

Report to the Future Melbourne Committee

Agenda item 6.7

Funding Support Requests March 2023

21 March 2023

Presenter: Katrina McKenzie, General Manager City Economy and Activation

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to fund requests for support from the discretionary fund.
2. In July 2013, the Future Melbourne Committee considered the process for funding items of a discretionary nature and resolved that, from 31 July 2013, only the following items would be considered:
 - 2.1. Those items that are received with a lead time of greater than 90 days to the date of the event (except for table sponsorships).
 - 2.2. Those items ineligible for funding from existing programs.
3. A recent request for funding (refer Attachment 2) is outside the normal events and grants programs. In summary, it is to seek sponsorship of the National Child and Youth Homelessness Conference 2023 at Marvel Stadium on 5 – 6 June 2023 to the value of \$25,000 plus GST.

Key issues

4. Management's comments on the merits or otherwise, of the funding requests have been included in Attachment 3.

Recommendation from management

5. That the Future Melbourne Committee approves the sponsorship of the National Child and Youth Homelessness Conference 2023 at Marvel Stadium on 5 – 6 June 2023 to the value of \$25,000 plus GST.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 2 of 4)
2. Funding Support Requests (Page 3 of 4)
3. Outline of Funding Support Requests (Page 4 of 4)

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. No direct legal issues arise from the recommendation from management

Finance

2. The funding requests will, if approved, be paid from Council's 2022–23 Budget, which includes discretionary funding of \$150,000 for various items as follows:
 - 2.1. Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via cash sponsorships.
 - 2.2. Council support of same via use of the Melbourne Town Hall venue.
 - 2.3. Council support of same via purchase of table sponsorships.
3. If Council approves the recommendation as listed in this report, the effect on the 2022–23 discretionary budget would be as follows:

	2022-23 Annual budget	Year to Date committed expenditure	Recommended funding in this report	Remaining funds if recommendations approved
Summary of requests	\$150,000	\$25,188	\$25,000	\$99,812

Conflict of interest

4. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a material or general conflict of interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Health and Safety

5. In developing this proposal, no Occupational Health and Safety issues or opportunities have been identified.

Stakeholder consultation

6. No external consultation has been undertaken.

Relation to Council policy

7. The report is consistent with overall strategies contained in the Council Plan.

Environmental sustainability

8. There is no significant impact on environmental sustainability.

Table 1: FUNDING SUPPORT REQUESTS

Criteria	Sponsorship of the National Child and Youth Homelessness Conference 2023 at Marvel Stadium on 5 – 6 June 2023 to the value of \$25,000 plus GST.
<i>Date Funding Support Request received</i>	8 February 2023
<i>Could applicant have submitted their request as part of a grant application process or is it eligible under a grant process?</i>	No
<i>Is Management supportive of request for funding?</i>	Yes
<i>Is there significant support from one or more of the Councillors, in particular if it relates to their portfolio or if it supports a Council goal?</i>	Yes
<i>Amount of Fee waiver or Funding requested</i>	\$25,000 plus GST
<i>Amount of Fee Waiver or Funding recommended</i>	\$25,000 plus GST
<i>Council/Committee Date</i>	21 March 2023

Outline of Funding / Support Requests

A request has been received for the City of Melbourne to sponsorship of the National Child and Youth Homelessness Conference 2023 at Marvel Stadium on 5 – 6 June 2023 to the value of \$25,000 plus GST.

The National Youth Homelessness Conference has been held twice in 2019 and 2021. This time its focus has been expanded to include all children and young people aged 0-24 years. For many years now the experience and needs of this cohort has been ignored despite it representing 48 per cent of the homeless population.

Ending homelessness is a priority for the City of Melbourne. Efforts to prevent and help end homelessness involves working across the entire housing spectrum to help people who are rough sleeping to move into short-term, supported housing while increasing long-term affordable rental housing and affordable housing.

The National Youth Homelessness Conference held in June 2021 identified that the current system is fragmented, designed for adults and doesn't provide stability for young people who have no home and nowhere else to turn, and who have experienced significant trauma in their childhoods, such as family breakdown or abuse. The need for developing a child and youth-specific homelessness plan is compelling – young people experiencing homelessness are quite distinct to adults experiencing homelessness. Children and young people are a significant group experiencing homelessness in Australia. Compared to older cohorts, young people have distinctive pathways into, and experiences of homelessness. To effectively meet the needs of young people a youth-specific homelessness strategy is required. It's time for a national plan to address child and youth homelessness. This is the theme and focus of the conference to be held in June 2023 in Melbourne.

Sponsorship benefits to the level of \$25,000 will be negotiated.

Further information about the organisation can be found on the [National Children and Youth Homelessness Conference, Melbourne, June 2023](#) website.

Management Recommendation

Management is supportive of the sponsorship of the National Child and Youth Homelessness Conference 2023 at Marvel Stadium on 5 – 6 June 2023 to the value of \$25,000 plus GST.