

# Warringah Council Policy

## Policy No. PL 420 SUBSIDY

### Community Rental Subsidy Policy

#### 1. Purpose of Policy

To provide Council and the community with a framework for the equitable, efficient and effective utilisation of its community facilities and assets.

#### 2. Principles

Council owns or has equity in a number of community facilities and assets which are leased and/or licensed to a range of community groups and not for profit organisations. These include surf club buildings, child care centres, sporting buildings and community centres.

Council provides rights of use to community facilities and assets in a way that optimises the use of the asset and the benefit to the greater community.

The Community Rental Subsidy Policy is guided by the following principles:

- Encourage optimal use of community facilities and assets to cater for a range of community and recreation groups
- Clearly communicate Council's intentions in relation to management, utilisation and cost recovery of community facilities and assets
- Provide transparency of subsidy which the Council will report on for each asset on an annual basis
- Recognise the social value and benefits of services and activities organised and provided by community based groups and to subsidise these groups based on community based policy. (e.g. where it aligns with Council's strategic goals and objectives).
- Determine the most appropriate occupancy arrangement for each facility or asset
- Fulfill the requirements of State Government and Council policies in relation to provision of facilities and assets on Community land, Crown public recreation reserves and open space and legislation
- Obtain a contribution from user groups for the costs of providing facilities, services and assets
- Recognise the full extent of the Council subsidy each Community group receives

#### 3. Implementation

This policy will be implemented utilising the Operational Management Standard - Community Rental Subsidy (OMS) which details the types of agreements for the use of Community Facilities and Assets. The OMS describes the obligations of all parties and recognises the benefit each group gives to the residents of Warringah through a matrix which will provide for up to 97.5% rental subsidy.

The results of the implementation will be reported annually.

#### 4. Authorisation

This Policy was adopted by Council on 24 June 2014.

It is effective from 24 June 2014.

It is due for review on 24 June 2018.

#### 5. Amendments

Nil

#### 6. Who is responsible for implementing this Policy?

Group Managers, Buildings, Property and Spatial Information; Parks Reserves and Foreshores; Community Services

#### 7. Document owner

Deputy General Manager Community

#### 8. Related Council Policies and OMS

- a) Interim Policy on the Management of the Commercial Use of Beaches, Reserves and Buildings/Facilities in Warringah CCS-PL 612
- b) Tennis courts under Council control: GOV-PL 882 ,
- c) Golf courses under Council's control: GOV-PL 883
- d) Community Gardens: PL 770
- e) Guaranteeing and or Providing Loans to Community Organisations FIN-PL 730 I)
- f) Grants and Sponsorship PL 011 Grants
- g) Pricing Policy: PL 720
- h) Competitive Neutrality Statements Policy– STR-PL-720

#### 9. Definitions

**Community facilities and assets:** means Council owned buildings / facilities and assets and their immediate surrounds (excludes sports grounds, parks and other open spaces) which are used by community based not-for-profit groups to provide and / or organise recreational, cultural, sporting and community service activities, whether they be land and / or structures which are permanent, semi-permanent or temporary

They are often, but not always, situated on Council Land and/or public open space or Crown Land for which Council has long term management responsibility.

Examples include community centres, sports facilities, club rooms, surf club buildings, storage sheds and maintenance sheds etc.

**Subsidy-** a benefit whether tangible or intangible which a group is receiving from Warringah Council in support of the group