

**Management report to Council**

**Agenda item 6.2**

**Social Innovation Partnerships Program 2019–2021 Recommendations**

**Council**

**Presenter:** Angela Meinke, Acting Manager Social Investment

**30 April 2019**

**Purpose and background**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the recommendations of the external assessment panel (Panel) for the inaugural Social Innovation Partnerships Program (SIPP) 2019–2021.
2. Council endorsed the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework in September 2018. The SIPP is a new funding stream within this framework, replacing the Long Term Community Grants (LTCG) program. With a total pool of \$660,000 per year, the SIPP provides two year project funding from \$15,000 to \$80,000 per year to support not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and B Corporations (Certified B Corporations are businesses that meet the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency, and legal accountability to balance profit and purpose. B Corps are accelerating a global culture shift to redefine success in business and build a more inclusive and sustainable economy) to deliver projects that tackle City of Melbourne's key social priorities and create sustained social change. The guidelines for the program are included as Attachment 2, including an outline of the details of the program's objectives and the social priorities being focused on.

**Key issues**

3. The implementation of the SIPP has been timed to coincide with the conclusion of the LTCG program, which provided funding to nine not-for-profit organisations. Management provided assistance to these grant recipients to allow them the best opportunity to submit a competitive application to the SIPP, including two tailored half-day workshops which focussed on social innovation.
4. The SIPP opened on 19 November 2018 and closed on 15 January 2019. A total of 82 applications were received, with an annual funding request of \$4.7 million (\$9.4 million over two years). Of all applicants, some 52 (63 per cent) had not previously applied for a grant from the Council. A total of 22 applications (27 per cent) were received from social enterprises and seven (9 per cent) from B Corps.
5. All applications were assessed by the Panel, which included experts in grant making, social enterprise and the broader not-for-profit sector. The Panel has recommended 13 projects for funding (Attachment 3) four of which are for partial funding, where the quality of proposed projects would not be diminished and could proceed with a reduced level of funding. Recommended applications are projected to have a substantial impact across eight key social issues and 9730 people, of whom 5695 are City of Melbourne residents. Seven of the organisations currently funded under the LTCG program applied for funding under the SIPP, with four recommended for funding by the Panel.
6. Four applications have also been placed on a reserve list to be offered funding should any of the recommended applications be unable to proceed, or decline the offer of the grant. These applications were highly regarded by the Panel and considered worthy of funding, should the budget allow.
7. Consistent with Council's Community Grants and Partnerships Framework, individualised feedback will be offered to all non-recommended applications, which may include:
  - 7.1. Referral to other Council funding programs, including the Connected Communities, Small Business and Social Enterprise grants programs, where appropriate.
  - 7.2. Invitation to a City of Melbourne community partnerships networking event (late 2019) and other professional development opportunities, to build capacity, encourage sector partnerships and further the development of project ideas.
  - 7.3. Brokerage of suitable corporate and philanthropic partnerships, where possible.
8. Following Council endorsement of these recommendations, tailored funding agreements will be individually negotiated with each recipient organisation, in accordance with Council's standard funding agreement for community or social enterprise grants.

**Recommendation from management**

9. That Council
  - 9.1. Approves the 2019–2021 Social Innovation Partnerships grants as detailed in Attachment 3.
  - 9.2. Authorises the Director City Communities to approve funding for up to four reserve applications in the event that one or more of the recommended projects (Attachment 3) cannot proceed or declines funding.
  - 9.3. Authorises management to enter into negotiations with the organisations responsible for the recommended projects (Attachment 3) and authorises the Director City Communities to execute final funding agreements with each organisation in accordance with this Council resolution and the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework.

**Attachments:**

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 3 of 20)
2. Social Innovation Partnership Guidelines (Page 4 of 20)
3. Summary of Panel recommendations (Page 18 of 20)

## Supporting Attachment

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### Legal

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

### Finance

2. The Community Grants and Partnerships Framework, endorsed by Council on 25 September 2018, allocates a total of \$660,000 annually to the Social Innovation Partnerships grant program. A total of \$1,320,000 over two years is now recommended for funding in accordance with this resolution.

### Conflict of interest

3. All assessment panel members were asked to complete an Assessment Panel Declaration – Conflict of Interest and Privacy and Confidentiality forms. This information is held on corporate files. No 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

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

### Stakeholder consultation

5. Local communities were made aware of the program through a number of communication channels including social media, newsletters, mail lists (including email) and via Council's professional networks. This approach reaches both existing organisations Council already has relationships with and new and emerging organisations and communities.

As detailed above, management provided assistance to current Long Term Community Grant recipients to allow them the best opportunity to submit a competitive application to the program, including two, tailored half-day workshops focussing on social innovation.

108 aspiring applicants for the program attended a further two, three-hour workshops, where attendees could talk with a range of City of Melbourne's subject matter experts and exchange ideas with others with similar interests.

### Relation to Council policy

6. The Social Innovation Partnerships program is authorised under the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework, supports the Council Plan and aligns to the outcomes and actions articulated in the City for People and Knowledge City goals.

### Environmental sustainability

7. In developing this proposal, all applicants have been required to address environmental sustainability issues or opportunities as part of their project plan.



## **Social Innovation Partnerships Guidelines**

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## City of Melbourne Community Grants and Partnership Framework

City of Melbourne adopted the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework in September 2018. The full Framework can be downloaded [here](#)<sup>1</sup>.

Through the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework, the City of Melbourne provides funding, expertise and support to socially-oriented organisations that address key social issues to ensure that our communities thrive. The [Council Plan](#)<sup>2</sup> is the guiding document which sets out Council’s priorities and the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework enables the City of Melbourne to:

- empower [our communities](#)<sup>3</sup> to identify and respond to local areas of need
- partner with community organisations to deliver shared outcomes
- activate community participation amongst residents
- build capacity within the community sector

We encourage our communities to take an active role in identifying and responding to social issues.

The following best practice principles and practices underpin the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework and inform the priorities for funding:

PRINCIPLE	PRACTICE
<b>IMPACT</b>	We take a purposeful and strategic approach to funding projects that deliver meaningful social impact.
<b>INCLUSION</b>	Inclusion, access and participation are the hallmarks of healthy, thriving, prosperous, self-reliant, inclusive and resilient communities.
<b>CONNECTION</b>	We connect meaningfully with our communities and stakeholders and we foster more connected communities for our residents.
<b>PARTNERSHIP</b>	We know we can’t solve tough problems alone. Through collaborative partnerships we work with others to deliver exceptional outcomes.
<b>INNOVATION</b>	Our communities experience constant change. We discover new solutions to changing needs and foster innovation in addressing our social challenges.
<b>TRANSPARENCY</b>	We are transparent in our funding priorities, processes and decisions. All of which are published on our website.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/strong-communities/funding-grants/Pages/community-grants-partnerships.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/vision-goals/pages/council-plan.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-melbourne/research-and-statistics/city-population/pages/community-profiles.aspx>

## Program Streams

**Connected Communities:** supports community connection, social inclusion, and access and participation through an annual grants program. This stream includes small grants, impact grants, the Community Use of Town Hall Scheme (CUTHS), Aboriginal grants, Inclusive Sport and Recreation grants and the Community Meals Subsidy programs.

**Social Innovation Partnerships:** provides funding to tackle our city's big social issues. Funding is provided for two years to support innovative projects that address City of Melbourne's priority focus areas. Eligibility to apply for a second round of two year funding will be limited to projects that demonstrate outcomes and incorporate a growth or replication strategy. The Social Innovation Partnerships stream seeks to facilitate the piloting of well-developed program ideas and improve access to substantive Council support for more groups.

**Neighbourhood House Community Funding Agreements:** Neighbourhood Houses partner with our organisation to deliver critical lifelong learning, community development and social capital outcomes across the municipality. Four year collaborative funding agreements will ensure Neighbourhood houses remain a focal point for the communities they serve.

**Partnerships and Professional Development:** provides community organisations with opportunities to develop skills and knowledge to enhance community outcomes. These initiatives go beyond program funding and aim to build capability across the sector by being responsive and flexible to need. This will include brokering connections between the social, corporate and philanthropic sectors.

## Purpose of Social Innovation Partnerships

City of Melbourne is committed to tackling Melbourne's social challenges head on. We encourage new ways of doing things and creative ways of approaching tough issues. Through Social Innovation Partnerships we provide two year project funding from \$15,000 to \$80,000 per year to support not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and B Corporations to create sustained social impacts for Melbourne.

Social Innovation Partnerships allow the City of Melbourne to:

- directly address the municipality's social priorities aligned to the [Council Plan](#)<sup>4</sup>
- discover and support new and creative ways of addressing social challenges
- test new approaches that have the potential to provide long term solutions
- deliver effective community outcomes outside of Council's own program delivery and contracted services
- empower not-for-profit organisations and social enterprises to improve or expand their impact
- encourage the use of data sets pertaining to the city, through City of Melbourne's [Open Data](#)<sup>5</sup> platform

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/vision-goals/pages/council-plan.aspx>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/governance-transparency/open-data/Pages/open-data.aspx>

## **A City for People**

City of Melbourne's Council Plan goal, A City for People, outlines a vision in which Melbourne is a city:

- that welcomes all
- that is accessible, affordable, inclusive, safe and engaging.
- that promotes health and wellbeing, participation and social justice.
- that has political, religious and intellectual freedoms that nurture a rich and dynamic culture.
- that respects, celebrates and embraces human diversity.
- in which people of all ages and abilities feel secure and empowered.

## **Priority Areas**

Social Innovations Partnerships prioritises projects that build long-term resilience and empowerment.

In 2019/20 and 2020/21, Social Innovations Partnerships priority areas are to:

1. Support young people to remain engaged in education and provide opportunities for people of all ages to actively participate in lifelong learning
2. Provide opportunities that welcome newly arrived residents, build understanding, social cohesion, belonging and resilience through intercultural and intergenerational connections
3. Create pathways to meaningful and secure employment for all members of our community
4. Allow children and young people to grow up healthy, safe and to their full potential
5. Prevent violence against women, promote respectful relationships and gender equality
6. Assist people experiencing homelessness into housing
7. Assist people at risk of experiencing homelessness to maintain appropriate housing
8. Create environments that minimise harm from alcohol and other drug use
9. Provide opportunities to live more active lifestyles
10. Make eating healthy food an easier choice
11. Facilitate older people as active and respected contributors to their communities and prevent elder abuse.

Applications that address social issues not listed above will still be considered for funding if they respond to the vision for a City for People.



## Life Stage

Projects funded through Social Innovation Partnerships can benefit people of all ages.

Applications targeting the following age groups are encouraged:

- Children (aged 0-12)
- Young people (aged 12-25)
- Older people (aged over 60)

## Towards Equity

City of Melbourne recognises that some individuals and groups in our municipality are disadvantaged and/or vulnerable, whether due to social, economic or environmental conditions or individual circumstance.

As indicated by the above Priority Areas, Social Innovation Partnerships are targeted to address disadvantage and vulnerability by placing particular focus on the following groups:

- people living in insecure housing or who are experiencing homelessness
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- people seeking asylum or from a refugee background
- people from cultures that are not strongly established in Melbourne
- people who have experienced discrimination because of their gender, sexual orientation, racial, spiritual, religious or cultural background
- international students
- people living with obesity and chronic illnesses
- people living with physical, sensory, cognitive and mental health disabilities
- people who have experienced violence
- people experiencing social isolation
- people on low incomes
- people who have experienced trauma

People who fall into multiple categories are particularly at risk of social and economic disadvantage and exclusion.

Social Innovation Partnerships aim to ensure that all people can participate in the social, cultural, economic and civic life of the city. Participation facilitates people to both benefit from and contribute to Melbourne.

## Upstream and Downstream Approaches

City of Melbourne recognises that addressing the identified social priorities for the identified disadvantaged and vulnerable communities can be approached in a myriad ways including “upstream” preventative activities and “downstream” interventions. Difficult social issues require a range of responses and Social Innovation Partnerships encourages applications across the spectrum of approaches. However, Social Innovations Partnerships prioritises projects that build long-term resilience and empowerment, and over the longer term, City of Melbourne will be prioritising preventative approaches.

## Innovation

By ‘innovation’ we mean implementing an approach or solution that is new or creative. Therefore, one that is not already in place at your organisation or being delivered by another organisation. We are seeking to foster, reward and test approaches or solutions that bring a fresh perspective and opportunity for greater impact.

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for funding through Social Innovation Partnerships, applications must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant organisations must be a not-for-profit constituted body, a certified B Corporation or a social enterprise that meets the [Social Traders definition](#)<sup>6</sup> of a social enterprise.
- Applicant organisations must be located within, or be running the project within, the [City of Melbourne municipality](#)<sup>7</sup> and the project must be targeted to benefit the community of the City of Melbourne.
- The project must practically address a priority social issue for the City of Melbourne aligned to Council Plan.
- The project must demonstrate an innovative, new or creative way of addressing the social issue.
- We strongly encourage applicants to contact City of Melbourne to discuss your idea before submitting an application.

## Ineligibility

Funding will not be considered for:

- core operational funding or 'business as usual' project funding
- capital works
- projects based around a one-off event or experience
- auspiced organisations
- projects with a religious or political focus
- fundraising activities, competitions, prizes or award events
- interstate and international travel costs including travel costs for facilitators/consultants
- projects that have already commenced or occurred
- projects that are being, or have already been, funded through other City of Melbourne grant or sponsorship programs
- projects run by the City of Melbourne
- organisations with outstanding acquittals or debts owing to the City of Melbourne
- late submissions.

Please note that Social Innovation Partnerships are not the only way that City of Melbourne supports community outcomes. Other streams within the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework support a range of operations and projects. The *Connected Communities* stream provides funding up to \$20,000 for projects that do not need an "innovative" component. This stream opens for applications in May 2019 for projects to be delivered in 2020.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.socialtraders.com.au/about-social-enterprise/what-is-a-social-enterprise/social-enterprise-definition/https://www.socialtraders.com.au/about-social-enterprise/what-is-a-social-enterprise/social-enterprise-definition/>  
<sup>7</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/sitecollectiondocuments/suburb-map-boundary-city-of-melbourne.pdf>

## Funding Level

Applications for Social Innovation Partnerships can be made for any value between \$15,000 and \$80,000 per year for a two year period (re-application for the second year of funding is not required).

The total pool of funds available is \$660,000 per year.

## Key Dates

- Applications open 9am Wednesday 21 November 2018.
- Community Workshop & Info Session:  
9am-12noon, Tuesday 11 December 2018  
Donkey Wheel House, 673 Bourke Street, Melbourne
- Applications close 5pm Tuesday 15 January 2019.
- Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application by mid-May 2019.
- City of Melbourne will work with successful applicants to strengthen and refine project plans from June to August 2019.
- Successful applicants will receive funding to launch their projects from July 2019.
- Second year funding will be distributed in July 2020 pending successful achievement of annual KPIs.
- Funded projects must be completed by 30 June 2021.

## Assessment Process

After the application period has closed and we have received your application:

- You will receive an email confirming receipt of your application.
- Your application will be assessed against the eligibility and assessment criteria by a panel of external assessors. This is a competitive process; applications that best meet the assessment criteria will be funded.
- Funding recommendations will be submitted to Council for endorsement.
- All applicants will receive a letter with the result of their application. For privacy reasons, information about grant decisions will not be given over the phone.
- The list of successful applicants will be published on the City of Melbourne's website after all applicants have been notified of the outcome of their application.

## Assessment Criteria

Social Innovation Partnership applications are assessed against the assessment criteria below. Only applications that adequately respond to the assessment criteria will be considered.

### 1. Alignment to Council social priorities (25 per cent weighting)

- Does the proposal align to the purpose of Social Innovation Partnerships?
- Does the proposal address a social priority area for the City of Melbourne?
- Is there a clearly identified need in a disadvantaged and/or vulnerable community for this proposal?
- Has evidence of this need been provided?
- Has the applicant appropriately engaged with target participants and other community stakeholders prior to submitting the application?

### 2. Impact and Innovation (30 per cent weighting)

- Will the proposal be successful in addressing the identified community need?
- Will the proposal make a significant and/or lasting impact on this priority area within the City of Melbourne municipality?
- Does the proposal demonstrate an innovative, new or creative way of addressing this priority area?
- Is the proposal designed in a way that the applicant and/or City of Melbourne can apply its learnings to other social issues?

### 3. Organisational capacity and partners (25 per cent weighting)

- Is the scope of the proposal appropriate to the organisation's resources and expertise?
- Is the proposal well planned with clear deliverables and a realistic timeframe?
- Does the proposal identify appropriate partners that will work with them in a collaborative way?
- Does the organisation have a track record of delivering similar types of activities successfully?

### 4. Budget (20 per cent weighting)

- Does the budget accurately reflect the scope and scale of the proposal?
- Have other funding sources been identified?
- Have the resources that are required to deliver the project been clearly identified?
- Does the total revenue match the total expenses?
- Have quotes been provided to support capital purchases (if applicable)?

## Additional Assessment Notes

City of Melbourne reserves the right to:

- not consider applications that do not meet the eligibility or assessment criteria
- request further information to inform our assessment
- recommend partial funding, in consultation with the applicant

Normal permit requirements apply for all projects. If relevant, these should be outlined in the application. (Refer to the [City of Melbourne website](#)<sup>8</sup> for permits required within the City of Melbourne)

If quotes and/or other proposed services are provided by family, friends or committee members, this must be declared in the application

## Lobbying

Canvassing or lobbying in relation to an application is strictly prohibited during the application process. No further consideration will be given to an application submitted by an applicant that canvasses or lobbies the Lord Mayor, City of Melbourne councillors or employees of the City of Melbourne.

## Grant Terms and Conditions

If your application is successful, you will be required to:

- Sign a funding agreement with the City of Melbourne that provides details about the terms and conditions of funding. The funding agreement will outline reporting and acquittal requirements specific to your application.
- Supply all requested information prior to any funding being released.
- If the project involves children or young people aged under 18 years you must provide Working with Children's Checks for all staff and contractors involved in the project.
- Participate in City of Melbourne's evaluation program.
- Use the funding allocated for the purposes specified in the application. Grants may not be used for any purpose other than for which it is granted, without the written permission of City of Melbourne.
- Deliver the project within the allocated budget. City of Melbourne will not be responsible for shortfalls in project budgets if the applicant is unable to meet project costs.
- The City of Melbourne must be acknowledged in all promotional materials relating to the successful application, including use of the logo.
- Complete the project by the date stated in the funding agreement. Any requests for extensions will need the written approval of the City of Melbourne.
- Provide receipts to acquit the grant.

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<sup>8</sup> <http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/pages/permits.aspx>

## Completing Your Application

Applications will be submitted and managed online via SmartyGrants. Application forms can be accessed from the City of Melbourne website.

Applications will automatically be closed by the SmartyGrants system at 5pm on Tuesday 15 January 2019.

Please avoid submitting your application at the last minute. If there is heavy use of the system with others submitting last-minute applications, there may be delays which will affect your ability to lodge your application before the deadline and it will be deemed ineligible.

When your application is fully submitted you will receive an automated email containing a PDF copy of your application and confirmation that it has been received.

If you experience technical issues with the SmartyGrants system, please contact SmartyGrants directly (contact information below).

## Contacts

### General enquiries:

Please contact the City of Melbourne Grants and Projects Officer by [email](#)<sup>9</sup> or phone (03) 9658 9901. Please note, this e-mail and phone number will be unattended between 24 December 2018 and 1 January 2019.

The City of Melbourne Grant and Projects Officer can refer you to Council staff that are subject matter experts in a variety of fields including homelessness, youth, cultural diversity, ageing & inclusion, alcohol and other drug safety, international students, gender equity, prevention of violence against women, family services, recreation, health and life-long learning.

### SmartyGrants technical assistance:

If you experience technical issues with the SmartyGrants system please contact them directly on [email](#)<sup>10</sup> or by phone: (03) 9320 6888.

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<sup>9</sup> [commstrength@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:commstrength@melbourne.vic.gov.au)

<sup>10</sup> [service@smartygrants.com.au](mailto:service@smartygrants.com.au)

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Can my organisation submit more than one application?**

**A:** No. An organisation can only submit one application. Please consider which idea best meets the assessment criteria and develop that into an application. An organisation can, however, be a partner organisation in support of another application.

**Q: My organisation already receives funding from the City of Melbourne; can we apply for Social Innovations Partnerships?**

**A:** Yes, as long as you are not applying for the same project.

**Q: If we already have some funding allocated to this project, can we still apply for additional funding?**

**A:** Yes, we encourage multiple funding sources for a project as this can strengthen the application and create greater sustainability for the project. The application form will ask you to declare additional funding sources for your project.

**Q: What do you mean by 'innovative'?**

**A:** By 'innovative' we mean an approach or solution that is new or creative. Therefore one that is not already in place at your organisation or being delivered by another organisation. We are seeking to foster, reward and test approaches or solutions that bring a fresh perspective and opportunity for greater impact.

**Q: What if I have a great project, but it is not innovative?**

**A:** Innovation is a key criterion for this funding stream; projects that do not demonstrate innovation are not eligible. Please note that Social Innovation Partnerships are not the only way that City of Melbourne supports community outcomes. Other streams within the Community Grants and Partnerships Framework support a range of operations and projects. The *Connected Communities* stream provides funding up to \$20 000 for projects that do not need an innovative component. This stream opens for applications in June 2019 for projects to be delivered in 2020.

**Q: What is a social enterprise?**

**A:** [Social enterprises](#)<sup>11</sup> are commercially viable businesses existing to benefit the public and the community, rather than shareholders and owners. There are an estimated 20,000 social enterprises across Australia. City of Melbourne strongly encourages applications from social enterprises, including those in partnership with other organisations.

**Q: What kind of social enterprises are eligible for Social Innovation Partnerships Funding?**

**A:** As social enterprises can have the same legal structure as for-profit enterprises, it can be difficult to determine the bona fides of social enterprises. City of Melbourne will accept applications from established social enterprises that meet the criteria defined by Social Traders, ie organisations that:

- Are driven by a public or community cause, be it social, environmental, cultural or economic
- Derive most of their income from trade, not donations or grants
- Use the majority (at least 50 per cent) of their profits to work towards their social mission

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.socialtraders.com.au/about-social-enterprise/what-is-a-social-enterprise/social-enterprise-definition/https://www.socialtraders.com.au/about-social-enterprise/what-is-a-social-enterprise/social-enterprise-definition/>

The best way to demonstrate this is to become certified by Social Traders. All successful applications from social enterprises will need to become certified with Social Traders as part of the conditions of the funding agreement.

**Q: How do I get certified by Social Traders?**

A: See [Social Traders](#)<sup>12</sup> for details. This process can take two weeks or more.

**Q: What is a B Corp?**

A: [Certified B Corporations](#)<sup>13</sup> are businesses that meet the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency, and legal accountability to balance profit and purpose. B Corps are accelerating a global culture shift to redefine success in business and build a more inclusive and sustainable economy.

**Q: How do I become a B Corp?**

A: Any for-profit company with at least a year of operations may pursue B Corp Certification.

**Q: How long can the project be funded for?**

A: Social Innovation Partnerships funding is for two years. After this time you may apply for a further two years if you can show that you have a plan in place to make the project sustainable through extension. All rounds of this program are competitive; you are not guaranteed to receive further funding.

**Q: What are the most important social priorities that submissions should address?**

A: The most important thing when preparing your application is to ensure you meet the assessment criteria. These criteria are weighted to help determine the relative importance on each criterion.

**Q: What are some examples of projects that are likely to be funded?**

A: [Good2Go](#)<sup>14</sup> targets young people at risk of family violence, social isolation and/or homelessness. The young people facing barriers to employment real life work experience. A social enterprise established in Melbourne in 2014 by Youth Projects, Good2Go is a café and vintage retail outlet that reflects their vision that trainees will be "good to go" into a competitive job market by giving them opportunities to learn key employability skills and self-confidence. The program ensures that vulnerable youth are not exploited by endless unpaid internship, work trials and course fees. In 2018, 32 young people's lives have changed significantly who would otherwise be at risk of homelessness and disengagement.

[Good Cycles](#)<sup>15</sup> was founded in Melbourne in 2013, received Social Enterprise funding from City of Melbourne, and has now grown into an inspiring non-profit organisation. Good Cycles offers practical and time-saving maintenance services to Melbourne's cyclists. Good Cycles are focused on advancing equality, health and sustainability through bikes and cycling. They are dedicated to addressing some of the key issues that impact the lives of young people in Australia: unemployment, mental health and lack of regular exercise. Good Cycles provides immediate employment opportunities to those participating in our programs while establishing long-term employment outcomes through our extensive industry networks.

**Q: Can I ask for funding for staff wages?**

A: Yes, as long as they are clearly aligned to the project

**Q: Can I ask for funding for administration?**

A: Yes, but administration costs should not be more than 15% of the total request

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.socialtraders.com.au/suppliers/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://bcorporation.com.au/about-b-corps>

<sup>14</sup> <https://youthprojects.org.au/programs/good-2-go/>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.goodcycles.org/>



**Q: Can I ask for funding for operational costs?**

**A:** No, although you can ask for a contribution to administrative costs (see above)

**Q: Who will assess the application?**

**A:** Each application will be reviewed by a Council officer experienced in the priority area the application relates to. An external assessment panel will then assess applications and make recommendations to Council.

**Q: What does partnership mean? Beyond the provision of funds, what else does City of Melbourne offer to the partnership?**

A partnership is a number of organisations working together, who contribute different skills and resources to achieve a common goal. The partners are committed to working together, sharing ideas and resources to reach the common goal.

City of Melbourne will allocate a contract manager with subject matter expertise, who can provide advice, guidance and connections to appropriate networks.

For projects that have demonstrated positive impact, City of Melbourne will broker appropriate partnerships with the broader Melbourne community.

Additionally, City of Melbourne will appoint an evaluation consultant to undertake meaningful evaluation across all projects funded under Social Innovation Partnerships.

**Q: What will you require from successful grant recipients?**

See Grant Terms and conditions section of this document.

**Q: Can I be funded for a project that has already commenced?**

**A:** No; however proposals are expected to be well grounded. Competitive applications will have evidence that the identified community need exists, and sound reasoning for believing the proposal will successfully address the need. It is OK for this investigation stage to have already commenced.

## Program overview and table of recommended applications

### 1. Objectives of the Social Innovation Partnerships Program

Through Social Innovation Partnerships, City of Melbourne provides two year project funding from \$15,000 to \$80,000 per year to support not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and B Corporations to create sustained social impacts in relation to the City's key social issues.

Social Innovation Partnerships allow the City of Melbourne to:

- directly address the municipality's social priorities aligned to the [Council Plan](#)<sup>1</sup>
- discover and support new and creative ways of addressing social challenges
- test new approaches that have the potential to provide long term solutions
- deliver effective community outcomes outside of Council's own program delivery and contracted services
- empower not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and B Corporations to improve or expand their impact
- encourage the use of data sets pertaining to the city, through City of Melbourne's [Open Data](#)<sup>2</sup> platform

### 2. Recommended application criteria

Each application is assessed by City of Melbourne officers, and by an independent external panel. Applications are assessed against the following criteria;

1. Alignment to Council social priorities, as identified in the program guidelines (25 per cent weighting)
2. Impact and Innovation (30 per cent weighting)
3. Organisational capacity and partners (25 per cent weighting)
4. Budget (20 per cent weighting)

### 3. Non-recommended applications

Applications that were not recommended generally did not strongly address the assessment criteria or the program's key objectives relative to the other applications.

The four most common elements demonstrated across the non-recommended applications were:

- Lack of demonstrated innovation
- Lack of alignment to the program priorities and/or target groups
- Poor demonstration of community need
- Lack of supporting partners

### 4. Recommended applications

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/vision-goals/pages/council-plan.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/governance-transparency/open-data/Pages/open-data.aspx>

The following 13 applications are recommended for funding due to their strong alignment to the assessment criteria. These applications represent a diverse selection of innovative and community focussed projects.

	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant amount (over two years)</b>
1	Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre	Make it Work - Local employment solutions for migrants and refugees	\$160,000
2	Carlton Primary School	Breaking the cycle	\$160,000
3	Cultivating Community	The Carlton Kitchen Library	\$102,800
4	Deaf Victoria Inc	Auslan in the City	\$50,000
5	Good Cycles Limited	Active Cycling Services	\$80,000
6	Inner Melbourne Community Legal	Youth Outreach Lawyer	\$160,000
7	Kensington Neighbourhood House	Thriving Families: African Gen Xs and Aussie Gen Zs - Closing the cultural and generational divide	\$64,150
8	Diverse Community and Social Services Inc	Community justice and rehabilitation program	\$40,000
9	St Kilda Legal Service	Trans and Gender Diverse Legal Service	\$145,950
10	Melbourne community Toy Library	Neighbourhood toy libraries: a flexible model supporting local communities to provide more opportunities to play	\$85,600
11	SYN Media	International Student Media Project: Media Making and Community Connections	\$87,500
12	The Centre: Connecting Community in North and West Melbourne Inc.	Pop up Neighbourhood House @ The Docklands	\$136,000
13	The Welcome Dinner Project	Guess who's coming to dinner? Connecting International Students to local students and residents over food in the City of Melbourne.	\$48,000
<b>Total funding allocation over two financial years (2019–2020 and 2020–2021)</b>			<b>\$1,320,000</b>

## 5. Social Priorities Addressed

The above recommended applications address the following key social priorities:

- Allow children and young people to grow up healthy, safe and to their full potential.
- Create pathways to meaningful and secure employment for all members of our community.
- Support young people to remain engaged in education and provide opportunities for people of all ages to actively participate in lifelong learning.
- Prevent violence against women, promote respectful relationships and gender equality.

- Make eating healthy food an easier choice.
- Provide opportunities that welcome newly arrived residents, build understanding, social cohesion, belonging and resilience through intercultural and intergenerational connections.
- Increasing access and inclusion for people with a disability.

## **6. Community Cohorts Targeted**

Recommended applications target the following community cohorts:

- Culturally and linguistically diverse
- Young people (aged 12 to 25)
- Children (aged 0 to 12)
- Families and Children
- LGBTIQ people
- International students
- People with a disability
- All community