

8.1 NOTICE OF MOTION- COUNCIL'S DISCRETIONARY EXPENDITURE FUND APPLICATION - APRIL 2026

Submitting Councillor:	The Mayor, Cr Stuart James
Responsible Director:	Simone Wickes, Director Corporate Services.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to approve the following two (2) applications for funding from the Council's Discretionary Expenditure Fund in accordance with the guidelines.

APPLICANT	PURPOSE	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Priya Bowen	Seeking partial financial assistance to fund flight expenses to participate in Australian Asian Netball Association Singapore Series in Singapore.	\$300
Heroes of Today	Partial Financial assistance for Family Trivia Night to be held at Hughesdale Community Hall.	\$ 206.15 (Hall hire only)

BACKGROUND

Council, in its 2025/2026 budget, provided an amount of \$22,000 for the purposes of supporting instances of community/individual need that were not readily able to be considered under the Community Grants Program or other funding programs.

DISCUSSION

Council received two (2) applications for support for April 2026. Following Councillors' consideration of the applications, both applications have been recommended for funding.

CONCLUSION

That Council approve the applications recommended for funding, as set out in the in this report.

ATTACHMENT LIST

1. Officers Commentary - Discretionary Fund Application - Priya Bowen [8.1.1 - 1 page]
2. Officers Commentary - Discretionary Fund Application - Heroes of Today [8.1.2 - 1 page]

Council's Discretionary Expenditure Fund Request
Council Meeting 28 April 2026
Council Officer Commentary

Requesting Organisation/Individual Priya Bowen	EDNA Reference D26-126128	
Description of the applicant: Seeking partial financial assistance to fund flight expenses to participate in Australian Asian Netball Association Singapore Series in Singapore.		
Amount Requested: \$ 1000		
Previous Council's Discretionary Fund History (if applicable):		
Description (eg Hall hire, sporting, events etc)	Year	Amount Allocated
N/A	N/A	N/A
Governance Checklist	Yes	No
Does the activity clearly target City of Monash residents and provide a direct service/function to local groups or individuals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does this applicant have a connection to Monash?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this applicant granted funding this financial year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has this applicant indicated that they align with Gambling Harm Policy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If Incorporation Association- is evidence enclosed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is hiring cost for Council-owned or managed facilities? (Hire funding only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Department checklist		
Has this applicant applied for any other grants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is this applicant eligible for any other fundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Comments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding of \$1,100 is being sought to attend/participate in a sporting competition being held in Singapore. Use of the funding will go towards the individual's costs.		
Individual grants are not supported through the community grants program. Officers do not support the use of funding to offset the costs incurred by individuals outside of funding guidelines. Netball Victoria can sometimes contribute to travel-related expenses on a hardship or needs basis.		

Council's Discretionary Expenditure Fund Request
Council Meeting 28 April 2025
Council Officer Commentary

Requesting Organisation/Individual Heroes of Today	EDNA Reference D26-122327	
Description of the applicant: Partial Financial assistance for Family Trivia Night to be held at Hughesdale Community Hall.		
Amount Requested: \$ 1000		
Previous Council's Discretionary Fund History (if applicable):		
Description (eg Hall hire, sporting, events etc)	Year	Amount Allocated
N/A	N/A	N/A
Governance Checklist	Yes	No
Does the activity clearly target City of Monash residents and provide a direct service/function to local groups or individuals?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does this applicant have a connection to Monash?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this applicant granted funding this financial year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has this applicant indicated that they align with Gambling Harm Policy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If Incorporation Association- is evidence enclosed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is hiring cost for Council-owned or managed facilities? (Hire funding only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Department checklist		
Has this applicant applied for any other grants?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is this applicant eligible for any other fundings?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Comments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low cost social connection opportunities have been identified as a priority by community through consultation. This group has applied for funding for other programs in the 2026/27 MCGPP. This is a new group to Monash, and newly registered (they have no current cash holdings so this event could not go ahead without some funding). All funding requests except for prizes and volunteer payment would be eligible under the MCGPP were they to apply in the future or under QRG. Officers are supportive of this project.		