

Only councils are eligible to submit an application for funding under the Stronger Country Communities Fund. There is an expectation that councils will work consultatively with community and sporting groups to identify and apply for projects that meet community needs and have strong community support.

Non-council applicants are encouraged to read the program guidelines available at nsw.gov.au/strongercountrycommunities and approach their local council early in the application period to discuss any potential projects.

What information needs to be provided to councils?

In order to apply on your behalf, council must be provided with the information necessary to understand all the project elements and complete the online application form.

It is important that organisations have copies of substantiating documentation ready to provide to council so the request can be properly considered, and as much time as possible is allowed for an application to be submitted.

At a minimum, your organisation should provide council:

 the project title, description, location and proposed scope of works

- information that demonstrates the project meets the eligibility requirements of the fund guidelines
- a detailed project budget, set out in the template provided at nsw.gov.au/ strongercountrycommunities
- a detailed project plan set out in the template provided at nsw.gov.au/ strongercountrycommunities
- at least one quote (from a tradesperson or qualified contractor) or detailed estimate (from a quantity surveyor or other suitably qualified person) for each component of the project
- information on how the project will help boost the livability of the local community
- evidence on how the project will meet a community need, including who and how many people within the community will benefit from the project
- information on how the project will be operated and/or maintained after it is completed
- a letter of support from the relevant NSW state/ national sporting organisation if a sports related project is seeking more than \$1 million in grant funding.



What if the council will not agree to submit your project?

Council will set their own cut-off date by when information must be submitted to them. There is no guarantee your local council will agree to submit your project, even if the above information has been collected and provided.

If you have prepared and provided all the information above and council have indicated the project will not be submitted, you can request to have your project independently reviewed. A review will take place using the following approach:

Email

sccf.enquiries@dpc.nsw.gov.au for a Review Request Form



Return Review Request Form AND all project information back to sccf.enquiries@dpc.nsw.gov.au





Review panel consults with councils or Members of Parliament about project merits and level of community support



Review Panel convened to consider council circumstances and project details against pre-determined criteria



Panel makes a recommendation on project application



Council may be asked to reconsider submitting the project or an alternative outcome negotiated