



CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL



# 2026 CLUBS FOR CUMBERLAND CLUBGRANTS SCHEME

Applications close: Friday 29 May 2026, 4pm



Administered by

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CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL





For multi-lingual support, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450 and ask to be connected to Cumberland City Council on 8757 9000.

للحصول على المساعدة اللغوية، اتصل بخدمة الترجمة التحريرية والشفهية (TIS) على الرقم 131 450 واطلب الاتصال بمجلس كمبرلاند على الرقم 8757 9000.

如需多语种服务，请致电131 450（翻译与传译服务，TIS），要求接通Cumberland市议会电话8757 9000。

برای پشتیبانی چند زبانه، لطفاً با خدمات ترجمان کتبی و شفاهی (TIS) با نمبر 131 450 تماس بگیرید و بخواهید که به شورای کومبرلاند به نمبر 8757 9000 وصل کنند.

다국어 지원을 받으려면 통 번역 서비스(TIS)에 131 450으로 연락하여 컴벌랜드 카운슬에 8757 9000으로 연결하도록 요청하십시오.

बहुभाषी सहायता के लिए, कृपया 131 450 पर अनुवाद और दुभाषिया सेवा (TIS) से संपर्क करें और उनसे 8757 9000 पर कंबरलैंड काउंसिल से कनेक्ट करने के लिए कहें.

பல மொழி ஆதரவுக்காக, மொழிபெயர்ப்பு மற்றும் உரைபெயர்ப்புச் சேவையைத் (TIS) தொடர்பு கொள்ளவும். TIS ஐ 131 450 எனும் தொலைபேசி எண்ணில் அழைத்து 8757 9000 இல் கம்பலாந்து மன்றத்துடன் இணைக்கும் படி கேளுங்கள்.

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## What is the ClubGRANTS Scheme?

**ClubGRANTS is a community development grants program funded by local clubs and administered by Cumberland City Council.**

The scheme enables registered clubs with gaming machine profits over \$1 million to apply for a tax rebate (of 1.85%). The tax rebate is used to provide grants to not-for-profit community organisations for community projects.

ClubGRANTS is designed to ensure that larger registered clubs in NSW contribute to the provision of front-line services to local communities; and to ensure that disadvantaged community members are better positioned to benefit from the grants. ClubGRANTS also facilitates contributions by larger clubs towards infrastructure to support sporting, health and community activities.

The Scheme is guided by the Gaming Machine Tax Act 2001 which identifies three classes of expenditure (Category 1, Category 2 and Category 3). These guidelines apply to only Category 1. More information about the other categories can be found on the Liquor and Gaming NSW (L&GNSW) website [liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au](http://liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au).

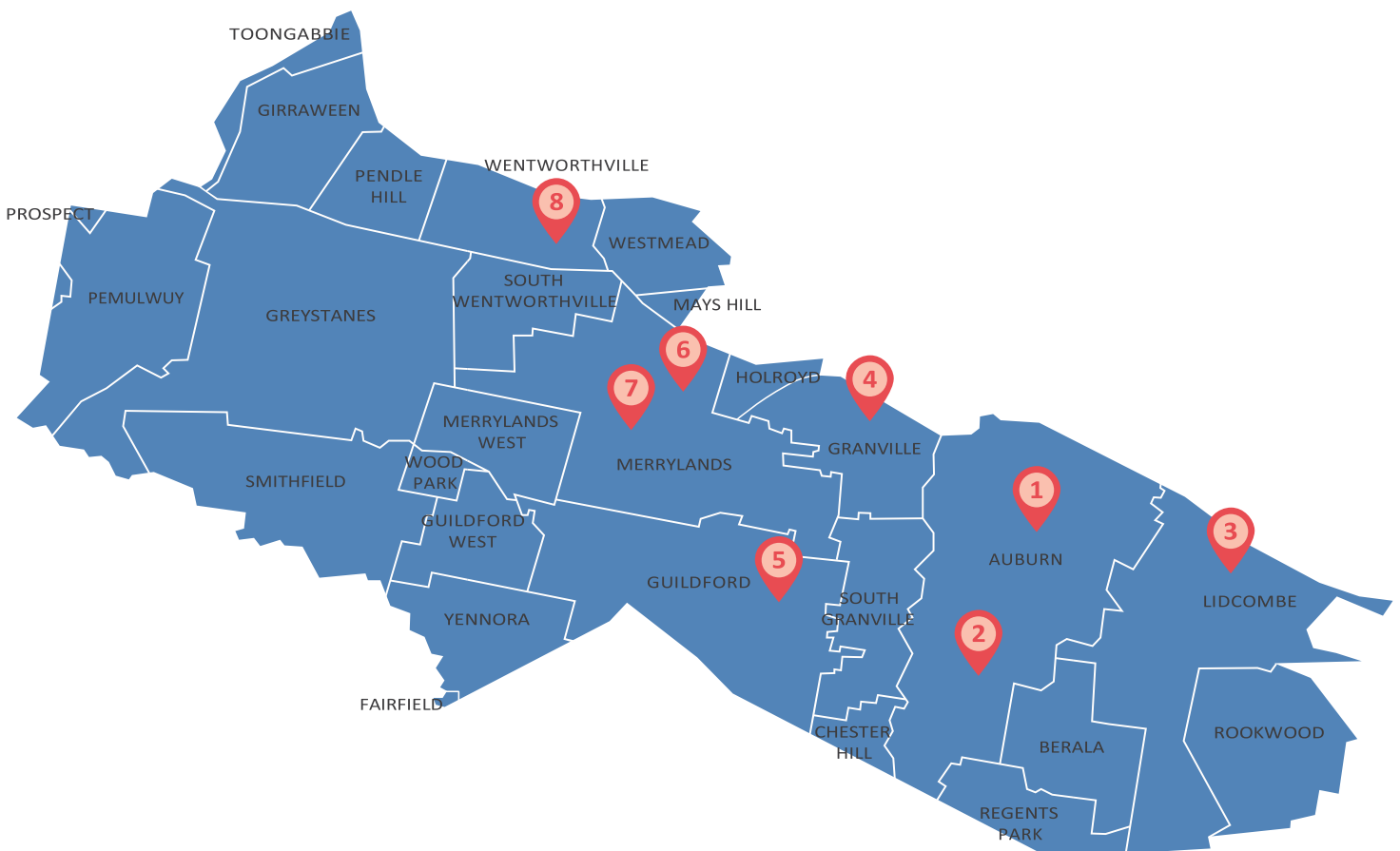
The Clubs for Cumberland ClubGRANTS Scheme is managed by a Local Committee which has representatives from:

- Participating clubs
- Department of Communities and Justice
- Local community organisations (up to five representatives)

Cumberland City Council serves as the convener of the Local Committee and extends administrative support. It is imperative to clarify that the Council does not engage in the evaluation of grant applications. The Local Committee, with its diverse representation, is tasked to identify funding priorities, meticulously assess grant applications, and provide well-informed recommendations for funding allocations.

Participating clubs in the Cumberland Local Government Area (LGA) include:

1. Auburn Soccer Sports Club
2. Auburn Tennis Club
3. DOOLEYS Lidcombe Catholic Club
4. Granville Diggers
5. Guildford Leagues
6. Club Merrylands Bowling
7. Merrylands RSL
8. Wenty Leagues



## Key Dates

Activity	Date and Location
Local advertising and promotion	February 2026 – May 2026
Opening of funding round	Sunday, 1 February 2026, 9am
<p><b>ClubGRANTS Information Sessions</b></p> <p>These sessions will explain the funding priorities, how application will be assessed and condition for successful applicants. It will also be an opportunity to meet potential project partners.</p> <p>Limited spaces – Booking is essential.</p>	<p>These sessions will explain the funding priorities, how application will be assessed and conditions for successful applicants. It will also be an opportunity to meet potential project partners.</p> <p>Limited spaces – Booking is essential.</p> <p><b>Face-to-Face Information Session</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Thursday, 17 March 2026  <b>Time:</b> 10am – 11am  <b>Venue:</b> Wenty Leagues, 50 Smith Street, Wentworthville, NSW 2145</p> <p><b>Online Information Session</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Thursday, 5 March 2026  <b>Time:</b> 2pm – 3pm  <b>Venue:</b> Online</p> <p>Book your spot for the Online or Face-to-Face Information Session here:  <a href="http://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/cumberland-clubgrants">www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/cumberland-clubgrants</a></p>
<p><b>Advisory Desks</b></p> <p>Book a session for tailored advice on your project and grant application. Prepare your draft application and project ideas and receive feedback and tips on how to write your grant proposal.</p> <p>Limited spaces – Booking is essential.</p>	<p>Book a session for tailored advice on your project and grant application. Prepare your draft application and project ideas and receive feedback and tips on how to write your grant proposal.</p> <p>Limited spaces – Booking is essential.</p> <p><b>Online 1-1 Advisory Desk</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> Monday, 18 March 2026 – Friday, 8 May 2026</p> <p>Book your spot online at:  <a href="http://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/cumberland-clubgrants">www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/cumberland-clubgrants</a></p>
Closing date	Friday, 29 May 2026, 4pm
Applications assessed	June 2026
Recommendations made to Club Boards for approval	July 2026
Applicants notified of outcome	August 2026
Funding received by successful applicants	August 2026
Progress report due	Wednesday, 31 March 2027
Final acquittal reports due	Friday, 26 November 2027

## Understanding ClubGRANTS Category 1 Funding

Eligible Category 1 expenditure is for projects and/or services that contribute to the welfare and broader social fabric of the local community and are aimed at improving the living standards of low income and disadvantaged people. The types of eligible projects and services include:

### COMMUNITY WELFARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- family support
- supported emergency or low-cost accommodation
- counselling services
- childcare and child protection
- aged, disability or youth services
- veteran welfare services
- service to victim of natural
- volunteer emergency services, such as surf life-saving and rural fire services

Note: Expenditure on community development and support outside NSW is only recognised if it is made to locally based activities that are of a genuine cross-border nature or to nationally operating organisations with a presence in NSW.

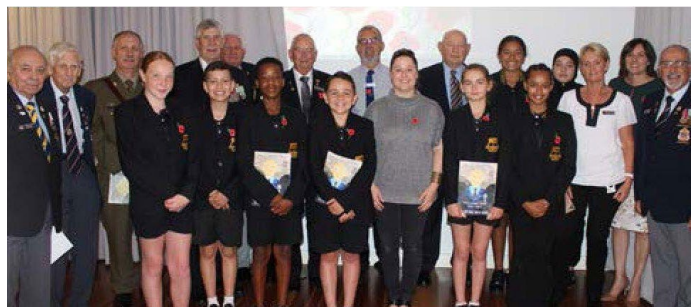
### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- neighbourhood centre activities
- community education programs
- youth drop-in facilities
- community transport services
- tenant's services
- state-wide or regional services developing social policies and providing advocacy for local community services.

### COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

- early childhood health
- child and family services
- community nursing
- therapy, including art therapy
- community mental health services
- health promotion initiatives
- drug and alcohol services
- palliative care / women's health / dental / disability services
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services
- home and community care services

Note: Funding for buildings and equipment for inpatient care may be recognised as Category 1 expenditure in certain limited circumstances.



### EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

- employment placement services
- group training
- employment advocacy
- community enterprises
- local job creation schemes

These broad categories are established by the ClubGRANTS Guidelines under the Gaming Machine Tax Act 2001. Projects that closely align with the Cumberland ClubGRANTS Priorities for 2026, outlined on the following page, will be given greater consideration for funding.

## The Cumberland ClubGRANTS Priorities for 2026

The Clubs for Cumberland ClubGRANTS Scheme is aimed at promoting community support at a local level. As a result, Category 1 preference is given to projects and services assisting people within the Cumberland Local Government Area (LGA).

The 2026 funding priorities are based on identified local community needs including service gaps and actions prioritised through recent community engagement programs and studies prepared for the Cumberland LGA including the:

- Cumberland Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027
- Cumberland Youth Strategy 2016-2020
- The State of Homelessness in Cumberland Research Report October 2018
- Cumberland Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2021
- Cumberland Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2018-2022
- Cumberland Cultural Plan 2020-2029
- Cumberland City Council School Engagement and Consultation Findings 2021

## Cumberland Club GRANTS Category 1 Funding Priorities for 2026

### PRIORITY 1: TARGETED COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Projects that address one of the following and do not duplicate existing services or programs:

- Primary Prevention and Early Intervention of DFV – aims to reduce or prevent new instances of violence before they occur by increasing knowledge, awareness, and influencing changes in attitudes and understanding of DFV.
- Addresses stigma and mental health support for Young People (15-25 years).
- Facilitates access to places and activities for Young People (15-25 years) where they feel safe, welcome, and catered to for their cultural needs and diverse backgrounds.
- Enhances and develops the Cumberland communities' knowledge and awareness of child protection.
- Initiatives that promote mental health awareness, early diagnosis, and preventive care. Programs might include educational campaigns, peer support networks, or workshops to enhance resilience of vulnerable populations.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led programs.
- Improves access to services that address homelessness, housing stress, and the drivers of homelessness, including outreach services, living skills programs, and programs targeting key demographic groups within the Cumberland Community such as men, older women, and asylum seekers.
- Enhances access and removes barriers to participation in activities such as educational and developmental activities for children aged 1-15 years.
- Early intervention projects, programs or services that provide targeted support and resources, including parenting programs, mental health counselling, and specific assistance for children and families experiencing DFV, financial hardship, disadvantaged populations, or at risk of disadvantage.

### PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Projects addressing this priority aim to do the following:

- Support refugees and humanitarian entrants to understand and navigate the employment market, including recognition of overseas credentials and accessing bridging courses.
- Programs supporting women's re-entry into the workforce, including confidence building, digital skills, mentoring, and recognition of overseas qualifications.
- Initiatives that reduce practical barriers to participation for women, including childcare, transport, and flexible delivery models, including leadership and skills building programs.
- Programs building financial capability and economic independence focusing on entrepreneurship and small business skills.
- Encourage the participation and involvement of parents in the education of their children and to improve their capacity to support learning at school.
- Improve education/training outcomes for young people.

### PRIORITY 3: CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community can apply for projects such as:

- Neighbourhood Watch Programs.
- Substance Abuse Prevention Programs for youth and adults.
- Safe Driving Programs.
- Conflict Resolution and Mediation Programs for disputes between residents, local groups, businesses or local enterprises, faith-based organisations, community members, religious organisations and cultural organisations.
- Public Awareness Campaigns raising awareness about reporting to Police and trending key safety concerns, including but not limited to reporting elder abuse and neglect as well as child protection.
- Victim Support Service Programs.



## What Projects Will Not be Funded?

The following items have been listed in NSW Office of Liquor and Gaming ClubGRANTS Guidelines.

- Applicants that do not hold an current ABN
- Applications from organisations/groups that have not submitted a Funding Recipient Report or a Progress Report for previously funded projects under the Clubs for Cumberland ClubGRANTS Scheme.
- Projects related to a Club's core activities (such as sport, returned servicemen's league, golf course and bowling green maintenance including for wages paid to staff to carry out the maintenance).
- Semi-professional sports.
- Projects or services that can be readily assisted by any existing Government funding program.
- Medical research.
- Cultural festivals, celebrations or events that focus on visual/performing arts.
- Registered political parties, any political candidates, any political campaigns or to any industry organisations.

## Priority Considerations for Applicants

The following criteria will be prioritised:

- Organisations that are legally incorporated or act as an auspice for an unincorporated applicant.
- Are a not-for-profit organisation, school or a local government.
- Organisations that provide proof of appropriate insurance policies, including public liability insurance.
- Applicants who have submitted at least one of the following documents: annual report, constitution, financial statement.
- Projects that directly benefit residents of the Cumberland LGA.
- Projects that addresses one of the identified funding priorities of Cumberland ClubGRANTS 2026 (Category 1).



## How Much Can I Apply For?

There isn't a limit to the amount that can be applied for in Cumberland ClubGRANTS Scheme. As a guide, most projects fall between the \$10,000 – \$15,000 funding bracket. Applicants are permitted to submit more than one application, provided each project is distinct and addresses different objectives. Both applications will be considered for funding opportunities, with each having the potential to be funded independently.

### Important information regarding GST.

The Australian Taxation Office [ATO] has provided the following advice on whether a payment made by a Club to a recipient organisation as part of the ClubGRANTS Scheme would attract GST.

*A non-profit organisation or donating Club does not have a GST liability provided the non-profit organisation is not making a supply to the donor club in relation to the receipt of the payment. The acknowledgement of the funds provided in the recipient's newsletter or annual report, or in a local state or national newspaper, or a certificate, plaque or equivalent of appreciation is not considered to be a supply from a recipient to a donor club.*

## How Will Applications be Assessed?

- a.) The Clubs for Cumberland ClubGRANTS Scheme will be advertised annually, on the Cumberland City Council website, local newspapers and other community information outlets.
- b.) Applications will be assessed in accordance with the Scheme's Guidelines including organisational eligibility and funding priorities outlined in these Guidelines. Following the closing date, applications will be assessed and ranked by the Local Committee. A report will be prepared and forwarded to the Boards of participating Clubs for review and determination.
- c.) All applicants will be advised as to whether they have or have not been successful. Applicants will also be provided with an opportunity to gain feedback on unsuccessful applications.

## What are the Conditions for Successful Applicants?

- a.) The funded organisations must not accept funding for the same project from any other source unless joint funding is required for the implementation of the project AND you have informed all funders of all sources of funding for this project.
- b.) The grants provided by the Clubs for Cumberland ClubGRANTS Scheme are to be expended only as outlined in the funding application.
- c.) Any variation to the funded project must be submitted in writing to the funding club for prior approval.
- d.) Successful applicants with projects funded over \$10,000 will be required to sign a contract which may contain additional specific conditions.
- e.) A final Standard Funding Recipient Report must be submitted upon completion of the project. Failure to do so will mean the organisation is ineligible for future rounds until a report is submitted. Final report is due Friday, 26 November 2027.
- f.) If the project is not complete by the next funding round, a Progress Report must be submitted to ensure the applicant is eligible in that round. The progress report is due on Wednesday, 31 March 2027.

The following reports are required:

AMOUNT FUNDED	REPORTING REQUIREMENT
Projects less than \$500	Receipts and a letter of acknowledgement
\$500 - \$7,499	Funding Recipient Report
\$7,500 - \$10,000	A statutory declaration detailing the application of the funds at the end of the project
Over \$10, 000	Reporting requirements will be detailed in the contract.

If a report (or progress report) is not received from a benefiting organisation, no additional Category 1 funding will be considered.

- g.) Successful applicants must give appropriate acknowledgment of the funding Club's support for the project. This could be through promotional material, flyers, newsletters and Annual Reports. A copy of the promotional material or annual report must be sent with the Funding Recipient Report.
- h.) Applicants cannot be guaranteed funding, nor can any applicant be guaranteed funding for the full amount requested.



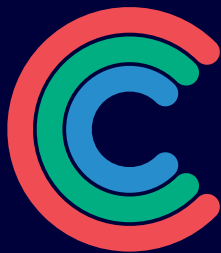
## How Do I Apply for the Clubs for Cumberland ClubGRANTS Scheme?

- a.) Applications close Friday 29 May 2026.
- b.) Online applications are accepted and can be submitted at:  
[www.clubgrants.com.au/find-your-local-grant-round?round=607720](http://www.clubgrants.com.au/find-your-local-grant-round?round=607720)
- c.) Applications received after the closing date and time will not be considered.





ADMINISTERED BY



CUMBERLAND  
CITY COUNCIL

**Cumberland City Council**

16 Memorial Avenue, PO Box 42, Merrylands NSW 2160

T 8757 9000 W [www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au) E [council@cumberland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@cumberland.nsw.gov.au)

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