

ITEM 5 WOLLONGONG HERITAGE GRANT FUND ALLOCATION 2018-2019 AND 2017-2018

This report provides an update on the allocation of \$36,500 to nine projects through the Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund for the 2018-2019 financial year. The allocation of funding has been finalised under delegation in accordance with the Wollongong City Council's Financial Assistance Policy, and is reported for Council's information as required by this Policy. This report also provides Council with a brief summary of the completed projects which were supported under the 2017-2018 grant program for Council's information.

RECOMMENDATION

The allocation of the Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund for the 2018-2019 Financial Year be noted, which has been finalised in accordance with Council's Financial Assistance Policy under delegation as detailed in Attachment 1.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: David Green, Manager Environmental Strategy and Planning (Acting)
Authorised by: Mark Riordan, Director Planning and Environment - Future City and Neighbourhoods (Acting)

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 2018-2019 Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund Project Summary and Funding Allocation
- 2 2017-2018 Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund Summary of Completed Projects

BACKGROUND

Council's Financial Assistance Policy provides for the Wollongong Local Heritage Grant Fund. This Council funded program is aimed at supporting owners of heritage items in maintaining and conserving their properties. Council allocates \$30,000 annually to support the local Heritage Fund. Council has also been successful in obtaining an additional \$6,500 in funding to support Council's contribution through the NSW Heritage Grant Fund for the last two financial years. Applications for Heritage funding are invited annually and assessed in accordance with the requirements of Council's Financial Assistance Policy. The program provides a meaningful incentive for heritage owners to undertake maintenance and conservation works to their heritage properties. The fund has been operating for over 20 years and has supported many worthwhile projects.

PROPOSAL

2018-2019 Financial Year Summary

The 2018-2019 program was advertised from February to April 2018 along with Council's other Financial Assistance Programs, and applications were accepted up until the end of June 2018. Letters were also sent to the owners of heritage items inviting applications for financial support toward planned conservation works. A total of nine applications were received. A summary of all applications received, including the allocation of funding, is provided as Attachment 1 to this report.

Council was able to support all applications this financial year with the total grant allocation of \$36,500 and overall project value exceeding \$150,000. Funding agreements have now been finalised and some conservation projects have commenced. Others will continue to be finalised throughout the 2018-19 financial year, with project completion due for all projects by the end of June 2019.

2017-2018 Financial Year Summary

The 2017-2018 local heritage grant program was finalised in June 2018. Council supported 10 projects and all works were completed and grants acquitted prior to 30 June 2018. A total of \$37,500 was expended by Council, supporting projects with a combined total project value of over \$260,000. Details of supported projects and works are provided in Attachment 2 to this report for Council’s information.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2028 goal “*We recognise and celebrate our heritage*”. It specifically delivers on the following:

| Community Strategic Plan | Delivery Program 2018-2021 | Operational Plan 2018-19 |
|---|---|---|
| Strategy | 3 Year Action | Operational Plan Actions |
| 1.4.1 Programs and projects that achieve proactive heritage management, education and promotion are developed and implemented | 1.4.1.1 Work in partnership with others to promote a diverse range of heritage education and promotion programs | 1 Continue to deliver the Heritage Assistance Grant Program |

RISK ASSESSMENT

The provision of funding to support eligible heritage conservation projects in accordance with Council’s Financial Assistance Policy presents minimal risk to Council, particularly given that payments are only made as a reimbursement of expenses following the satisfactory completion of eligible projects.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council’s \$30,000 expenditure is being supplemented by a NSW Heritage Grant allocation of \$6,500, meaning that the allocation of funding as proposed is in accordance with available budget allocations. The proposed expenditure for the 2017-2018 financial year is anticipated to support works valued at over \$150,000 in value meaning that Council’s investment is resulting in significant flow on expenditure on positive conservation works and outcomes.

CONCLUSION

Council’s Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund continues to provide a meaningful contribution to heritage owners in providing financial support and assistance in the completion of conservation works. Council’s investment is being supplemented by State Government funding and is supporting and resulting in significant flow on expenditure on Heritage conservation projects throughout the LGA. It is recommended that the allocation of expenditure for the 2018-2019 financial year and the completed projects for the 2017-2018 financial year be noted.

2018-2019 Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund Project Summary and Funding Allocation

| Project No | Project Name | Project Description | Funding Allocation | Project Value |
|--------------|---|--|--------------------|------------------|
| 9 | 87 Crown Street, Wollongong | Structural verandah repairs including damaged and rotting timbers, repairs to cast iron balustrade, and painting of new work | \$10,000 | \$100,000 |
| 8 | 135 Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla | Engage Weir Consulting to prepare a Heritage Conservation Strategy for former Mine Workers Club. | \$1,500 | \$3,000 |
| 6 | Hillcrest House, 1a Railway Crescent, Stanwell Park | Repairs to roof, gutters and overflow, repair of structural cracks to masonry walls. | \$9,660 | \$19,328 |
| 2 | 1 Station Street, Dapto | Replace leaking corrugated iron roof like for like. | \$7,950 | \$15,900 |
| 5 | 87 Gladstone Avenue, Wollongong | Repairs to damaged and rotten weatherboards and painting of exterior of house. | \$1,830 | \$3660 |
| 4 | "Innes Fallen", 13 Kembla Street, Wollongong | Repairs and painting of front fence and gate, repair gable, repair and paint windows. | \$1,980 | \$3,960 |
| 7 | Berkeley Cemetery, Unanderra | Conservation work to four historic graves. | \$1,080 | \$2,200 |
| 3 | Hillside Farm, 295 Sheaffes Road, Dombarton | Maintenance of exterior paintwork. | \$2,000 | \$4,050 |
| 1 | Iona, 222 Princes Highway, Dapto | Replace rusted guttering to prevent leaks. | \$500 | \$1,090 |
| TOTAL | | | \$36,500 | \$153,188 |

2017-2018 Wollongong Heritage Grant Fund Summary of Completed Projects

| Project No | Project Name | Project Description | Funding Paid | Project Value |
|------------|--|--|-----------------|------------------|
| 1 | 78 Campbell Street, Woonona | Repointing of western side sandstone wall and repairs to existing window. | \$2,000 | \$4,607 |
| 2 | 117 Corrimal Street, Wollongong | Repairs to gutter and downpipes to prevent leaks. | \$1,700 | \$6,971 |
| 3 | Episcopalian Church of St Luke, 35-37 Prince Edward Drive, Brownsville | Engage qualified Engineer and architect to assess structural integrity of Church Hall to make conservation recommendations for future works. | \$1,000 | \$3,000 |
| 4 | 54 Atchison Street, Wollongong | Maintenance and painting of cedar windows and doors. | \$2,000 | \$5,214 |
| 5 | 231 Princes Highway, Bulli | Remove unsympathetic paintwork and reinstate original detail to front porch area. | \$850 | \$2,518 |
| 6 | 35 Station Road, Otford | Structural repairs to front timber deck, repairs to exterior weatherboards, windows and door frames and maintenance of exterior paintwork. | \$6,500 | \$30,430 |
| 7 | "Keera Vale", 30 Bukari Street, West Wollongong | Support for ongoing major conservation project - Structural repairs to brickwork and work to support reinstatement of original verandas to prevent further water damage. | \$10,000 | \$138,845 |
| 8 | 31 Foley Street, Gwynneville | Repair of downpipes and guttering to prevent leak and structural repairs to veranda roof supports. | \$5,000 | \$10,164 |
| 9 | 227 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul | Repair of damaged weatherboards and maintenance of exterior paintwork. | \$6,500 | \$61,161 |
| 10 | Mount Keira Scout Camp, Mount Keira Road, Mount Keira | Repair and restoration of stone walls to the camp fire amphitheatre. | \$1,950 | \$3,980 |
| | | TOTAL | \$37,500 | \$266,890 |