

## Feedback on Applications

### General Comments

LGNSW and Carers, Ageing and Disability Inclusion in the NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) were extremely impressed with the number of applications received – 64 in total, with 37 from rural areas and 27 from metro areas. Of these, 2 applications were applications from 2 councils together. Many councils with small populations applied.

The majority of applications were for projects in the following distinct groups:

	<b>Number of applications received</b>
• Physical access, place making and wayfinding	17
• Recreation and exercise	14
• Participation	11
• Information/ Technology	8
• Business accessibility and attitudes	6
• Creative Arts and activities	6
• Employment	2

Overall the quality of the applications was very high, highlighting the great need for these type of grants in NSW. Local Government hopes FACS will consider making more funding available in the future for liveable communities projects, given the high number of quality applications/worthy projects received.

Assessment of the applications was conducted by a panel comprising:

- Carers, Ageing and Disability Inclusion, NSW Department of Family and Community Services,
- NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Ageing,
- NSW Carers Advisory Council,
- NSW Disability Council, and
- LGNSW.

Applications were assessed according to the following criteria:

- Level of innovation in project concept,
- Whether the project could be used as an exemplar for other councils,
- The ongoing benefits to the community of the project,
- The impact on attitudes,
- Whether the project will make a difference to the community,
- How well the project addressed inclusion across all groups,
- The quality of project planning and methodology,
- The degree of stakeholder participation, and
- Whether the project was developed in partnership with local businesses and community organisations.

**Features of successful applications:**

Successful applications were identified as having the following characteristics:

**Rationale**

Successful councils were able to clearly explain the situation in their local area and identify the specific issues relating to population ageing, people with disability and carers. The Panel valued references to local sites and places, with descriptions of the context and useage including numbers of people using the site or facility. Projects with an element of innovation, or something new and interesting with a real chance of being effective, were also highly regarded.

**Objectives**

Successful councils had clearly expressed objectives, not necessarily lengthily, but outlining what they hoped to achieve with the funding and how it would change the lives of people in their LGA.

**Stakeholders**

Successful councils demonstrated that they had the community “on board” with the proposed project or clearly expressed how and with whom they would be engaging in the project.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

Successful councils had a clear methodology for monitoring and evaluating the success of the project and this was clearly linked to the stated objectives.

**Sustainability**

Successful councils outlined how the project would achieve success, how the project would be maintained and managed in the longer term and how the community would benefit from the project in the longer term. Costings in the project plan clearly identified the activities to be undertaken to achieve the objectives of the project.

**Results**

A total of 17 grants were allocated, 12 to rural councils and 5 to metropolitan councils. The final list of successful councils (and projects) is:

	Type	Project title	Council	\$ recommended
1	Access	Intergenerational Playgroup	Byron Shire Council	\$ 20,000
2	Arts and Activities	Chiswick Connects	City of Canada Bay Council	\$ 47,302
3	Access	Access for All	Coonamble Shire Council	\$ 31,800
4	Access	Into the Goulburn Wetlands	Goulburn Mulwaree Council	\$ 90,000
5	Access	Vibrant Active Seniors - Foreshore improvement	Greater Taree City Council	\$ 50,000
6	Information and technology	Guyra Shire eAccess	Guyra Shire Council	\$ 15,000
7	Recreation	All Outdoors	Hawkesbury City Council	\$ 39,553
8	Access	Welcome In	Junee Shire Council	\$ 67,500
9	Participation	Kiama Dementia-friendly Communities Project	Kiama Municipal Council	\$ 50,000
10	Access	Wayfinding Strategy for Kogarah Centre	Kogarah City Council	\$ 25,000
11	Recreation	Accessible Path of Travel to Beaches	Lake Macquarie City Council	\$ 35,000
12	Access	Construction of a Social Gathering Space for Moama	Murray Shire Council	\$ 38,925
13	Recreation	Water Confidence For Seniors and Carers	Parramatta City Council	\$ 21,745
14	Arts and Activities	Celebrate Creative Ageing	Port Macquarie-Hastings Council	\$ 44,200
15	Participation	Tweed Aboriginal Healthy Ageing Project	Tweed Shire Council	\$ 25,800
16	Business	Uralla Main Street Disability Access Project	Uralla Shire Council	\$ 30,000
17	Employment	Employment Gateway	Warringah Council	\$ 18,000
<b>Total \$ Recommended</b>				<b>\$ 649,825</b>