

Primary Production Incentive Grants – Terms of Reference

Background

When Council introduced the current Primary Production Rebate scheme on 25 June 2013 it resolved to establish a Revitalisation Fund for Primary Production Land (the Fund), the terms of which are set by Council in consultation with the Rural Land Management Advisory Group (RLMAG) and various primary producers within the region.

Council undertook consultation in November 2013, and on 10 December 2013 it considered the consultation results before it resolved to proceed with the Fund and *“to set the terms of the fund in consultation with the RLMAG”*. This document sets out those terms and details to guide potential grant applicants seeking funding.

Guiding Principles

The RLMAG has established the following guiding principles for the Revitalisation Fund for Primary Production activities. The proposed project or service seeking a grant should:

- 1 be likely to provide a notable benefit to primary producers in the district as a whole
- 2 be adoptable by other local primary producers
- 3 promote or showcase produce from the district
- 4 improve the economic and environmental impact and sustainability of the District or Industry

Eligible Applicants

Applications will only be considered from organisations or individuals operating in the primary production sector within the Adelaide Hills Council area, or those which provide a significant benefit to Adelaide Hills primary producers.

Further, applicants should have an ABN and should not have received funding in the previous years' Grant scheme, or have received other Council grants in the preceding financial year.

Matched Grant Details

A funding pool of \$20,000 (subject to indexation with Council Rates) is allocated each financial year, at Council's discretion, for Matched Funding Grants.

One grant round will be advertised each year, normally in conjunction with other Council grant programmes. Requests for grant funding will be considered against the following several criteria:

- The support for the project or initiative as identified in Council's Strategic Management Plan;
- The compliance of the project or initiative with these Terms of Reference;
- The economic and environmental impact and sustainability of the project or initiative;
- The extent of the benefit to the primary production sector from the project (either the number of Adelaide Hills producers or the range of activities to benefit);

- Level of support required from Council in relation to the overall project cost, normally up to 50%) to a maximum of \$10,000);
- The extent of any ongoing Council support required from undertaking the project;
- The likelihood of the project not being undertaken if Council did not fund it;
- The extent to which the project or initiative duplicates existing technology; and
- The extent to which the project or initiative is the responsibility of other organizations or tiers of Government.

Eligible Projects and Initiatives

The Fund is intended to encourage specific projects or initiatives which subsidise training and installation for emerging technologies on primary production land. It has its origins in an incentive to keep primary production land use properties in operation, and hence to preserve the Adelaide Hills District as a vital supplier of food, fibre and wine to local and wider markets.

All grant submissions will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Ability to add value and improve farm/business viability;
- Ability to reinforce local primary production against local and international threats;
- Introduction of new and innovative technologies to the primary production sector;
- Provision of training in new and innovative technologies and techniques; and
- Any other features consistent with the aims and objectives of the Fund.

Further, the project:

- must be based within the Adelaide Hills Council area and directly benefit the District's primary production sector;
- must outline a clearly stated purpose and a clear plan for achieving this purpose;
- must comply with relevant Federal, State or Local Government regulations or guidelines; and
- must demonstrate that all necessary approvals have been obtained and that the applicant has paid for any costs associated with that approval.

Which Projects will receive priority for the Allocation of Grants?

Projects will be assessed on their merits. Priority will be given to projects or initiatives that:

- support distribution or installation of emerging technologies on primary production land;
- demonstrate significant benefits either in the short or long term to the primary production sector, related organisation or individual farmer or farm(s);
- provides an innovative solution to a known problem or attempts to meet an unmet need within the primary production sector; or
- demonstrate a potential level of collaboration or joint venture partnership with other related organisations or adjoining property owners.

Conditions of Funding

The successful applicant will be required to sign Section E, “**Declaration & Undertaking by Applicant**” in the Application Form and agree to the following:

- The matched funds provided must be used for the approved project.
- Any changes to the project that would result in funding being expended other than as detailed in the application, may not be undertaken without prior written approval of Council.
- The Adelaide Hills Council logo shall be used on all printed material relating to the funded project and an appropriate acknowledgment of Council’s funding must be given by the recipient in all promotional material and reports of the project available to the public.
- Applicants submitting capital projects will be required to submit independent quotes prior to the approval of funding.
- Large projects, with associated substantial funding amounts, will require staged milestone reporting prior to the issuance of the successive payments.
- At the completion of the project a written assessment, including expenditure statement of grant funding and a presentation must be made to Council’s Rural Land Management Advisory Group (RLMAG). This could be in the form of a site visit if relevant to the project. It is expected that groups will comply with this condition within 3 months of completion of the grant period (12 months). Failure to do so may jeopardise future applications for funding.

Costs not funded under the Primary Production Incentive Grant

- Money already spent prior to the Grant application;
- Payment of salaries or wages;
- Purchase of land; and
- Requests for projects that have already commenced or have been completed.

Application Procedure

All applications should be on the Primary Production Incentive Grant application form which is available from Council Offices located at 63 Mt Barker Road Stirling, 24 Onkaparinga Valley Road Woodside, or 45 Albert Street Gumeracha. The application form and guidelines can be downloaded in PDF format from the Adelaide Hills Council website www.ahc.sa.gov.au. Applications must be received on or before the stipulated closing date. No late applications will be considered.

Applications must include a detailed spreadsheet of funding and use of funds.

Applicants may indicate that they wish to make a personal presentation to the assessing committee, especially if they do not have the technical skills or equipment to complete the application form.

If you have any further queries in this regard, then please do not hesitate to contact Mike Flehr, Senior Strategic & Policy Officer on 8408-0503 or email: mail@ahc.sa.gov.au.