

**Report to the Future Melbourne (Finance and Governance)
Committee**

Agenda item 6.7

Allocation of the Discretionary Fund: First Quarter 2013–14

19 November 2013

Presenter: Martin Cutter, Director City Business

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Future Melbourne Committee of the projects supported through the allocation of discretionary funding for the first quarter of the 2013–14 financial year in accordance with Future Melbourne Committee requirements.
2. On 13 May 2008 the former Finance and Governance Committee endorsed a set of guidelines for management to follow in responding to external funding requests and opportunities for Council participation which fall outside of a current year's funded programs. The guidelines required that any funding for a request or opportunity between \$10,000 and \$25,000 is advised to Councillors via a briefing note and that subject to no Councillor requesting referral to the then Finance and Governance Committee or to Council within seven days of being informed of the request, the request or opportunity would be approved. It also requested a quarterly report be provided to Council on the projects supported as well as associated funding.
3. In addition to the above process, following Councillor discussion in 2010, Management has been requested to bring all discretionary funding requests, regardless of financial amount, through a formal Committee reporting process.

Key issues

4. Total discretionary funding allocated during the first quarter of the 2013–14 financial year was \$100,506. The individual items funded are listed in Attachment 2.
5. This funding has been met within an existing 2013–14 budget allocation of \$300,000 held within the City Business Division comprising:
 - 5.1. \$200,000 for Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via cash sponsorships (year to date allocation \$59,331, unexpended funds \$140,669).
 - 5.2. \$70,000 for Council support of the same via use of the Melbourne Town Hall venue (year to date allocation \$35,159, unexpended funds \$34,841).
 - 5.3. \$30,000 for Council support of the same via purchase of table sponsorships (year to date allocation \$6,016, unexpended funds \$23,984).
6. As at the end of the first quarter, unexpended funds in the total \$300,000 budget for 2013–14 were \$199,494

Recommendation from management

7. That the Future Melbourne Committee receives the report on the allocation of discretionary funds for the first quarter of the 2013–14 financial year.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation from management.

Finance

2. The financial implications are contained in the body of the report.

Conflict of interest

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

Stakeholder consultation

3. Stakeholder consultation has not been undertaken in the formulation of this report.

Relation to Council policy

4. The City of Melbourne has a number of formal funding programs that have been established to meet Council policy objectives within the Council Plan. Current grants programs include support for arts and culture, events, small business and export, sport and recreation and community services. Discretionary funds are allocated from time to time to requests made outside of the normal funding program planning and funding cycles, subject to meeting the criteria established via Future Melbourne Committee resolution on 9 July 2013. This criteria states that requests for discretionary funding will only be considered if:
 - 4.1. They are received with a lead time of greater than 90 days to the date of the event (with the exception of table sponsorships).
 - 4.2. They would be ineligible for funding from existing programs.

Environmental sustainability

5. There is no significant impact on environmental sustainability arising from or related to the recommendation in this report.

List Of Distributed Funds**Table 1: Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via cash sponsorships**

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
Sponsorship of play 'The Greatest is Love'	Rotary Club of Central Melbourne Sunrise	20 October 2013	\$5,000	Approved by Council, 30 July 2013
Sponsorship of The Age Music Victoria Awards	Music Victoria	20 November 2013	\$5,000	Approved by Council, 30 July 2013
Sponsorship of "Music, Melbourne & Me" free exhibition celebrating 40 years of Mushroom and Melbourne's Popular Music Culture	Mushroom Marketing Pty Ltd	19 November 2013 to 3 March 2014	\$10,000	Approved by Council, 30 July 2013
Sponsorship of Corpus Medicorum 2014 visit to St Petersburg	Royal Melbourne Hospital Foundation	To be confirmed	\$23,000	Approved by Council, 30 July 2013
Sponsorship of the Australian Somali Football Association (Unite Football Club) elite football tour to Brazil in 2013	Australian Somali Football Association	13 to 28 August 2013	\$6,000	Approved by Council, 30 July 2013
Sponsorship of the Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance Fair Food Documentary	Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance	N/A	\$2,000	Approved by Council, 24 September 2013
Contribution to the costs of the "White Night" event: Street cleaning/rubbish collection.	Victorian Major Events Company	19 to 24 February 2014	\$17,331	Approved by Council, 24 September 2013

Sub-total: **\$68,331**

Adjustments: (1) Payment of funding awarded to Urban Reforestation in prior financial year did not eventuate due to changes in the applicants' circumstances. The expected liability was therefore not realised. Councillor Briefing Note issued originally in 2011. **-\$9,000**

TOTAL: **\$59,331**

Table 2: Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via use of the Melbourne Town Hall venue

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
Australian Red Cross Centenary 2014 - Lecture	Australian Red Cross	1 March 2014	\$11,271	Approved by Council, 30 July 2013
Donation of a function for four people (plus the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress) in the Melbourne Town Hall to be used as a silent auction item for the Breast Cancer Network Australia's Pink Lady Luncheon	Breast Cancer Network Australia	To be confirmed	\$1,210	Approved by Council, 27 August 2013
Function at the Melbourne Town Hall for the 50th Anniversary celebration for the Australian Local Government Women's Association	Australian Local Government Women's Association	To be confirmed	\$3,298	Approved by Council, 27 August 2013
Reception to farewell the Special Olympic athletes to the Asia Pacific Games and launch the Special Olympics National Games 2014	Special Olympics Victoria	To be confirmed	\$3,791	Approved by Council, 24 September 2013
Contribution to the costs of the "White Night" event: use of Melbourne Town Hall	Victorian Major Events Company	19 to 24 February 2014	\$15,978	Approved by Council, 24 September 2013

Sub-total: **\$35,548**

Adjustments: Minor amendments required to ensure correct tax treatment: (1) Residents 3000 function. **-\$389**

TOTAL: **\$35,159**

Table 3: Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via purchase of table sponsorships

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
Table sponsorship: the MSO 'Symphony Banquet'	Melbourne Symphony Orchestra	8 August 2013	\$5,000	Approved by Future Melbourne Committee, 9 July 2013
Table sponsorship: the Lord Mayor's Melbourne Day Oration luncheon	Melbourne Business Network	29 August 2013	\$1,002	Approved by Council, 30 July 2013
Sub-total:			\$6,002	
Adjustments: Minor amendments required to ensure correct tax treatment: (1) 2013 Hong Kong Australia Business Association (HKABA) Victoria Chapter function; (2) Scope 'See Me' Ball.			\$14	
TOTAL:			\$6,016	
GRAND TOTAL - DISTRIBUTED FUNDS:			\$100,506	

Other Support**Table 4: Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, approved under this program via waiving of fees**

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
Waiving of fees for hire of public space (\$38,484) and hire of banner display space (\$44,272) for the "White Night" event	Victorian Major Events Company	19 to 24 February 2014	\$82,756	Approved by Council, 24 September 2013
Waiving of fees for hire of banner display space for Melbourne Museum's 'Designing 007: Fifty Years of Bond Style' exhibition.	Melbourne Museum	1 November 2013 to 23 February 2014	\$30,000	Approved by Council, 24 September 2013
Sub-total:			\$112,756	
Adjustments: Minor amendments:			\$0	
TOTAL WAIVED FEES:			\$112,756	