



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

To: The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (for decision)

Subject: Your 2022 Election Commitments – Desktop Review Results

Critical Date: Routine

Recommendations:

1. That you **agree** to the department's suggested mitigations for selected projects at **Attachment A**.

Agreed / Not Agreed
2. That you **note** the outcomes of the department's Desktop Review of your 2022 Government community infrastructure election commitments at **Attachments B and C**.

Noted / Please Discuss

The Hon Catherine King MP

Date:

Comments:

Key Points:

1. The Government's election commitments are to be delivered via two programs: the Investing in Our Communities Program (IiOC) and Priority Community Infrastructure Program (PCIP). All projects in both programs will undergo a formal value for money assessment against specific criteria published in Grant Opportunity Guidelines consistent with the CGRGs and PGPA Act.
2. In line with the Government's commitment to transparency and integrity in decision-making, you asked the department to conduct a merits review of your 2022 Australian Government community infrastructure election commitments that will be delivered within the PCIP.
3. This review took the form of a Desktop Review (DTR) based on information provided by respective proponents. The DTR has considered organisation and project eligibility, co-funding arrangements and the suitability of financial arrangements in place to sustain the grant period (since grant payments are generally made in arrears).

Each section of the review was scored against an assessment framework, to ensure consistency and transparency in approach. A summary of the findings and process of the DTR can be found at **Attachments B and C**.

s47E(d)

5. The findings of the DTR also indicated the majority of projects appear to easily fit within the current parameters of the PCIP and had positive responses in the financial viability section, with a score of 112 and over. s47E(d)

s47E(d)

8. The department will work with your office regarding the finalisation and approval of guidelines of the LiOC and PCIP, which are being socialised with central agencies to assess risk and need for legislative amendment in Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.
9. Projects of significant high dollar value or have significant stakeholder complexities, such as First Nations cultural considerations, will be delivered under PCIP through a separate stream which will be reflected in the proposed PCIP guidelines.

Sensitivities:

10. Proponents have been advised that completion of the DTR does not guarantee projects will be funded.

Financial impacts:

11. Nil

Attachments:

Attachment A: s47E(d)

Attachment B: Summary of Respondents

Attachment C: Summary of Process and Questionnaire

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Date: 17 November 2022

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Instructions for MPS: Nil.

Responsible Adviser: Joseph Solomon

PDMS Distribution List: Jim Betts, David Mackay, Janet Quigley and Joe Castellino

PROTECTED

FOR NOTING - Attachment B

Summary of respondents received as at 26 October 2022

Proponents were provided with a questionnaire (**Attachment C**) to enable an assessment of the proponent's legal status and nature, project details and viability and proponent viability and capacity. Each of these areas were scored with a maximum potential total score of 140. The majority of projects scored greater than 112.

s47E(d)	Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***		
	s47G(1)(a)		\$750,000	University of Canberra		114		
			s47B(a)		\$5,000,000	ACT Government		123
					s47G(1)(a)		\$25,000,000	City of Wanneroo
			\$15,000,000	Gladstone Regional Council				126
			\$15,000,000	George Town Council		124		
			s4/B(a)					

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47G(1)(a)		\$6,200,000	City of Parramatta		116
		\$8,000,000	City of Ryde		118
		\$4,500,000	Waratah - Wynyard Council		122
		\$5,000,000	Derwent Valley Council		120
		\$13,000,000	Burnie City Council		126
		\$6,000,000	City of Canterbury-Bankstown		118
		\$15,000,000	Glen Eira City Council		126
		\$7,500,000	City of Darwin		132

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47G(1)(a)		\$636,486	Victoria Daly Regional Council		128
		\$1,000,000	Central Desert Regional Council		118
		\$1,000,000	Central Desert Regional Council		114
s47G(1)(a)					
s47G(1)(a)		\$20,000,000	City of Kingston		124
		\$6,000,000	City of Marion		110

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47G(1)(a)					
s47G(1)(a)		\$8,500,000	Penrith City Council		130
		\$5,000,000	Maroondah City Council		122
		\$20,000,000	Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership		114
		\$25,000,000	Devonport City Council		126
		\$15,000,000	Frankston City Council		120
s47G(1)(a)					
s47G(1)(a)		\$5,000,000	City of Swan		126
		\$10,000,000	Bayside City Council		114

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47G(1)(a)		\$10,000,000	Mornington Peninsula Shire		118
		\$16,000,000	The University of Newcastle		120
		\$5,000,000	Eurobodalla Shire Council		118
		\$3,400,000	Fermentation Tasmania Ltd		109
Gerringong Surf Lifesaving Club New Clubhouse		\$5,500,000	Kiama Municipal Council	Gerringong Surf Life Saving Club	118
s47G(1)(a)					
s47G(1)(a)		\$20,000,000	City of Melbourne		118
		\$5,400,000	City of Kalamunda		111
		\$2,500,000	Inner West Council		128

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47B(a)					
s47G(1)(a)		\$8,500,000	City of Parramatta Council		124
		\$12,800,000	Blacktown City Council		128
		\$10,500,000	Muswellbrook Shire Council		124
		\$10,000,000	Katherine Town Council		116
		\$7,500,000	Cessnock City Council		126
		\$5,000,000	City of Gosnells		124
		\$8,500,000	Macedon Ranges Shire Council		124
		\$15,000,000	Macedon Ranges Shire Council		130

s47E(d)	Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47G(1)(a)			\$1,000,000	Blue Mountains City Council		124
			\$17,700,000	City of Greater Dandenong		128
			\$2,300,000	City of Greater Dandenong		126
			\$2,500,000	City of Marion		116
			\$13,600,000	Whitehorse City Council		118
s47G(1)(a)						
s47G(1)(a)			\$8,000,000	City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder		112
			\$8,000,000	Peel Regional Leaders Forum Inc	Regional Development Australia Peel Inc	112

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
Police and Community Youth Centre in Caboolture		\$5,000,000	Moreton Bay Regional Council	PCYC Caboolture	116
s47G(1)(a)		\$5,300,000	City of Canning		130
		\$7,500,000	Shoalhaven City Council		126
		\$4,500,000	City of Ballarat		122
		\$5,000,000	City of Albany		126
s47B(a)					
s47G(1)(a)		\$10,000,000	City of Holdfast Bay		120
		\$5,000,000	City of Wannon		136

s47E(d)	Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47G(1)(a)			\$9,000,000	Wollongong City Council		122
			\$4,900,000	Yarra Ranges Shire Council		123
			\$8,000,000	North Midlands Council		126
s47G(1)(a)						
s47B(a)						
s47G(1)(a)			\$5,500,000	Muswellbrook Shire Council		126
s47G(1)(a)						
s47G(1)(a)			\$750,000 as part of \$10.5m	MacDonnell Regional Council		118
			\$1,000,000 as part of \$10.5m	MacDonnell Regional Council		118

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
s47G(1)(a)					
		\$800,000 as part of \$10.5m	MacDonnell Regional Council		112
		250,000	Hume City Council		124
		2,500,000	Mitchell Shire Council		124
		3,000,000	Hawkesbury City Council		122
		4,050,000	MacDonnell Regional Council		116

s47B(a)

s47E(d)

Project Title	Refined Project title (if different)*	Australian Government Funding Amount	Original Nominated Proponent	Updated proponent (if different)**	Score (total 140) ***
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s47B(a)

s47G(1)(a)

*Where the proponent has recommended an alternate title to better describe the project this has been noted.

**Where the original nominated proponent has recommended another organisation is best placed to deliver the project this has been noted.

***Scores show the desktop review assessment only. As a formal recommendation for funding does not form part of this brief, these scores do not reflect value for money, project eligibility or suitability for funding.

s47E(d)

Desktop Review Process

The merits review consists of two stages: Stage 1- Desktop Review (DTR) and Stage 2 - formal Value-for-Money (VFM) assessment where each commitment is assessed against specific criteria published in Grant Opportunity Guidelines in line with the CGRGs and PGPA Act.

All election commitments valued over \$5 million, and those under \$5 million that are your election commitments will undergo the DTR assessment and the VFM assessment (includes commitments in the Priority Community Infrastructure Program). All other commitments under \$5 million will undergo a VFM.

The DTR has considered organisation and project eligibility, co-funding arrangements and financial viability to sustain the grant period (since grant payments are generally made in arrears). As Stage 1 is not a formal VFM assessment, the department will not be making any recommendations for funding in this brief.

The department, in conducting the DTR, made direct contact with potential grantees (proponents) following approval from your office on 20 September 2022. Where information was missing from the election commitment list, the department contacted the Local Government organisation to seek advice (or propose that they become the default proponent).

Using the information provided by your office the Department wrote to each nominated organisation enclosing a copy of the Desktop review Form (DTRF). The local Member of Parliament also received a copy of the latter. Proponents were requested to respond to the letter within two weeks.

The Department rang each letter recipient within five days to confirm receipt of the DTR and provided assistance and advice where required.

The Department made a follow up phone call to organisations that had not yet sent a completed DTR form a week later to determine if the Department could be of any further assistance, and to remind organisations of the submission date.

The DTR Assessment considered the following categories:

- organisation details;
- legislative requirements;
- project details; and
- financial viability.

When in doubt as to who would receive the funding (the proponent), local councils were nominated as proponent.

In some cases, when the department made its follow-up phone call, it was advised of a different proponent. A new letter and form were then created and emailed with records updated

Once information in the Desktop Review Form was reviewed for each category scores were totaled to give an overall ranking

The ranking and associated risks to the project delivery will inform the decision as to whether the project is deemed suitable to proceed to Stage 2 of the assessment process.



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

Desktop Review

Before you begin

The Department requires information about your project, which the Government committed to fund during their 2022 Federal Election Campaign, so that we can complete a desktop review.

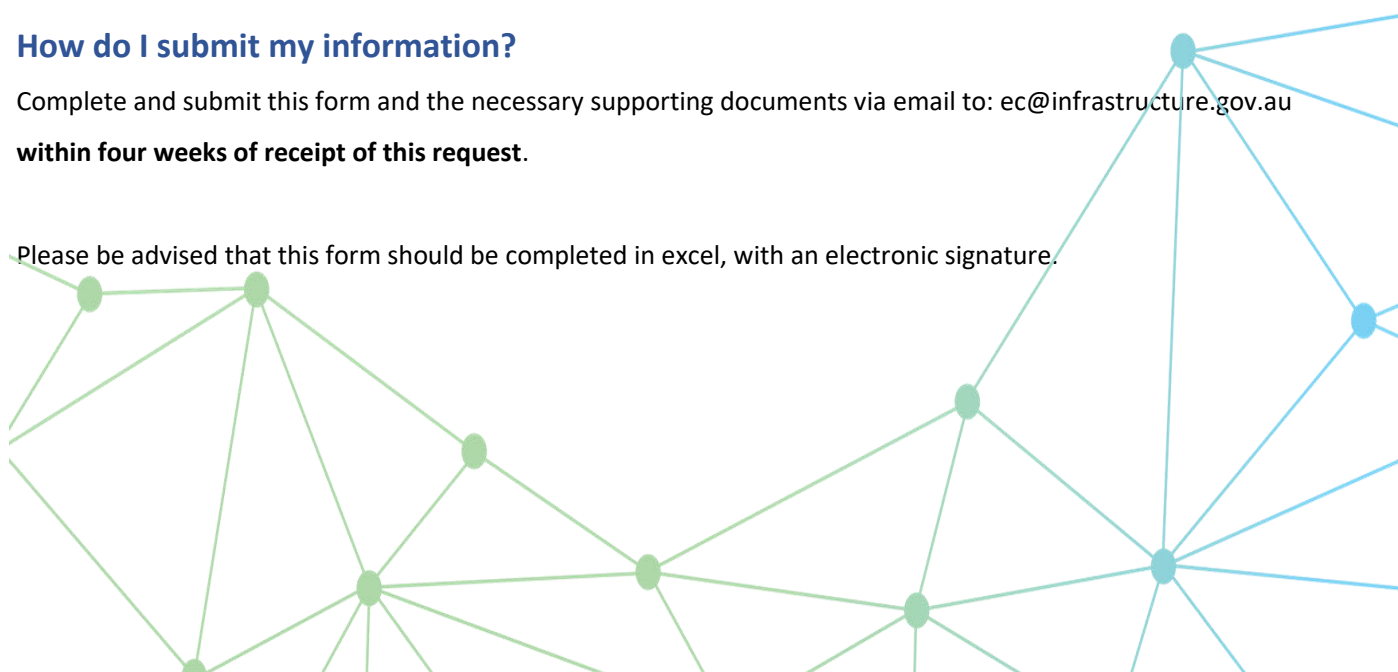
The purpose of this process is to allow the Australian Government to commence program administration decisions on projects to be funded. Please answer every question. Should you have any questions on how to answer any part of the request for supplementary information please submit your query to: ec@infrastructure.gov.au

It is important to note that the Department may receive a request for access to information contained within this form. The Department will consult with you about any request to access this information. Should you reject this request, it will be dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1982. Information relating to individuals will be protected under the Privacy Act 1988.

How do I submit my information?

Complete and submit this form and the necessary supporting documents via email to: ec@infrastructure.gov.au **within four weeks of receipt of this request.**

Please be advised that this form should be completed in excel, with an electronic signature.



Organisation Details

DTR01

1. Organisation details

Legal Entity Name				
Trading Name				
ABN		ACN		
GST Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Registered		

2. a) What is your Business Structure?

<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Incorporated Association	<input type="checkbox"/> Company
<input type="checkbox"/> Trust*	Other (please specify):	

* Must provide copy of Trust Deed

2. b) Is your organisation private, for profit?

Yes ☐ No ☐

3. Physical (registered) address of organisation

Street Address				
Suburb/Town		State/Territory	Postcode	
Organisation Email				
Organisation Website				

4. Contact details

Title		First Name		Surname	
Position			Email address		
Phone (W)			Phone (M)		

Total

Legislative Requirements

5. a) Within the last five (5) years, has the organisation been subject to an event such as a Government investigation, liquidation, litigation or significant change of financial position? If you answer yes, please indicate what year this incident happened in the table below in 5. b)

Yes ☐ No ☐

b) Indicate year of Government investigation, liquidation, litigation or significant change of financial position by highlighting the relevant year below.

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
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6. a) Has your organisation been named as part of the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse or been identified as being part of the National Redress Scheme?

Yes ☐ No ☐

b) If you have answered yes, has your organisation signed up or does it intend to sign up to the National Redress Scheme?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

Project Details

7. a) Project Title - Use the title from your election commitment notification. If this is not the most appropriate title, provided reason/s why under 7b)

7. b) Project Title - Provided proposed new title and your reason's why.

8. Please provide the Department with a detailed description of the project that is identified in Minister King's letter (attached). Attach additional information as required.

Eg - The project will upgrade the recreation ground through the installation of new lighting and the design and construction of sub-soil drainage, irrigation systems and resurfacing of the oval.

9. Project location, if different from the organisation's physical (registered) address at Q3, otherwise write N/A

Street Address					
Suburb/Town		State/Territory		Postcode	
N/A					

If applicable, please provide a map or GPS location for the project

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10. What is the name of the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the project is to be located?

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11. Can you please outline the community benefits of the proposal (and the larger project if applicable)?

Eg - The construction/upgrade/redevelopment of community/sports/tourism infrastructure which will provide long-term improvements in social and economic viability to the region.

The improvement of social amenity, increased health and wellbeing and social cohesion by utilisation of the infrastructure by community groups.

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Financial Viability

12. Please indicate the extent to which you have progressed the below:

Item	Not started	Started	Completed or N/A
Final designs			
Costings for project have been finalised and are current			
Co-funding has been finalised, if applicable			
All approvals received (eg council approvals)			
Leasing arrangements have been finalised, if required			

13. Does your organisation have the capacity to cover cost overruns (financial viability)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

14. What is the total cost of the project?

15. What is the amount of Australian Government funding for this project?

16. Please be advised that no advanced payments will be provided. All payments are paid in arrears on satisfactory completion of milestones. Does your organisation have the capacity to cover costs prior to receipt of milestone payments for this project?

Yes ☐ No ☐

17. Have you completed a tender/procurement process and appointed a preferred contractor for this project?

Yes ☐ No ☐

18. Have you commenced construction of this project?

Yes ☐ No ☐

19. Will this project be completed and operational within three years of execution of a funding agreement?

Yes ☐ No ☐

20. Does your project have community support?

Yes ☐ No ☐

21. a) Are there any significant risks to your project?

Yes ☐ No ☐

21. b) If yes, do you have or do you plan to have mitigation measures in place to minimise the risks?

Yes ☐ No ☐

22. Have you previously received Australian Government funding for this project?

Yes ☐ No ☐

23. If your organisation has received funding from the Australian Government for any other project in the last 5 years, has this funding been acquitted?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

Authorisation

I, <full name of Authorised Officer> as <position/title> of <organisation name> <postal address>

Confirm that:

- I am a person authorised to make this declaration on behalf of my organization;
- The information provided in this form and all appended documents is complete and correct. I understand the information provided will form the basis of the Department’s desktop review of the project.

Signature of Authorised Officer

Date