
COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM 2023-24

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the Community Bank Roleystone-Karragullen provide funding to the community?

The Community Bank Roleystone-Karragullen was established in April 2007 to help the local community and provide a localised banking service. Since its establishment, we have contributed over half a million dollars to local community organisations, events and initiatives.

We look for the chance to spread the word about Community Banking and meet more community members. We welcome opportunities to explain how our Community Bank operates and how it benefits our customers and communities.

Every account that you open, every loan you take out, every insurance policy or other product you purchase from the Community Bank contributes to the accumulation of funds that we redistribute to community projects.

Can you tell me more about the Community Bank model?

For more than 20 years Community Bank branches just like ours have continued to resonate with customers and their communities. Community banking is based on a 'profit-with-purpose' model, which means our profits are returned directly to the community that has generated them. In the late 1990's a new type of banking model came onto Australia's banking scene. Bendigo's Community Bank branches.

Not only do these Community Bank branches provide banking and financial services, they have a unique point of difference. They deliver so much more than just quality banking services:

- Jobs for local people;
- Investment opportunities for local shareholders;
- Profits for the community; and
- Funding and assistance for important community projects.

Local branch, owned by locals, putting back into local projects. You can't beat that!

How can I contribute?

You can help by doing your banking with us:

- Opening accounts or moving your accounts to our branches.
- Consider us for all of your lending requirements.

Every account that you open, every loan you take out, every insurance policy or other product you purchase from the Community Bank contributes to the funding that we redistribute to community projects via this Program and other investments in the community.

How do we access funding?

The application form is online: [Microsoft Forms](#)

Information regarding our funding programs is available on our website

<https://www.bendigobank.com.au/branch/wa/community-bank-roleystone-karragullen/>

We will continue to promote the application and assessment process across the community and highly recommend you like and follow our Facebook page to stay up to date with the latest developments:

<https://www.facebook.com/communitybankroleystonekarragullen>

Are there Guidelines for funding?

Yes, they can be downloaded from our website once the Program opens by following this link:

<https://www.bendigobank.com.au/branch/wa/community-bank-roleystone-karragullen/>

Why has the process changed?

Community Bank Roleystone-Karragullen has always required a completed application form, which was assessed and decided by the Board. To be able to make improved funding decisions, we're seeking more submissions from the community for quarterly consideration.

The Guidelines have always been in place but we are making the information more accessible for organisations to consider whether our funding program aligns with their proposal.

We want to have an even greater impact on our community- and reach groups that may not have been aware of our funding or who may not have applied for funding in the past. We also want to encourage organisations to consider what would make our community a better place to live and put forward those innovative proposals.

The application form is now online: <https://forms.office.com/r/7Rv1M1Vwc5> making it more accessible to more people. This is also more efficient as we seek to fund more organisations than in previous years- the process must be equitable and manageable. The turn-around time for our response will be quicker than our current process.

I'm not comfortable with online access. Is there support for me?

We are committed to inclusivity. A branch member can assist you with completing an application. Our contact information is listed at the end of this FAQ.

What are the funding objectives?

Most (if not all) Community Banks have funding objectives. The Community Bank Roleystone-Karragullen Board objectives for 2023-24 are outlined below. We are seeking applicants with proposals that align with:

- Promoting mental and physical health
- Education
- Early Childhood and Youth
- Financial literacy
- Sustainable living, including environmental projects and disaster resilience

Having a set of objectives ensures we can be clear in the intention and outcomes for the funding. The Board consider that a diverse range of sectors we have funded in the past would align their initiatives with our objectives. These sectors include:

- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Community Facilities and Infrastructure
- Education and Research
- Emergency Services and Support
- Environment and Animal Welfare
- Health and Well-being
- Sport and Recreation

The objectives are in place for 2023-24 and are subject to review at the board's discretion.

Is there a minimum or maximum amount of funding?

No. However, please consider our funding requirements and whether you can meet these before applying. The expectations for community benefits and return on investment are commensurate with the amount of funding you request. We want to support as many community initiatives as possible.

Who will assess our application?

The Community Bank Roleystone-Karragullen Board will assess each application to make funding decisions.

What if I need funding outside of the application period?

The Community Bank can consider requests for sponsorship under \$500.

Many philanthropic and grant-giving organisations operate with submission dates. With quarterly applications, there is plenty of opportunity to access funding. This also means seasonal or term-based activities can apply in alignment with the timing of their activities.

Out-of-submission date sponsorship requests are also subject to the same application form and Board approval; however, we acknowledge the need when genuine requests for immediate assistance, such as fundraising raffles or sausage sizzles, are not necessarily planned months in advance. These requests can be discussed with the Branch.

Over how many years can my project be delivered?

Except in exceptional circumstances, funding can only be provided for initiatives that can be completed within 12 months. While the Board may want to contribute to a project on an ongoing basis, it is important to ensure that the ongoing liability can be met. Due to the nature of our business, only when profitable can we redistribute to community projects. Every time you bank with us, it contributes to the funds that we redistribute to community projects.

What is the difference between advertising and sponsorship?

Display advertising in the form of signage is assessed based on exposure, cost-effectiveness, and aimed to increase our customer reach. We make this business decision each year to build and grow our business. It may mean we decide to retire older signage that has lost its effectiveness, and community groups who have sold us advertising space in the past may see a change in our approach. In that event, we encourage you to apply for sponsorship.

When we sponsor an organisation, we often ask for signage to be prominently displayed at the event, activity, or permanently regarding our commitment. However, the signage/advertising is not the only reason why the organisation is receiving our sponsorship support.

How soon will we know whether we have been successful?

Applicants will be informed of an outcome within five weeks of applying for funding.

What is a return on investment?

Anything that will help us to promote and grow our business!

We look for the chance to spread the word about Community Banking and meet more community members. We love getting opportunities to explain how our Community Bank operates and how it benefits our customers and communities.

We look for ways to promote our Community Bank, to increase our visibility in the community and to grow our business. We love when organisations we support encourage their members or the community to have their bank accounts, loans, insurance and other financial products with us – Check with our branch staff about how you can organise your accounts to be held at the Community Bank Roleystone-Karragullen We also like to fly banners, put our logo on promotional materials and chat to your members.

How do I find out more information?

For further information or any queries, please contact:

Community Bank – Roleystone-Karragullen | Shop 8, 21 Jarrah Road Roleystone WA 6111

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