Wentworth Shire Council

DONATIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS POLICY

DOCUMENT SUMMARY
This Official Council Policy deals with the way in which Council contributes money or grants financial assistance to individuals and groups.

1. STATEMENT OF POLICY INTENT
The intent of this policy is to establish clear guidelines for the provision of Council assistance to the community through cash donations, sponsorships & grants, fee waivers, rate reductions, rate exemptions and in-kind support.

2. POLICY SCOPE
This policy applies to all requests for cash donations, sponsorships, grants, fee waivers, rate reductions, rate exemptions and in-kind support.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS (used in this policy)
This table summarises the main definitions and abbreviations contained within this policy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Act</th>
<th>Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>Local Government Act (General) Regulations 2005 (NSW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM</td>
<td>General Manager</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Wentworth Shire Council is accountable to the community for the management and disbursement of its funds, and is compelled to ensure that this is done in a manner that maximizes the benefits to the community. Additionally, Council's ability to make financial and/or in-kind contributions is set out in Sections 356 and 377 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Section 356 allows Council, in accordance with a resolution of the Council, to contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions. Section 377 stipulates that Council cannot delegate the decision to contribute or otherwise grant financial assistance to the GM or any other person or body.

In establishing this policy Council is seeking to:-
- demonstrate financial prudence by adopting a strategic approach to the amount allocated to donations and contributions; and
- provide a process which nominated organisations can be assisted, without the need to make application to Council; and
- provide an application-based process to enable Council to consider all requests for financial assistance from Council, enabling fair and equitable distribution of funding throughout the community.

5. POLICY
It is the policy of this Council that in accordance with Section 377 of the Act, all requests for financial assistance from Council will be dealt with in the following manner:-

- an Annual Budget Allocation will be made by Council each year (during the budget process) for the provisions of financial assistance to the community through cash donations, sponsorships & grants, fee waivers, rate reductions, rate exemptions and in-kind support.
DONATIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS POLICY

- an Application Process will be established to enable Council to fairly and reasonably consider all requests for financial assistance that are made of it. Council will determine how often it wishes to consider these applications.

- an Annual list of exemptions will be approved by Council each year when determining the Annual Fees and Charges, enabling named organisations to be exempt from the application process for specific nominated purposes.

6. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Document Approval
This document is the latest version of the official policy of the Wentworth Shire Council, as adopted by Council on the 28/06/2017. All previous versions of this policy are null and void.

This policy may be amended or revoked by Council at any time.