



# Community Investment Overview

Community Bank · Gisborne & District



Making good  
things happen in  
our community

## Who are we?

Community Bank Gisborne & District 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, Community Bank Gisborne & District returns local profits to the Gisborne and district community. Through our community investment program, we actively contribute to local community development by supporting valuable groups and projects. We have put over \$1.6 million directly back into Gisborne and 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?

Community Bank Gisborne & District 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 \$5,000 - Group Community Investment: written application only
2. More than \$5000 - 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, 3441 or 3442 that actively banks with Community Bank Gisborne & District, is open to the community, and holds regular group meetings or events in Gisborne and 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 and 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](mailto: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 and district community (postcodes 3437, 3431, 3438, 3440, 3441, 3442)
2. The opportunities offered to drive awareness of Community Bank Gisborne & District and its products and services in postcodes 3437, 3431, 3438, 3440, 3441, 3442
3. New awareness of and business to Community Bank Gisborne & District as a result of previous community investment to the applicant (if applicable)
4. Completion of acquittal form for and relationship around past community investment in the applying organisation

## 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. Email [mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com) to confirm eligibility of your project and which application form you need to complete to apply for funding.
2. Complete appropriate application form. You will either be sent a link to an online portal or be asked to download an application from our website. If the latter, search 'Gisborne Bendigo Bank' and look under the 'Sponsorships and Grants' tab.
3. Submit completed application with supporting documents per the instructions on the application form by the stated deadline.
4. All applicants will be contacted via email to advise whether their application has been successful.
5. Please contact [mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com](mailto: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 Community Bank Gisborne & District. 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 \$1.6 million in valuable groups and projects that contribute to local community welfare, development and cohesion. We also offer scholarships to local youth and adults. The application process varies depending on the community investment category.

