

**Management report to Council**

**Agenda item 6.5**

**Funding Support Requests September 2019**

**Council**

**Presenter:** David Livingstone, Acting Director City Economy and Activation

**24 September 2019**

**Purpose and background**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek direction from Council as to whether recent requests for funding should be funded from the discretionary fund.
2. In July 2013, the Future Melbourne Committee considered the process for funding items of a discretionary nature and resolved that, from 31 July 2013, only the following items would be considered:
  - 2.1. Those items that are received with a lead time of greater than 90 days to the date of the event (except for table sponsorships).
  - 2.2. Those items ineligible for funding from existing programs.
3. The recent requests for funding (refer Attachment 2) are outside the normal Event Partnership Program, Business Events, Community Grants and Art Grants funding cycle. In summary, these are:
  - 3.1. Purchase a table of ten through sponsoring the Islamic Museum of Australia 5 Year Anniversary Gala Dinner (26 October 2019) (\$5000).
  - 3.2. Purchase a table of ten to The Asian Executive 2019 Melbourne Cup Carnival Charity Ball (1 November 2019) (\$4210 including booking fees).

**Key issues**

4. Management's comments of the merits or otherwise, of the funding requests have been included in Attachment 3.

**Recommendation from management**

5. That Council approves:
  - 5.1. The purchase of a table of ten through sponsoring the Islamic Museum of Australia 5 Year Anniversary Gala Dinner on 26 October 2019 to the value of \$5000 on the basis that the dinner will be held within the City of Melbourne.
  - 5.2. The purchase of a table of ten to The Asian Executive 2019 Melbourne Cup Carnival Charity Ball on 1 November 2019 to the value of \$4210.

**Attachments:**

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 2 of 4)
2. Requests for funding (Page 3 of 4)
3. Outline of Funding/Support Requests (Page 4 of 4)

**Supporting Attachment****Legal**

1. No direct legal issues arise from the recommendation from management.

**Finance**

2. The funding requests would, if approved, be paid from Council's 2019–20 Budget, which includes discretionary funding of \$250,000 with a breakdown as follows:
  - 2.1. \$150,000 for Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via cash sponsorships.
  - 2.2. \$70,000 for Council support of same via use of the Melbourne Town Hall venue.
  - 2.3. \$30,000 for Council support of same via purchase of table sponsorships.
3. If Council approves the recommendations as listed in this report, the effect on the 2019–20 discretionary budget would be as follows:

Type	2019–20 Annual Budget	Year to Date Committed Expenditure	Recommended funding in this report	Remaining funds if recommendations approved
Sponsorships	\$ 150,000	\$ 0	\$	\$ 150,000
Town Hall usage	\$ 70,000	\$ 1,690	\$	\$ 68,310
Table sponsorships	\$ 30,000	\$ 9,550	\$ 9,210	\$ 11,240
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 250,000</b>	<b>\$ 11,240</b>	<b>\$ 9,210</b>	<b>\$ 229,550</b>

4. Waiving of banner hire fees and facility hire fees as per the recommendation would not involve incurring direct expenditure but does result in less income. In determining the budget for banner fees a level of expected fee waivers and underutilised capacity is determined over the year. It is expected that the level of fees related to this support request would not impact on the achievement of overall budget for these items in 2019-20.
5. The attendance at events by Councillors or officers will attract Fringe Benefits Tax.

**Conflict of interest**

6. No other member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

**Health and Safety**

7. In developing this proposal, no Occupational Health and Safety issues or opportunities have been identified.

**Stakeholder consultation**

8. No external consultation has been undertaken as this is an internal matter.

**Relation to Council policy**

9. The report is consistent with overall strategies contained in the Council Plan.

**Environmental sustainability**

10. There is no significant impact on environmental sustainability.

**Table 1: FUNDING / SUPPORT REQUESTS**

Criteria	Purchase a table of ten through sponsoring the Islamic Museum of Australia 5 Year Anniversary Gala Dinner (26 October 2019)	Purchase a table of ten to The Asian Executive 2019 Melbourne Cup Carnival Charity Ball (1 November 2019)
<i>Date Funding Support Request received</i>	12 September 2019	27 August 2019
<i>Could applicant have submitted their request as part of a grant application process or is it eligible under a grant process?</i>	No	No
<i>Is Management supportive of request for funding?</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Is there significant support from one or more of the Councillors, in particular if it relates to their portfolio or if it supports a Council goal?</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Amount of Fee waiver or Funding requested</i>	\$5000	\$4210
<i>Amount of Fee Waiver or Funding recommended</i>	\$5000	\$4210
<i>Council/Committee Date</i>	24 September 2019	24 September 2019

## Outline of Funding / Support Requests

### **1. Purchase a table of ten through sponsoring the Islamic Museum of Australia 5 Year Anniversary Gala Dinner (26 October 2019) (\$5000)**

Council has received a request from the Islamic Museum of Australia (IMA) to purchase a table (for ten people), through sponsoring its 5 Year Anniversary Gala Dinner.

The IMA (in Thornbury) has a national focus to provide educational and cross-cultural experiences and showcases the artistic and cultural heritage of Muslims in Australia and abroad. The IMA seeks to foster community harmony and facilitate an understanding of the values and contributions of Muslims to Australian society.

The Gala Dinner will be held on Saturday 26 October at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Along with a table of ten, a bronze sponsorship (\$5000) provides a range of benefits including advertising and recognition of the City of Melbourne in event publicity.

Purchasing a table demonstrates Council's support of the important educational and cross-cultural programs delivered by the Islamic Museum of Australia. This aligns with A City for People Goal: People feel welcome and included in a city that has political, religious and intellectual freedoms that nurture a rich and dynamic culture.

#### **Management recommendation**

Management is supportive of Council purchasing a table at the IMA Gala Dinner (for ten people) to the value of \$5000 on the basis that the dinner will be held within the City Of Melbourne municipality.

### **2. Purchase a table of ten to The Asian Executive 2019 Melbourne Cup Carnival Charity Ball (1 November 2019) (\$4210)**

Council has received a request from The Asian Executive to purchase a table (for ten people) at the 2019 Melbourne Cup Carnival Charity Ball.

The event is being held in association with the Victoria Racing Club at the Crown Palladium on 1 November 2019 and the cost for one table is \$4210 (including booking fees).

Highlights include the formal presentation of the 2019 Lexus Melbourne Cup Trophy by Mrs Amanda Elliott, Chairman of the Victoria Racing Club followed by a tribute to the music of the eighties.

Net proceeds from pledges, raffles and auctions from this event are dedicated to Guide Dogs Australia.

Purchasing a table demonstrates Council's support for promoting engagement between Melbourne's and Asia's executives at the most senior levels, including in the fields of property development, design and liveability. This aligns with A Prosperous City Goal: Melbourne prospers through global business relationships and investment attraction.

#### **Management recommendation**

Management is supportive of Council purchasing a table at The Asian Executive 2019 Melbourne Cup Carnival Charity Ball (for ten people) to the value of \$4210.