

# **Guidelines**

## **Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program 2008-09**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) the Australian Government will provide one-off funding of \$250 million in 2008-09 to local councils to stimulate additional growth and economic activity in Australia as part of the Australian Government's contribution to address the global economic crisis.

These funds will be available for additional and ready-to-proceed community infrastructure projects and for additional stages of projects that are currently underway.

The funding will be provided directly to local governments as a one-off payment. The RLCIP will be administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (the Department).

### **2. PROJECT ELIGIBILITY**

#### **2.1 What can the funding be spent on?**

The RLCIP will provide funding to local governments for community infrastructure including new construction and major renovations or refurbishments of assets such as:

- social and cultural infrastructure (e.g. art spaces, gardens);
- recreational facilities (e.g. swimming pools, sports stadiums);
- tourism infrastructure (e.g. walkways, tourism information centres);
- children, youth and seniors facilities (e.g. playgroup centres, senior citizens' centres);
- access facilities (e.g. boat ramps, footbridges); and
- environmental initiatives (e.g. drain and sewerage upgrades, recycling plants).

Projects that can be funded need to be consistent with the attached list at Annexure A.

Funding can be used for:

- construction or fit-out;
- preparatory work such as necessary engineering and geotechnical studies;
- land surveys and site investigations; and
- project management costs.

## **2.2 What will not be funded?**

Funding will not be available for activities such as ongoing costs (e.g. operational costs and maintenance); transport infrastructure, such as roads; or related infrastructure covered by the Roads to Recovery or Black Spots programs.

## **3. FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS**

Each Council or Shire will receive a base component of \$100,000 with the balance of the \$250 million to be distributed on a basis of a methodology which includes relative need, population and growth. Funding amounts for each Council are detailed at [www.infrastructure.gov.au/local/index.aspx](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/local/index.aspx)

Councils will be required to provide the Department with details of projects that will be funded by **30 January 2009**. Councils will be required to enter into an agreement prior to receipt of the payment. Funding must be expended by **30 September 2009**.

### **3.1 Payments**

Requests for additional funding from the Australian Government will not be approved.

Payments will be structured to schedule the release of 100 per cent of funds to Councils on signing the agreement.

All funding must be expended by **30 September 2009**, unless an extension of time has been agreed by the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

### **3.2 Progress reports**

Once funding is confirmed the Council will be required to actively manage the project. It is recommended that Councils consider appropriate project management arrangements proportionate to the size and nature of the project.

The Department will monitor the project's progress and expenditure of the funding through reports received under the agreement and may conduct site visits.

By **30 May 2009**, Councils will be required to provide a progress report on these projects.

By **30 November 2009**, Councils will be required to provide details of progress on these projects; to provide a final report on the expenditure of Australian Government funding; and to demonstrate that they have spent the funding in accordance with the Guidelines. Action may be taken by the Department to recover funds where requirements have not been met.

**Examples of Community Infrastructure****Social and cultural infrastructure**

- Town halls
- Community centres
- Libraries
- Local heritage sites
- Museums
- Cultural centres
- Enhancement of main streets and public squares
- Theatre/music/art spaces
- Historic buildings
- Parks and gardens
- Internet kiosk infrastructure
- Kitchens for organisations
- Community market areas

**Recreation facilities**

- Sports grounds and facilities
- Sports stadiums
- Community recreation spaces
- Playgrounds
- Rail trails
- Swimming pools
- Walking tracks and bicycle paths
- Skate Parks
- BMX/Mountain Bike parks/trails
- Surf lifesaving clubs

**Tourism infrastructure**

- Convention or trade centres
- Memorial halls/walkways
- Tourism information centres
- Local infrastructure to support or provide access to tourist facilities
- Community public attractions
- Buildings for exhibits

**Children, youth and seniors facilities**

- Playgroup centres
- Youth centres
- Scout/guide halls
- Senior citizens' centres

**Access facilities**

- Disabled access infrastructure
- Footbridges
- Bus/rail terminal upgrade
- Jetties/wharves/piers/pontoons
- Foreshore development
- Boat ramps

**Environmental Initiatives**

- Water source and treatment
- Drain and sewerage upgrades
- Water conservation infrastructure
- Waste management and processing infrastructure
- Wastewater infrastructure
- Water recycling plants
- Water catchments
- Recycling plants