

Making
great things
happen in our
community



Gisborne & District
Community Bank Branch



Community Investment Overview

Who are we?

Gisborne & District Community Bank Branch is a franchise of Bendigo Bank operated by Macedon Ranges Community Enterprises Ltd, a public company owned by local shareholders and overseen by a volunteer board of directors. Banking at our branch is banking with Bendigo Bank in the range of products and services offered to our customers.

What makes us unique?

Unlike other banks or branches, Gisborne & District Community Bank Branch returns local profits to the Gisborne & District community. Through our community investment program, we actively contribute to local community development by supporting valuable groups and projects. We have put over \$1 million directly back into Gisborne & District in this way.

In addition to enabling community projects small and large, the branch provides scholarships to local students and adults, local employment, and supports local service providers in the operation of our business. Profits are also distributed to our shareholders (who are primarily local) as dividends. We are proud and honoured to be able to contribute to our community in these many ways.

What type of community investments do we make? Gisborne & District Community Bank Branch provides grants to community groups for standalone projects and sponsorships of community group programs/events. The application process varies by size of community investment sought.

1. Up to \$4,999 - Group Community Investment: written application only
2. \$5000 or more - Large Community Project: written application followed by presentations for shortlisted applicants

We also provide scholarships; these are managed independently.

Who is eligible?

Any not-for-profit community group based in postcode 3437, 3431, 3438, 3440 or 3441 that actively banks with Gisborne & District Community Bank Branch, is open to the community, and holds regular group meetings or events in Gisborne & District is eligible to apply to our community investment program. Groups that actively bank with us and provide a unique benefit to residents in Gisborne & District but are not based locally may be eligible. Groups in this category as well as political and religious organisations are requested to contact mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com to confirm their eligibility prior to submitting an application.

What are the selection criteria?

Our Community Investment Program has been significantly oversubscribed in the past and we have been unable to support every application. Factors taken into account during the application review process include:

1. The benefit of the group's activities or project to the Gisborne & District community (postcodes 3437, 3431, 3438, 3440, 3441)
2. The opportunities offered to drive awareness of Gisborne & District Community Bank Branch and its products and services in postcodes 3437, 3431, 3438, 3440, 3441
3. New awareness of and business to Gisborne & District Community Bank Branch as a result of previous community investment to the applicant (if applicable)
4. Completion of acquittal form and relationship around community investment received by the applicant.

When are applications due?

The company has two rounds of community investment per year as follows.

Community Investment Round	Applications Accepted	Results Announced	Funds Made Available
Autumn	March <i>(closing date on application)</i>	May	As of June 1
Spring	September <i>(closing date on application)</i>	November	As of December 1

Please note: Applicants are encouraged to apply in a community investment round well before their event as funds will only be made available after formal announcement has been made and a partnership meeting has taken place.

How do groups apply?

1. Application forms can be downloaded from our website. Search 'Gisborne Bendigo Bank' and look under the 'Sponsorships and Grants' tab.
2. Completed applications should be sent with any supporting documents to mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com by the stated deadline.
3. All applicants will be contacted via email to advise whether their application has been successful.
4. Please contact mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com with any questions on our community investment program.

How can you help us?

Our Community Investment Program is made possible by customers banking with Gisborne & District Community Bank Branch. The more our business grows, the more community investment we can provide. A strong community group-bank partnership can make great things happen in our community.

**Community Development
Enabled By Customers**





Community Investment Process

We are proud to return profits to our community through our community investment program. Since opening in 2008, we have invested over \$1 million in valuable groups and projects that contribute to local community welfare, development and cohesion. We also offer scholarships to talented local youth and adults. The application process varies depending on the community investment category.

