

Environmental Partnerships Program Application 2026

Form Preview

Welcome

Environmental Partnerships Program

In Bass Coast, environment groups, community groups, businesses, households, and Council have already taken steps to reduce emissions and prepare to meet the challenges of a changing climate. We have a strong foundation from which to scale up our collective action to achieve the shared vision of a net zero emissions community by 2030.

The Environmental Partnerships Program builds on these strong foundations by recognising and amplifying the skills and expertise that resides in our community to address climate change and other environmental challenges facing our community.

Through the program, Council will support projects established via a partnership agreement with each collaborating community organisation clearly demonstrating their contribution to delivering key environmental priorities identified in Council's Climate Change Action Plan. The total funding pool is \$100,000 per annum and partnership agreements will run between one and three years, with review points every 12 months.

All partnership agreements under this program will comply with Bass Coast Shire Council's [Partnerships Policy](#).

Application Process

Council is seeking suitable community-based partners to help deliver priorities identified within Bass Coast's Climate Change Action Plan. All applications must demonstrate how their program contributes to the following strategic objectives. In addition, Council will consider the following matters in assessing applications:

- The program's innovation, transferability, and scalability;
- Ability to foster collaboration and involvement of external partners such as research institutions and community service providers;
- Ability to catalyse long-term outcomes for the organisation, such as stimulating volunteer engagement or establishing an ongoing service model;
- The areas of Bass Coast proposed to be serviced by the program, noting applications that propose to service a larger area of the Shire will be treated more favourably;
- Value for money.

Applicants are highly encouraged to speak with a Council officer prior to submitting their application.

Organisation Eligibility

To be eligible to for this partnership program, applicants must:

- Be registered as a not-for-profit legal entity, for example an incorporated association, registered charity, or social enterprise; or
- Be a not-for-profit unincorporated group that is auspiced by a registered not-for-profit legal entity and have at least \$10 million Public Liability Insurance to cover all aspects of the program.
- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or attach an Australian Taxation Office Statement by a Supplier form to the application.
- Have no outstanding debts to Bass Coast Shire Council.

Auspicings An unincorporated organisation must have its application auspiced by an eligible incorporated organisation. Information on the auspicings body is required in the application

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including their ABN details, copy of current public liability insurance and a completed Auspice Agreement. If the applicant is successful, the auspicing body is legally responsible for the funds and sponsorship funding is made into their bank account. Further information on auspicing can be found at [Not for Profit Law - Auspicing](#).

Exclusions The following are ineligible for funding:

- Programs based outside of Bass Coast
- Private profit-making organisations
- Programs that have already commenced, unless the funding agreement would provide an expansion of the existing program
- Staff wages exceeding \$50.00 per hour
- Applications that have not provided full financial disclosure
- Programs where Council considers the purpose is to advance an organisation's religious or partisan political position, irrespective of what those beliefs or positions might be.

Funding

A total funding pool of \$100,000 is available per year. Depending on the number and quality of responses received, Council intends to negotiate multiple partnership agreements. There is a maximum project amount of \$25,000 per year are available. Council reserves the right to offer funding amounts less than proposed in any application, based on the quality and quantity of applications received. Council wishes to support a breadth of organisations across the Shire through this program, subject to the application process.

As a partnership program, Council does not require a minimum financial contribution from applicants. However, the ability of an organisation to provide external financial and non-financial contributions (e.g., staff and other organisational resources), will be considered favourably in applications and form part of the assessment criteria.

Applications may be made by multiple organisations under one lead organisation. Council encourages collaborative approaches, and this is reflected in the assessment criteria. However, each organisation can submit only one application.

All partnership agreements established under the program will run for a maximum of two years, with review points every 12-months. The level of reporting obligations will be scaled according to the level of funding offered.

Application Process

Council is seeking applications from suitably skilled community organisations to deliver programs and projects aligned with the following actions.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the program contributes to the actions listed.

Action

Scale up nature recovery efforts and connect regional biodiversity corridors

Supporting protection and restoration of our coastal and marine environments, recognising their importance for biodiversity, community wellbeing and future generations.

Timeline

- Applications are open until 14 October 2026.

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- All proposed Partnership Agreements will be presented to Council for approval.
- Following Council-approval, all successful Partnership Agreements will be signed and funding distributed.

Application

* indicates a required field

Applicant Details

Applicant *

☐ Individual ☐ Organisation

Organisation Name

Title First Name Last Name

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Please note only registered not for profit organisations are eligible to apply.

Applicant ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity Name	
ABN Status	
Entity Type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	More information
ACNC Registration	
Tax Concessions	
Main Business Location	

Must be an ABN.

Applicant Primary Address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Applicant Primary Phone Number *

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Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Have you spoken to a Council officer? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Who did you speak to? *

Program Information

Program Title *

Short project description *

Word count:

Must be between 25 and 50 words.

Provide a short description (50 words) of the overall project

What is the main aim/focus of your program? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Describe the specific action in the Climate Change Action Plan you will address.

How do you intend to do this? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Briefly list (bullet points) the specific activities that will take place.

What will you have achieved/established/found out by the end of the program? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Describe three things you want the project to achieve.

What is the timeline for your program? *

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Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Provide a summary of the timeline, including any key milestones, and when you expect the program to be completed.

Total Amount Requested

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Provide a summary of the budget for your program. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.