as above, the Community Grants Hotline will direct the grant applicant to the formal complaints process as per the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. If dissatisfied with how their complaint is handled, they may escalate the matter to the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

Evaluation and Continuous Improvement

In line with the principles of continuous improvement and accountability outlined in the CGRPs 2024, an evaluation survey will be conducted at the conclusion of the selection process. The purpose of this survey is to assess the effectiveness, transparency, and integrity of the selection process, and to identify opportunities for process enhancements in future grant opportunities.

The survey will be distributed to Departmental staff involved in the selection process. Feedback collected will inform internal reviews and support the Hub in delivering high-quality grants administration that aligns with the CGRPs' core principles of robust planning, governance, and performance monitoring.

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Roles and Responsibilities

Personnel for the Grant Opportunity

Department Personnel

Financial Delegate: The Minister for Multicultural Affairs or the Assistant Minister for Citizenship, Customs and Multicultural Affairs

Grant Opportunity Delegate: Director, Multicultural Grants, Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs Branch

Primary Policy Contact: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Hub Personnel

Client Management Team:

The Client Management team can provide the Department with assistance to questions relating to the quote, rate card and invoicing.

Director: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) **Client Manager:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Design Team:

The Design team can provide the Department with assistance to questions outside of assessment and establishment of grants process.

Director: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) **Design Lead:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Selections Team:

The selections team are responsible for the conformance and preliminary assessment of grant applications.

Director: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) **Assessment Manager:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Organisation Data Management Team (ODM) including the Probity and Financial Team:

The ODM team are responsible for conducting the eligibility checks, providing results of ratio analysis, requesting third party financial viability assessments, and requesting probity advice, as required.

Director: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) **Assistant Director:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Grants Hotline Team (HESS):

The HESS team are responsible for responding to requests from the public via our Support Inbox which can include call backs to grant applicants. The HESS team send outcome notifications to grant applicants in relation to their grant application.

Director: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) **Assistant Director** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Grants Establishment Team (Estabs):

The Estabs team are responsible for establishing the Departments grant agreements in GPS in line with the selection outcome including agreed conditions. The Estabs team transitions the grant agreement through the offer and execution phase with the grant applicant.

Director: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) **Assistant Director:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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Department Responsibilities

The Department is responsible for the successful implementation of the grant program[1]. The Hub provides administrative services to support the Conformance Assessment of the grant opportunity. The Department has responsibility for the following:

- Ensuring delegated authority is in place for conformance assessments and financial decisions.
- Completing the pre-engagement survey for the grant opportunity.
- Attending selection oversight meetings with Hub and Department stakeholders.
- Making decisions on Integrity Review Findings.
- Making decisions on Compliance and Eligibility Findings.
  - Determining suitability of provided attachments
  - Determining eligibility against child safe requirements
  - Determining eligibility against activities, expenditure, and locations
- Undertaking fraud and organisation risk – including undertaking checks on key personnel associated with an organisation.
- Considering the outcome of financial risk assessments including ratio analysis and financial viability assessments.
- Undertaking preliminary assessment, moderation and quality assurance activities.
- Undertaking the recruitment of a selection advisory panel chair (panel chair) and selection advisory panel members (panel members).
- Reviewing grant application and assessment information prior to the panel meeting.
- Chairing, coordinating, participating and providing secretariat support during the panel meeting to provide recommendations to the Financial Delegate.
- Conducting further reviews prior to briefing the Financial Delegate of the recommended organisations against the:
  - National Redress Scheme
  - Workplace Gender Equality Agency non-compliant organisations list
- Preparing, briefing, and making final recommendations to the Financial Delegate.
- Providing the signed Spending Minute, all associated attachments to the Hub.
- Providing the completed Application Data Report to the Hub to reconcile outcomes.
- Providing feedback to grant applicants where requests for reconsideration are received.
- Providing feedback to the Hub through the final evaluation survey.

[1] "Consistent with the accountability principles of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, the entity allocated responsibility for the design and implementation of a program is accountable for the quality of any work undertaken by other entities to deliver the program. This includes the activities of contractors as well as whole of government shared services arrangements and service delivery hubs."
— Auditor-General Report No.12 2019–20, Award of Funding Under the Regional Jobs and Investment Packages Fund

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Hub Responsibilities

The Hub will provide the following administrative services to assist in delivering the Conformance Assessment of the grant opportunity. The Hub has responsibility for the following:

- Facilitating probity enquiries and subsequent advice, as requested.
- Conducting the pre-engagement survey to identify the Departments knowledge of the select phase, determining appropriate communication methods, frequency of engagement, outcome identification and engagement with key stakeholders.
- Providing relevant training relating to the select phase for Hub staff.
- Providing the Raw Data Report on day three and day eight after the closure of the grant opportunity.
- Providing initial grant applications and attachments via GovTeams **three business days** after the closure of the grant opportunity.
- Providing late application via GovTeams **eight business days** after the closure of the grant opportunity
- Undertaking Conformance Assessment - Integrity Review and Compliance and Eligibility Checks and providing the findings report for the Grant Opportunity Delegate's decision.
- Notifying grant applicants of Conformance Outcomes: Integrity Review and Compliance and Eligibility Checks upon receipt of the Grant Opportunity Delegate's decision.
- Providing the Ratio Analysis Report and facilitating Financial Viability Assessments as requested.
- Providing the final Hub endorsed Conformance Assessment Report prior to the panel meeting.
- Providing the Application Data Report prior to the panel meeting.
- Reconciling and actioning the signed Spending Minute in GPS and progressing to the establishment phase.
- Notifying grant applicants of selection outcomes upon receipt of the signed Spending Minute.
- Providing requests for reconsideration and subsequent notifications upon receipt from the Department.
- Providing the final evaluation survey for completion.

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Approval to Proceed

Grant Opportunity Delegate

You:

1. **Note and agree** to the Selection Plan for Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure grant opportunity.
2. **Note** the process in which the Hub will administer the grant opportunity for Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the Hub's Standard Operating Procedures.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director
Multicultural Grants, Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs Branch

Signature: s. 47F(1) Date: 8/12/2025

A/g Director, Assessment

You:

1. **Note** the endorsed the Selection Plan for Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure grant opportunity which has been endorsed by the Grant Opportunity Delegate.
2. **Note** the endorsed process in which the Hub will administer the grant opportunity for Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the Hub's Standard Operating Procedures.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Hub Operations Branch
Community Grants Hub

Signature: s. 47F(1) Date: 10/12/2025

Director, Organisation Data Management

You:

1. **Note** the endorsed the Selection Plan for Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure grant opportunity which has been endorsed by the Grant Opportunity Delegate.
2. **Note** the endorsed process in which the Hub will administer the grant opportunity for Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the Hub's Standard Operating Procedures.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) on behalf

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Hub Operations Branch
Community Grants Hub

Signature: s. 47F(1) Date: 08/12/2025

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Glossary

Term	Definition
CGRPs	Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 – the mandatory framework for grants administration.
PGPA Act	Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 – outlines duties for managing public resources.
Select Assessment Type	A specific grant assessment method used for grant opportunities.
Hub	Community Grants Hub – responsible for administering the grant process.
Department	The government department partnering with the Hub for grant delivery.
Grant Opportunity Delegate	The Grant Opportunity Delegate (typically EL2 or above) oversees the day-to-day management of the grant opportunity, making key operational decisions, including plan approvals, eligibility findings, and communications.
Financial Delegate	Holds legal authority to approve the expenditure of public funds, making final funding decisions ensuring value for money, alignment with government priorities, and compliance with the PGPA Act and CGRPs. This is likely the Minister or a senior executive depending on delegations.
Conformance Assessment	Initial screening to ensure grant applications meet basic compliance and eligibility requirements.
Preliminary Assessment	Scoring and assessment evaluation of eligible grant applications against assessment criteria.
Moderation	Review of preliminary assessment process to ensure consistency and fairness in grant assessments.
Quality Assurance (QA)	Final review of assessed grant applications to check for completeness, accuracy, and consistency.
Application Data Report	A report summarising assessment outcomes and Grant Applicant details for decision-making.
Spending Brief	Document submitted to the Financial Delegate recommending funding decisions.
Probity	Ethical conduct ensuring fairness, transparency, and accountability in the grant process.
Conflict of Interest	A situation where personal interests could improperly influence professional duties.
WGEA	Workplace Gender Equality Agency – referenced in compliance checks.

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Documents

Related Documents

This selection plan aligns with, relates to, or depends on the following documents:

Document
Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure Grant Round Timelines
Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure Grant Opportunity Guidelines
Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure Workflow Schedule
Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure Questions & Answers

Attachments

Document
Attachment A - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Grant Opportunity Guidelines
Attachment B - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Application Data Report

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Australian Government

Community Grants Hub
Improving your grant experience



Document 4.6

Conformance Assessment Report

Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure

Department of Home Affairs

Grant Opportunity ID: GO8040

Tracker ID: 2025-5141

January 2026

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Purpose of the Selection Report

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) is providing the Department of Home Affairs (the Department), with the outcomes of the selection process undertaken by the Hub.

The selection process undertaken by the Hub was conducted in accordance with the endorsed Selection Plan (**Attachment A**), which incorporate the delivery and consideration of the following key requirements:

- Grant Opportunity Guidelines (**Attachment B**)
- Integrity Review Findings Report
- Compliance and Eligibility Findings Report
- Ratio Analysis Report
- Application Data Report.

The process was guided by the:

- Key Principles of Grants Administration
- Legislative and Policy Framework, and the
- Agreed Selection Process to ensure transparency, fairness, and alignment with government priorities.

Grant Opportunity Overview

Grant Opportunity Type:	Closed Non-Competitive Assessment
Open Date:	14/11/2025
Close Date:	11/12/2025
Expected number of grant applications:	39
Total applications received in system:	40
Conformance Assessment	the Community Grants Hub
Preliminary Assessment:	the Department.

Conformance Assessment Outcomes

The Selection Plan agreed to and endorsed by the Grant Opportunity Delegate on behalf of the Department and the Hub outlined the compliance and eligibility process to be undertaken.

Integrity Review and Compliance and Eligibility Findings

The Hub undertook an Integrity Review by reviewing all applications to ensure they met key eligibility and integrity requirements. This included confirming that applications were submitted on time, were complete, did not include multiple submissions, and met the requirements of the National Redress Scheme.

Following the Integrity Review, the Hub assessed eligible applications to ensure they met the minimum compliance and eligibility requirements as outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. This included confirming that applicants were one of the eligible legal entities and had submitted mandatory attachments.

The Hub provided the Grant Opportunity Delegate the Compliance and Eligibility Findings Report (**Attachment C**) for their determination on 13/01/2026. The Grant Opportunity Delegate returned their decisions to the Hub on 16/01/2026.

The Hub provided the Grant Opportunity Delegate with the Late Application Findings Report (**Attachment D**) for their determination on 19/01/2026. The Grant Opportunity Delegate returned their decisions to the Hub on 20/01/2026.

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Summary of Applications

Category	Refer to	№
Total applications received on time		37
Late applications received	Attachment D	3
Late applications progressed	Attachment D	3
Total applications received and progressed to Compliance and Eligibility Assessment		**40**

Summary of Conformance Assessment Outcomes

Below are the results of the Grant Opportunity Delegate's final determination.

Category	Refer to	№
Applicant withdrawals:		0
Multiple applications: included in Application Data Report, Withdrawn Tab	Attachment C	1
Non-Compliant applications:		0
Ineligible applications:	Attachment C	0
Total applications included in the Application Data Report		39

Analysis and Financial Viability Assessment

The Hub conducted ratio analysis using four financial ratios (current, liquidity, debt, net profit) to generate a risk rating. The Ratio Analysis results (**Attachment E**) have been provided to the Department for consideration and as a result Financial Viability Assessments were requested for 12 applications. Once received, the Hub will share the results with the Grant Opportunity Delegate, for review and consideration of the outcome as part of the panel's decision-making process.

Probity and Integrity

Following the completion of the Conformance Assessment process, it remains essential that all officials and grantees involved in grants administration uphold strong safeguards to prevent fraud, corruption, unlawful conduct, and other forms of misconduct. These safeguards are vital to maintaining the integrity of the grants process and ensuring compliance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act), including Section 10 of the PGPA Rule 2014, and the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles (CGRPs, 2024).

Probity refers to ethical behaviour demonstrated through honesty, integrity, impartiality, and accountability. These principles are central to the CGRPs and must be maintained throughout the entire grant lifecycle, including after assessment.

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring that all grant opportunity processes are:

- Fair and transparent.
- Aligned with published guidelines.
- Free from fraud, corruption, and other inappropriate conduct.

To support this commitment, the Department or the Hub may seek advice from the nominated independent probity advisor to confirm that the process has complied with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the CGRPs.

For this grant opportunity, the Department's nominated probity advisor is:

s. 47G(1)(a)

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The probity advisor may:

- Respond to probity advice requests within three business days.
- Deliver probity briefings to departmental staff and panel members.
- Attend selection advisory panel, assessment panel, or grant advisory committee meetings.
- Provide a probity certificate at the conclusion of the selection process, where appropriate.

Requests for probity advice should be directed to:
✉ s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @communitygrants.gov.au

Deviation from the Endorsed Selection Process

Date of Deviation: 11/12/2025.

Description of Deviation

The late application submission period was extended until 9:00pm AEDT 15 January 2026. This deviated from the endorsed Selection plan, which stated the hub would accept late applications until 9:00pm AEDT 16 December 2025.

Reason for Deviation

The late submission period was extended at the request of the Department to allow invited organisations with extenuating circumstances time to lodge an application.

Impact of Deviation

The Department provided the Grant Opportunity Delegate's approval (**Attachment F**). The extended late submission period was not expected to cause any significant delays to the delivery of this grant opportunity and could be achieved within agreed timeframes.

As the round is closed non-competitive the impact of providing organisations with additional time was not deemed to provide these applicants with an unfair advantage.

Management and Mitigation

The Hub monitored late application requests and submissions and provided regular updates on saved and submitted applications. Once the late application submission period closed the Hub provided the Delegate with a list of submitted late applications via email and GovTEAMS on 16 January 2026.

Selection Process

Preliminary Assessment

As outlined in the endorsed Selection Plan, the Department is responsible for conducting the preliminary assessment of all eligible and compliant applications received under the grant opportunity.

The Department documented their preliminary assessment process in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, CGRPs and relevant legislation. The details of the assessment process will be included in the spending brief provided to the Financial Delegate. To support assessment deliberations, the Hub is providing the Application Data Report (**Attachment G**).

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Final Selection Outcomes and Notifications

The Hub is providing the Department with the outcome of the Conformance Assessment to support the preparation of recommendations for briefing the Financial Delegate.

This includes documenting recommendations for the grant opportunity prior to submission of the Spending Minute.

It is recommended that the Department include the results of due diligence checks for recommended organisations in the briefing to the Financial Delegate, even where no adverse findings were identified. Including these results demonstrates thorough risk management and helps mitigate potential reputational risks to the Department, as well as risks to grant recipients and the broader community.

Application Data Report

The report includes the following tabs:

- Summary Data: Details of all eligible and compliant applications as determined by the Grant Opportunity Delegate.
- Individual Summary: A one-page overview of each eligible and compliant application.
- Withdrawn Applications: High-level details of applications that did not meet conformance requirements or were withdrawn at the applicant's request.

To reconcile the outcome of the grant opportunity, the Department must complete and return the endorsed Application Data Report in line with the Spending Minute. This must include:

- A list of all successful and unsuccessful applicants.
- Funding amounts for each applicant by financial year, including $0 where applicable.
- Locations and funding breakdown per service area if funding differs from the application or service areas are removed. The total of service area split must match the total of the recommended funding amount.
- Overall assessment justification (fully meets, partially meets, or does not meet) as per CGRPs.

The report must remain in its original format with required **columns T to AK** completed in the **Summary Data tab** to enable reconciliation with GPS and progress successful applications to the establishment phase.

If the report is incomplete or not in the correct format, it will be returned for correction, which may impact delivery timelines.

To assist with preparing the Spending Minute and final documentation, a checklist **(Attachment H)** has been provided outlining CGRP requirements for briefing the Financial Delegate.

Selection Advisory Panel (panel) Membership

The Department is responsible for recruiting and confirming panel members for the SAP meeting.

The Hub recommends:

- **Minimum Membership**: At least three voting members.
- **Expertise**: Members should have subject matter expertise and a strong understanding of the policy, program, and delivery context of the grant.
- **Representation:** In line with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, for grant opportunities delivered by or on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people or organisations, the panel should include appropriate representation.
  If unsure who to engage, contact the Coalition of Peaks or the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), who support Government under the National Agreement.

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The panel chair, nominated by the Department, is responsible for meeting applicable timeframes and facilitating the panel meeting. The Hub recommends appointing a senior officer who will also be involved in approving the brief to the Financial Delegate.

Panel members are expected to actively deliberate and apply their expertise throughout the recommendation process to ensure robust and well-informed decisions.

Panel Member Responsibilities

Panel members are expected to:

- Review information provided by applicants.
- Review due diligence checks for recommended organisations to ensure no reputational or community risk.
- Compare grant applications against each other for competitive opportunities.
- Assess whether proposals represent value for money.
- Make funding recommendations for all applications.
- Provide robust justifications to support recommendations.
- Record an overall assessment justification for each application (*fully meets, partially meets, or does not meet)* for the Financial Delegate, in line with the CGRPs.

Panel Deliberations and Decision-Making

Prior to and during the panel meeting, panel members will deliberate on the merit of each eligible grant application. Based on these deliberations, the panel will make recommendations to the Financial Delegate regarding which grant applications should be awarded a grant.

To support informed decision-making, the panel may seek input from external experts or advisors. Any individual who is not a Commonwealth official must perform their duties in accordance with the CGRPs.

The panel may request additional information about organisations, grant applications, project partners, related entities (as defined under the Corporations Act), and associated personnel from third-party sources, including other Commonwealth entities. Information available through the normal course of business may be considered during the panel process.

The Department will provide its own secretariat support for the panel meeting. The Hub recommends that an independent probity advisor be present during panel deliberations.

The Department is responsible for ensuring accurate recording for each application, including:

- Justifications as agreed with the Hub and available in the Application Data Report.
- Funding recommendations, including the breakdown per financial year.
- The overall recommended funding amount for each coverage area.
- The overall assessment justification (fully meets, partially meets, or does not meet) for each application, as per the CGRPs.

The Department must ensure the panel endorses the Application Data Report at the conclusion of the meeting and prior to briefing the Financial Delegate.

Approval to Fund Applicants

In accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, the Financial Delegate is responsible for making the final decision on which applicants will be funded or not funded.

The Department must provide the Hub with the signed Spending Brief (including all attachments) to enable funding of successful grant applicants.

Spending Brief Requirements (as per CGRPs)

The Spending Brief must include:

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- a clear explanation of the grant opportunity
- alignment with government policy objectives or program outcomes
- a summary of the assessment process
- how the applications met the eligibility and merit criteria
- overall funding recommendation, including rationale
- a list of recommended successful applicants including:
  - Organisation name
  - Overall justification (Fully Meets, Partially Meets, or Does Not Meet Criteria)
  - If funding an organisation that does not meet criteria, provide a detailed rationale
  - Recommended funding amount
  - Purpose of the grant/project
- List of unsuccessful applicants:
  - Organisation name
  - Summary of why they were not recommended (e.g., did not meet criteria, ineligible, non-compliant)
- Evidence that the grant represents an efficient, effective, economical, and ethical use of resources
- Comparison with other applications or funding options
- Identification of key risks (financial, reputational, delivery) and mitigation strategies
- Duration and conditions of the grants
- Any co-funding or in-kind contributions
- Confirmation of compliance with relevant legislation, including the PGPA Act
- Any special conditions or approvals required
- Summary of consultations undertaken, including stakeholder views or support
- Ministerial involvement:
  - Whether the Minister (or their office) had any involvement in the assessment or recommendation process prior to the Spending Brief
  - Any declared interests or potential perceived conflicts with the Minister
  - Whether any recommended grantees are in the Minister's electorate
- Signature and date by the Financial Delegate

Important: Failure to provide the signed Spending Brief, including all attachments, will result in delays in reconciling outcomes in GPS and progressing the grant opportunity to the next phase.

General Feedback

General Feedback will not be published for this grant opportunity.

Notifications

The Hub notified applicants upon receiving the Grant Opportunity Delegate's decisions regarding the outcomes of the Integrity Review and the Compliance and Eligibility assessments.

Following receipt of the Spending Minute, the Hub is responsible for distributing all selection outcome notifications (both successful and unsuccessful) using standard notification processes.

- The Hub will send successful notifications using standard notification processes.
- The Hub will request the Department provides wording to be included for individual unsuccessful notifications.

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Requests for Reconsideration

Where a grant applicant requests reconsideration of the outcome of their grant application, the following steps will be taken in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines:

- **Refer to the Finality of the Decision:** Grant applicants will be informed that, as stated in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, there is no appeal mechanism. Final decisions were made by the Financial Delegate and are not subject to reconsideration.
- **Departmental Feedback:** The grant applicant's request will be referred to the Department, which may provide additional feedback on the outcome, where appropriate.
- **Complaints Process:** Grant applicants will be directed to the formal complaints process outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. If dissatisfied with how their complaint is handled, they may escalate the matter to the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

Evaluation and Continuous Improvement

In line with the principles of continuous improvement and accountability outlined in the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines (CGRGs) 2024, an evaluation survey will be conducted at the conclusion of the selection process.

The purpose of this survey is to:

- Assess the effectiveness, transparency, and integrity of the selection process.
- Identify opportunities for process enhancements in future grant opportunities.

The survey will be distributed to departmental staff involved in the selection process. Feedback collected will inform internal reviews and support the Hub in delivering high-quality grants administration that aligns with the CGRPs' core principles of:

- Robust planning
- Strong governance
- Performance monitoring

Attachments

Document
Attachment A - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Endorsed Selection Plan
Attachment B - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Grant Opportunity Guidelines
Attachment C - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Compliance and Eligibility Finding Report
Attachment D - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Late Application - Compliance and Eligibility Finding Report
Attachment E - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Ratio Analysis
Attachment F - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Delegate's Approval of Deviation
Attachment G - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Application Data Report
Attachment H - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Spending Minute Checklist

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Final Hub Approval

Assessment Section

I note and acknowledge that the Assessment Section has delivered the selection process requirements for the Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure in accordance with:

- The endorsed Selection Plan
- The Grant Opportunity Guidelines
- The Hub's standard operating procedures

All requirements including adherence to probity safeguards, legislative and policy frameworks, integrity review, compliance and eligibility checks, and reporting have been administered as per the agreed process.

Name: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Position: A/g Director
Branch: Hub Operations Branch, Community Grants Hub

Signature: s. 47F(1) **Date:** 21/01/2026

Organisation Data Management Section

I note and acknowledge that the Organisation Data Management Section has delivered all organisation data management requirements for the Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure in accordance with:

- The endorsed Selection Plan
- The Grant Opportunity Guidelines
- The Hub's standard operating procedures

All requirements including adherence to probity safeguards, legislative and policy frameworks, legal entity verification, bank account verification, ABN and GST status checks, and reconciliation of organisational details have been administered as per the agreed process.

Name: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Position: Director
Branch: Hub Operations Branch, Community Grants Hub

Signature: s. 47F(1) **Date:** 21/1/2026

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Ref No: MS26-000478

Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher
Minister for Finance
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I am writing as required by paragraph 4.11 of the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 and/or section 25D of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* to notify you of grants that I approved for entities whose grant activities are in my electorate of Bruce.

The grants were assessed as part of a closed non-competitive grant process and were recommended for approval by officials within the Department of Home Affairs.

Details of the grants are included at **Attachment A**.

If you have any queries regarding these grants, please contact Mr Malcolm McAllister, Assistant Secretary, Special Envoy Support and Grant Programs Branch, on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) homeaffairs.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

JULIAN HILL

/ / 2026

Encl. Attachment A – Supporting Multicultural Communities: Infrastructure initiatives details

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Attachment A

Grant Opportunity: Supporting Multicultural Communities: Infrastructure

Grant Activity: The grant opportunity will run over 3 years from 2025–26 to 2027–28 and will fulfil the 2025 election commitments to support multicultural communities as outlined in *Labor's costed plan to Build Australia's Future*. These projects will provide direct support to multicultural community organisations demonstrating the Government's commitment to support both small and large communities and more diverse organisations with strong local links and who provide innovative support direct to their communities.

Grant Type: Closed, Non-Competitive

Recommended by: Department of Home Affairs

Commencement Date: June 2026

Legal Entity Name	Description	Service Suburbs	Grant Funding Total (GST Excl.)
Abu Tahlib Community Centre	Expansion of the Abu Tahlib Community Centre in Hallam	Dandenong	$420,000
Afghan Islamic Centre and Omar-Farook Mosque Inc	Construction of a new Afghan Islamic Centre & Omar Farooq Mosque (AICOM) community hub in Melbourne's southeast. The Centre will feature a mosque, multipurpose hall, classrooms, offices, and support facilities.	Dandenong	$5,000,000

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From: DLO.Hill
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@finance.gov.au
Cc: DLO.Hill
Subject: Correspondence from the Office of the Hon Julian Hill MP [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 30 March 2026 9:20:53 AM
Attachments: Signed Correspondence MS26-000478.pdf

OFFICIAL

Good morning

Please see attached correspondence from the Office of the Hon Julian Hill MP, Assistant Minister for Citizenship, Customs and Multicultural Affairs and Assistant Minister for International Education.

This correspondence relates to Supporting Multicultural Communities Grants.

Regards

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Departmental Liaison Officer
Office of the Hon Julian Hill MP
Assistant Minister for Citizenship, Customs and Multicultural Affairs and
Assistant Minister for International Education
R.G.85, Parliament House, Canberra
M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
E s. 22(1)(a)(ii)homeaffairs.gov.au

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THE HON JULIAN HILL MP
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR CITIZENSHIP, CUSTOMS AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Ref No: MS26-000478

Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher
Minister for Finance
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear ~~Minister~~ Katy,

I am writing as required by paragraph 4.11 of the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 and/or section 25D of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* to notify you of grants that I approved for entities whose grant activities are in my electorate of Bruce.

The grants were assessed as part of a closed non-competitive grant process and were recommended for approval by officials within the Department of Home Affairs.

Details of the grants are included at **Attachment A**.

If you have any queries regarding these grants, please contact Mr Malcolm McAllister, Assistant Secretary, Special Envoy Support and Grant Programs Branch, on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) homeaffairs.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

JULIAN HILL
27/3/2026

Encl. Attachment A – Supporting Multicultural Communities: Infrastructure initiatives details

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Attachment A

Grant Opportunity: Supporting Multicultural Communities: Infrastructure

Grant Activity: The grant opportunity will run over 3 years from 2025–26 to 2027–28 and will fulfil the 2025 election commitments to support multicultural communities as outlined in *Labor's costed plan to Build Australia's Future*. These projects will provide direct support to multicultural community organisations demonstrating the Government's commitment to support both small and large communities and more diverse organisations with strong local links and who provide innovative support direct to their communities.

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Legal Entity Name	Description	Service Suburbs	Grant Funding Total (GST Excl.)
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Afghan Islamic Centre and Omar-Farook Mosque Inc	Construction of a new Afghan Islamic Centre & Omar Farooq Mosque (AICOM) community hub in Melbourne's southeast. The Centre will feature a mosque, multipurpose hall, classrooms, offices, and support facilities.	Dandenong	$5,000,000

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Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Submission

For decision
PDMS Ref. Number: MS26-000479
Date of Clearance: 9/4/2026

To **Assistant Minister for Citizenship, Customs and Multicultural Affairs**

Subject **Expenditure Approval - Supporting Multicultural Communities - Infrastructure - Deferred Applications**

Timing *For consideration by 16 April 2026, as agreed with the Office) to meet the timeframes for finalising the grant round and completing the new grant opportunity.*

Recommendations

That you:

1. **approve** the recommendation to fund the Werribee Islamic Centre Limited (2 grants) for $0.5 million at **Attachment A** under the Supporting Multicultural Communities (SMC): Infrastructure grant opportunity; — approved / not approved
2. **approve** the recommendation to fund the Federation of Indian Communities of Queensland Inc for $5.5 million at **Attachment A** under the SMC: Infrastructure grant opportunity, noting the risks identified with the organisation; — approved / not approved
3. **approve** the recommendation to fund Khalsa Shaouni Inc (one grant) for $3.0 million at **Attachment A** under SMC: Infrastructure grant opportunity, noting the risks identified with the organisation; — approved / not approved
4. **agree** that in approving the above 3 grants, you have no conflicts of interest to declare (if you have any conflicts to declare, detail these in the comments section below); — agreed / not agreed
5. **agree** to an official of the Department of Home Affairs (the Department) being the decision maker who exercises the powers to vary and administer the Supporting Multicultural Communities (SMC): Infrastructure grant opportunity; — agreed / not agreed
6. s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

(Continued over)

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OFFICIAL (Covering ~~PROTECTED CABINET~~)

7. s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

8. **approve** the Grant Opportunity Guidelines (Guidelines) at **Attachment C** for the SMC: Targeted Community Support grant opportunity for Turbans 4 Australia, Southern Migrant and Refugee Centre Inc and the Hindu Council of Australia Limited (5 grants), including changes to project descriptions and eligible expenditure items; and

approved / not approved

See note - if further advice is provided Red Rec 7 to approve Hindu Council then pls delete it from these GoGs.

9. **agree** to an official of the Department of Home Affairs being the decision maker who exercises the powers to enter (approve), vary and administer the new SMC: Targeted Community Support grant opportunity.

agreed / not agreed

Subject to note below.

Assistant Minister for Customs, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs

Signature.....

Date: 13/4/2026

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Assistant Minister's Comments
s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

Key Issues

1. This submission seeks your decision on the final outcomes of the SMC: Infrastructure grant opportunity and next steps to resolve outstanding issues, specifically:
   - recommendations to fund the Werribee Islamic Centre Limited (one grant) for $0.5 million and the Federation of Indian Communities of Queensland Inc (one grant) that were deferred for decision from MS26-000478, noting the risks with the second applicant
   - recommendation to delegate to a Departmental official management of these grant agreements
   - recommendation to fund Khalsa Shaouni Inc (one grant) that you deferred for decision from MS26-000478, noting the risks identified with the applicant
   - s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)
   - Guidelines for a new grant opportunity to fund specific organisations that are not recommended to be funded in this submission
   - the proposed approach to managing decisions and grant agreements through delegation to a Departmental official
2. On 4 November 2025, you approved the Guidelines for SMC: Infrastructure grant opportunity (MS25-002990 refers).
   - The 35 organisations (for 39 grants) specified in Appendix A of the Guidelines were invited to apply for a grant.
3. On 27 March 2026, you approved funding for 31 applications (from 29 organisations) (MS26-00478 refers) and noted the Selection Advisory Panel (SAP) recommendation to defer decisions for 7 applications (from 5 organisations).

s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

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s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

5.

6.

7.

s. 38(1)

S. 38(1)

s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

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Assessment and funding recommendations

10. The Supplementary Selection Report and associated attachments at **Attachment B** summarises the selection process undertaken for the grant opportunity and provides assurance that the process was conducted in accordance with the Selection Plan and the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024* (CGRPs).

11. The SAP, consisting of 3 Department staff, reconvened on 13 March 2026 and finalised its assessment of the 7 deferred applications.

12. The SAP agreed that **2 applications are suitable for funding**, the Werribee Islamic Centre Ltd and the Federation of Indian Communities of QLD Inc, as they either fully or partially met all selection criteria, aligned with the intended outcomes and objectives of the grant opportunity, and will achieve value with relevant money (**Attachment B-B**).
    - In recommending the applications, the SAP has outlined a range of information to be obtained during negotiation of Activity Work Plans in the column *additional information to be requested in the Activity Work Plan upon approval*.
    - If you approve these applications, the Department will work with the grantees during development of their Activity Work Plan to ensure that these requirements are met.
    - Details for the projects are at **Attachment A** for you to indicate your agreement to the recommendation to fund.

13. s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

    - If you have concerns with approving the recommendation to fund this organisation, you can choose to defer your decision while the Department undertakes procedural fairness and seeks to determine whether there are issues to be addressed.
    - You may also choose to reject the recommendation to fund and revoke the election commitment funding to the organisation.
    - You should indicate this decision in **Attachment A**.

s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

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s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 42(1)

s. 47(1)(b), s. 47E(d), s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 47C(1)

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s. 47C(1)

Agreement for the Department to administer grants

21. Under section 32B of the *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Act 1997* (FFSP Regulations), you (as the Assistant Minister for Customs, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs), and the Secretary of the Department (who is the Accountable Authority) have powers to make, vary and administer an arrangement or grant. The Secretary has issued delegations to make, vary and administer arrangements and grants to officials in the Department. These powers are held simultaneously.

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22. As both you, as Assistant Minister, and the Secretary hold these powers simultaneously, this submission seeks your agreement for an official of the Department being the decision maker for administering the grant opportunity pursuant to the delegation instrument referenced above.

23. Below are the types of actions that can be taken under each power:
    - the power to 'make' includes deciding which organisations should be awarded a grant, what amount of grant funding they should receive and what conditions or terms might apply to the grant agreement offered to the organisation;
    - the power to 'vary' includes deciding requests from organisations to change the types of activities, length of time or changes to items in a budget that an organisation might deliver under a grant agreement; and
    - the power to 'administer' includes deciding when an organisation has reached a milestone in its project and can receive the next instalment or payment under a grant.

24. The Department recommends that you agree to an official of the Department being a decision maker who exercises the powers to vary and administer grant agreements once you have approved the 2 grant recipients in **Attachment A**. This will allow the Department to expedite the process for making day-to-day decisions once the grant agreement is in place.

SMC: Targeted Community Support grant opportunity

25. To proceed with the funding commitments to organisations not recommended for funding, a SMC: Targeted Community Support (**Attachment C**) grant opportunity is proposed.
    - The Guidelines have been drafted to differ from the SMC: Infrastructure round by including eligible items, such as purchase of vehicles and a building. The project descriptions at Appendix A of the Guidelines are also revised to incorporate a narrative to more closely align with the intention of the projects.
    - As per the advice from Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister, the Hon Patrick Gorman MP (**Attachment E**), you may agree to reasonable changes to projects within the allocated funding for each project so long as these are consistent with the overall objectives of the Supporting Multicultural Communities commitment.

26. Under the grant opportunity, applicants will have a streamlined application process and be required to submit a revised budget against the new Guidelines, which will be re-assessed by the Department.

27. To facilitate assessment of these applications and payment to applicants under this grant opportunity, it is recommended that you agree to an official of the Department being a decision maker who exercises the powers to enter (approve), vary and administer grant agreements once you approve the Guidelines at **Attachment C**. This will allow the Department to expedite the process for approving these grants prior to the end of the financial year and administer the grant agreements once in place.

Background

Requirements for the approval of grants

28. When considering the recommendations at **Attachment A**, if you do not approve an application for funding, you are required to provide a reason in the comments column.

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29. Paragraph 4.6 of the CGRPs requires the Department to provide certain written advice where Ministers exercise the role of grant approver.

30. Paragraph 4.6(a) of the CGRPs requires the Department to explicitly advise whether the spending proposal being considered for approval is a grant.
    - The Department confirms that it considers this spending proposal to be a grant.

31. Paragraph 4.6(b) of the CGRPs requires that the Department provides information on the applicable requirements of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* and the CGRPs, including the legal authority for the grant.
    - The Department advises that, in accordance with section 32B of the FFSP Regulations, you have the power to award grants for this grant opportunity.
    - s. 42(1)

32. Paragraph 4.6(c) of the CGRPs requires the Department to outline the application and selection process followed, including the selection criteria that were used to assess the application. A Supplementary Selection Report outlining CGRP compliant processes followed during the selection process is available at **Attachment B**.
    - The application period opened on 14 November 2025 and closed on 11 December 2025.
    - The selection process was a closed non-competitive process with 35 organisations invited to apply.
    - The Department conducted compliance, eligibility and due diligence checks. Based on the outcomes, the applications were recommended to progress to assessment.
    - The Department completed the assessment of the applications against the selection criteria in accordance with the Guidelines.
    - The assessment outcomes were provided to the SAP to inform their advice on funding recommendations to the decision maker. The SAP comprised of 3 voting members, a probity adviser from s. 47G(1)(a) and secretariat support from the Department. This provided an appropriate mix of policy, program, delivery knowledge and industry expertise.
    - The SAP held an initial meeting where it reviewed the assessment information and made recommendations based on defined criteria outlined in the Guidelines and deferred decisions for 7 applications. The SAP agreed to recommend the applicants to the decision maker for funding and endorsed the SAP Report at **Attachment B-A.**
    - The SAP reconvened to assess the deferred applications and made recommendations based on defined criteria outlined in the Guidelines. The SAP agreed to make recommendations to fund or not fund applications and endorsed the SAP Report at **Attachment B**.

33. The funding and profile across financial years for all projects has been set with Department of Finance and these were set out in the Guidelines in Appendix A. Due to this, the funding cannot be increased or paid in a different profile (i.e. it must align to the funding years specified in the Guidelines).

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34. Paragraph 4.6(d) of the CGRPs requires that the Department advise on the merits of the proposed grant relative to the Guidelines and the key principle of achieving value with relevant money.
    - The Department ensured that value for money was a key consideration of the SAP when considering the applications. The methodology and deliberations around value for money were endorsed by an independent probity adviser s. 47G(1)(a) The probity certificate is at **Attachment B-C.**

35. Following your decision, applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by the Hub. The Department, in collaboration with the Hub, will negotiate a grant agreement with the successful applicants. The Department will work with unsuccessful applicants to apply for the new SMC: Targeted Community Support grant opportunity.

36. As per the existing service agreement with the Hub, if your approval is received by 16 April 2026, the following table outlines the anticipated timing for the next steps:

Applicants notified of grant outcome	Commence grant agreements negotiation	2025-26 payment made	Activity Work Plan negotiated
April 2026	May 2026	June 2026	June 2026

    - If you require additional time for your approval, the Department will work with the Hub to determine new dates, as soon as possible after your decision.

37. In accordance with paragraph 5.4 of the CGRPs, information about this grant will be published on GrantConnect no later than 21 calendar days after the grant agreement takes effect.

Requirements for approval of Guidelines

38. The SMC: Targeted Community Support grant opportunity has been designed as a one-off ad hoc grant to provide funding to 3 organisations -Turbans 4 Australia, Southern Migrant and Refugee Centre Inc, and the Hindu Council of Australia Limited (5 grants) whose projects demonstrated merit and alignment with community needs but were not recommended for funding in the SMC: Infrastructure grant round.
    - The grant will invite these 3 organisations to apply for a total of $7.8 million over 2 years from 2025-26, pending your decisions in this submission.

39. The Department considers the funding meets the CGRPs definition for a one-off ad-hoc grant process.
    - There is an urgent need for the funding as the organisations were announced during the 2025 Federal Election and need funding to progress with their projects.
    - There is insufficient time for a competitive or non-competitive process to be completed and distribute the funding to achieve the project delivery and outcomes. These other processes would see funding being provided to organisations in late 2026.
    - The grant is only being made to a small number of organisations.
    - The grant is not expected to be repeated or made on an ongoing basis.

40. As per Estimates Memorandum *2024/36 Process for the release of new or revised Grant Opportunity Guidelines* (EM 2024/36), Guidelines must be approved by the Minister or the Departmental delegate before being published on GrantConnect and sending an invitation to apply to the applicant.

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41. In preparing the Guidelines, the Department, in line with *EM 2024/36* has:
    - ensured the Guidelines are consistent with the CGRPs and used the template for one-off ad hoc grant opportunities;
    - ensured the planned spending is supported by legislative authority; and
    - completed a Self-Assessment Risk-Analysis using the Finance template and implemented reasonable available steps to mitigate risks.

42. In accordance with the CGRPs, as the financial decision maker, you are required to approve Guidelines for each grant round before they are published. The Guidelines for this grant are at **Attachment C**.

43. s. 42(1)

44. In accordance with the Department of Finance's Streamlining Government Grants Administration program, the Department has engaged the Department of Social Services (DSS) Community Grants Hub (the Hub) to administer this grant opportunity.

45. The expected timeframes of this grant opportunity are outlined below (pending confirmation from the Hub).

Grant opportunity opens	Grant opportunity closes	Grant decision	Grant agreement issued	Grants executed and first payment
21 April 2026	28 April 2026	May 2026	June 2026	June 2026

46. If the Guidelines at **Attachment C**, are not approved by 16 April 2026, the timeframes outlined above will no longer be achievable, resulting in delays to the grant opportunity including the grant execution and first payment milestone dates.

Internal

47. The Chief Procurement Officer delegate and Procurement and Contracts Support Branch have reviewed and cleared the grant policy aspects of this submission.

48. The Chief Financial Officer delegate has cleared the financial information in this submission.

External

49. s. 47G(1)(a)

Risks and Sensitivities

50. The information contained in this submission is classified and should not be publicly released without the authority of the Department of Home Affairs. In accordance with our long-standing practices, should you wish for unclassified media lines to be prepared in relation to this issue please contact the Home Affairs Media Operations team - media@homeaffairs.gov.au.

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Financial/systems/legal/deregulation/media implications

51. In the 2025-26 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook, as part of the *Supporting Multicultural Communities* measure, Government provided $171.3 million over 3 years from 2025-26 to support multicultural community organisations in delivering 164 priority infrastructure, amenities and events initiatives.

52. Funding by financial year for infrastructure commitments originally approved in the SMC: Infrastructure grant opportunity is as follows:

Decision records	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total
MS26-000478	$36,193,000	$51,375,000	$7,975,000	$95,543,000
MS26-000479	$2,850,000	$2,150,000	$1,000,000	$6,000,000
New grant opportunity - SMC: Targeted Community Support	$6,588,319	$1,250,000	$0	$7,838,399
Total Infrastructure funding	$45,631,319	$54,775,000	$8,975,000	**$109,381,399**

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Attachments

Attachment A Supplementary SAP Recommendations and Deferred Recommendation from MS26-000478 for Assistant Minister's approval

Attachment B Supplementary Selection Report

B–A: Selection Report

B–B: Assessment Report – SAP Decisions Report

B–C: Probity Certificate for Supplementary Assessment

Attachment C Grant Opportunity Guidelines – Supporting Multicultural Communities: Targeted Community Support

Attachment D Legal advice – SMC-Infrastructure

Attachment E Letter from Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister, the Hon Patrick Gorman MP

Attachment F Letter to Minister Aly regarding allegations of misconduct by Federation of Indian Communities of QLD Inc

Authorising Officer
Cleared by: Sneha Chatterjee First Assistant Secretary Office for Multicultural Affairs Mob: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Date: 9 April 2026

Contact Officer (minimum SES Band 1) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) A/g Assistant Secretary, Special Envoy Support and Multicultural Grants Programs, Mob: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Through Chief Finance Officer delegate
Chief Procurement Officer

CC Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Secretary
DS Executive
DS Legal
DS Immigration Programs
Head of Immigration
AS Media and Communications
Chief Finance Officer

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MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Supplementary Selection Report Supporting Multicultural Communities – Infrastructure

Grant Round ID: 2025-5141
18 March 2026

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Purpose

This Supplementary Selection Report (Supplementary Report) serves as an addenda to the Selection Advisory Panel Selection Report dated 12 March 2026 (Selection Report) (**Attachment A** and **Attachment B**) for the Supporting Multicultural Communities (SMC) – Infrastructure grant opportunity. The Selection Report described how the SMC Infrastructure grant opportunity had been conducted in accordance with the Department's policies and procedures, the SMC Grant Opportunity Guidelines (Guidelines) and the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 (CGRPs). The outcome of the Selection Report recommended that 32 of the 39 applications received in response to the grant opportunity be funded in accordance with the Guidelines with the remaining seven applications requiring further clarification to be obtained and considered to provide the Selection Advisory Panel the necessary detail on which to finalise its assessment and make a recommendation of funding.

This Supplementary Report provides the summary findings and recommendation on funding of the remaining seven applications for the SMC Infrastructure grant opportunity.

Grant Opportunity Summary	
Grant Round Type:	Closed non-competitive
Round open/close dates:	14 November 2025 – 11 December 2025
Number of invitations sent:	39
Assessment Type:	Home Affairs Assessment
Funding:	$109,381,399

This information can be used to further inform the delegate Spending Minute for this round.

Selection outcome

As noted in the Selection Report, the Selection Advisory Panel (SAP) met on 20 February 2026 and recommend 32 applications to the Decision Maker for funding, with a total funding amount of $95.543 million (GST exclusive). Recommendations of the remaining seven applications received in response to the SMC Infrastructure grant opportunity were deferred as they contained concerns or issues that required further material clarification.

The SAP reconvened on 13 March 2026 to consider the seven deferred applications following the receipt of additional information that assisted in clarifying the concerns and issues identified. Of the seven deferred applications, two applications satisfactorily addressed the concerns and issues that had been identified and are recommended to the Decision Maker for full funding (**Appendix A**). The remaining five applications from three applicants provided additional information and clarification which has been assessed by the SAP as not aligning with aspects of the Guidelines and are not recommended for funding. The areas in which these five applications have ongoing issues relate to the following:

- All or a significant portion of the grant funds were being allocated to ineligible expenditure (including property and vehicles); and/or
- The presence of a social cohesion issue that materially conflicted with the outcomes sought under the Guidelines, raised doubt over the ethical use of public resources and the applicant's ability to deliver on project outcomes.

Details of the unsuccessful applications and applicants are provided at **Appendix B**.

The two additional applications that are recommended for funding for the amount of $6m sees a total of 34 applications being recommended to the Decision Maker for funding, with a total funding amount of $101.543 million.

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Background

This grant opportunity fulfils elements of the election commitments made by Labor candidates in the 2025 Federal election to support multicultural communities as outlined in Labor's costed plan to Build Australia's Future.

The intended outcomes of the program activity are to:

- maintain and enhance access to multicultural infrastructure and amenity
- encourage and facilitate multicultural communities to connect and commune in a designated safe physical environment
- improve equity outcomes and social inclusion.

The applications were assessed by the SAP and documented in the Selection Report in accordance with the requirements and priorities detailed in the Guidelines, the Selection Plan, the Selection Plan: Conformance Assessment, and the Selection Report: Conformance Assessment conducted by the Community Grants Hub (all attachments to the Selection Report).

Further information regarding the background, outcomes, objectives, requirements and assessment of the grant can be found in the Selection Report and Guidelines.

s. 47(1)(b), s. 47F(1), s. 47G(1)(a)

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s. 47(1)(b), s. 47F(1), s. 47G(1)(a)

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Selection Advisory Panel Assessment

The SAP reconvened on 13 March 2026 to consider the further due diligence and clarification undertaken by the Multicultural Grants Team with each of the applicants and in accordance with the process and requirements detailed in the Guidelines and Selection Plan.

The Selection Advisory Panel was provided with:

- Grant applications submitted by the applicants
- Additional information provided by the applicants
- Legal advice from the Department's Legal Division
- Published Grant Opportunity Guidelines
- Selection Report
- Organisational Risk Review Register.

The SAP reconsidered each application along with the further due diligence and clarification material to assess the extent to which each met the criteria (Project Need, and, Organisational Capability), the extent to which each applicant had addressed the previously identified issues and concerns, and whether it represented value with relevant money in line with the Governments intended benefits under the grant program. The SAP concluded that in most cases, the applicants had provided sufficient additional information to clarify the issues and concerns which enabled it to conclude its assessment of the applications.

Two applications were assessed against the criteria and as representing value with relevant money in the context of the Governments intended outcomes and objectives and are recommended for funding (**Appendix A**). The remaining five applications were assessed as not meeting the criteria as the additional clarification material either did not fully address the issues and concerns raised despite multiple attempts to further clarify the matters with the applicant, or the additional clarification material confirmed that the issue or concern was non-compliant with the conditions of the Guidelines and ineligible for grant funding (**Appendix B**).

Probity

The probity arrangements that were described in the Selection Report continued to apply throughout the grant process, with the independent probity adviser s. 47G(1)(a) attending the SAP meeting and continuing to provide oversight and advice to ensure that applications were assessed consistently and on their own merits in accordance with the CGRP's, Guidelines and Selection Plan.

A Probity Certificate for this Supplementary Report is at **Attachment C**.

Attachments

Attachment A – Selection Report

Attachment B – Assessment Report

Attachment C – Probity Certificate

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