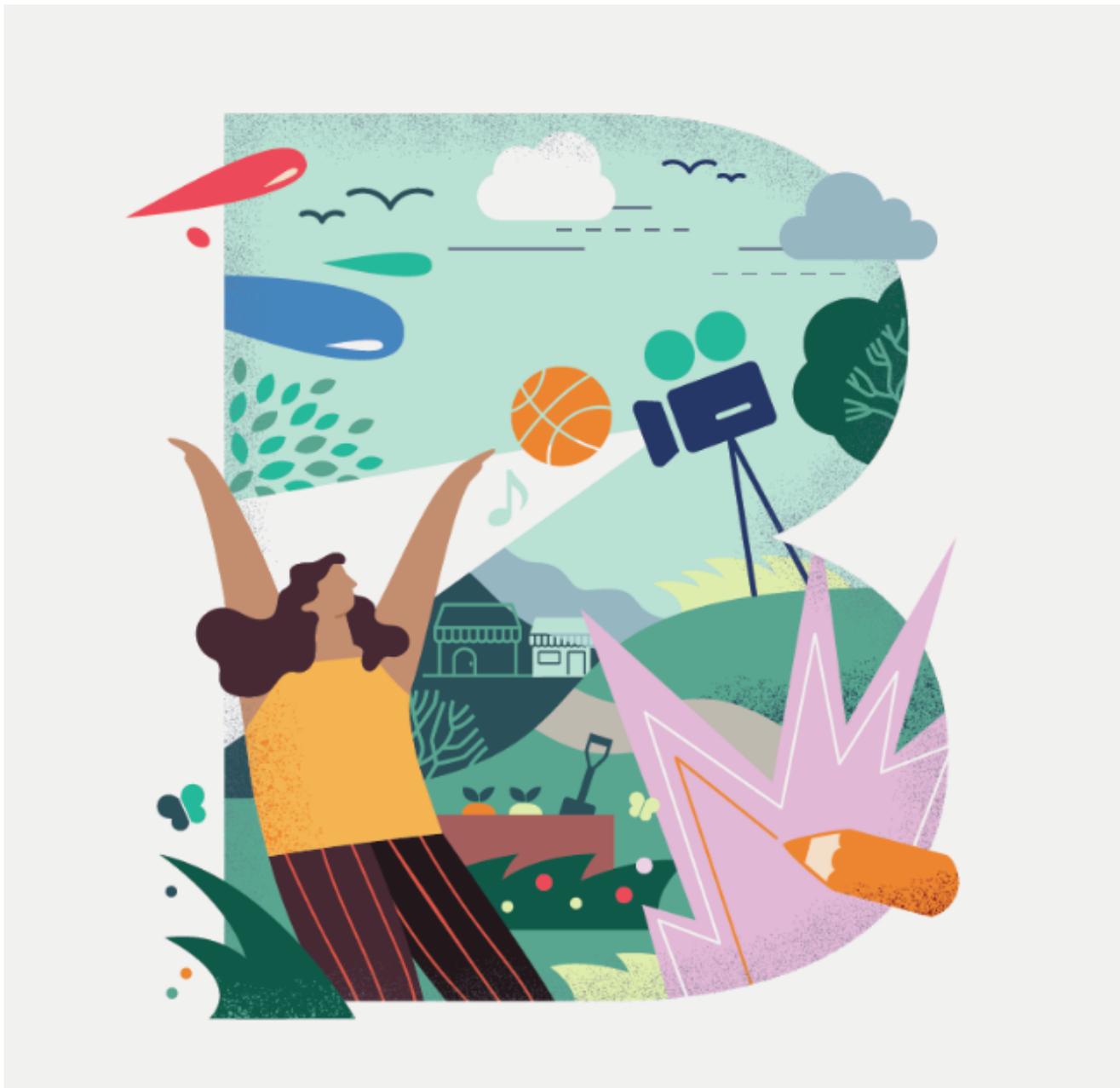


# Social Enterprise Growth Fund

FY2025-26 Social Enterprise Growth Fund – Quick Start Guide



# Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

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Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as Traditional Custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region's history.

## Diversity Statement

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Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders.

We are committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone; principles which empower, foster harmony, and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.

## Overview

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This funding round has 2 purposes:

### 1. Support for Existing Businesses

To help established Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander businesses, social enterprises, and not-for-profit organisations **scale their operations** and **increase their social, cultural, or environmental impact**.

### 2. Support for New Business Development

To assist in the creation of **new social enterprise models** or in the **expansion of emerging businesses** with a focus on delivering positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

## Acceptable Activities

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The funding available under the Social Enterprise Growth Fund is not targeted to a specific business or industry, we invite applicants to consider what will deliver the most value for money to increase their organisational goals. This could include (but is not limited to);

- Website/marketing updates or creation
- Equipment purchases or upgrades
- Consultant engagement to research or develop strategies, business/marketing plans or other materials

## Key dates

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<b>Grant round opens</b>	01/04/2026
<b>Grant round closes</b>	30/04/2026
<b>Applicants advised of outcome</b>	30/05/2026
<b>Acquittal date</b>	31/12/2026

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# Assessment Criteria

## Assessment Criteria – Existing Social Enterprise

Criteria	Description
<b>How will the project increase your capacity for business growth? (25%)</b>	How does this project achieve improvements to areas such as revenue, employment or customer growth, or other benefits.
<b>How will the project increase your social impact? (25%)</b>	How does this project relate to your social enterprise's social, environmental or cultural mission?
<b>Likelihood of project success (20%)</b>	<p>Do you, or your project partners, have the necessary capacity, experience &amp; skills to deliver this project?</p> <p>Is the project realistic within the specified timeframes</p> <p>Do you have existing networks or resources to support your project delivery.</p>
<b>Benefit to the Banyule community (30%)</b>	<p>Who are the intended beneficiaries of your project?</p> <p>How will you engage or reach these people?</p> <p>What is the identified need within the Banyule community?</p> <p>Are there any ongoing/long-term benefits to the community from your project?</p>

## Assessment Criteria – Existing Organisation Developing Social Enterprise Model

Criteria	Description
<b>How well the social, environmental or cultural mission of the proposed social enterprise is defined (25%)</b>	Who are the intended beneficiaries of your project?
<b>Enterprise viability (25%)</b>	<p>Does your business have a viable operating model?</p> <p>What market gap are you seeking to fill with your enterprise?</p>
<b>Likelihood of project success (20%)</b>	<p>Do you, or your project partners, have the necessary capacity, experience &amp; skills to deliver this project?</p> <p>Is the project realistic within the specified timeframes</p> <p>Do you have existing networks or resources to support your project delivery.</p>
<b>Benefit to the Banyule community (30%)</b>	<p>Who are the intended beneficiaries of your project?</p> <p>How will you engage or reach these people?</p> <p>What is the identified need within the Banyule community?</p> <p>Are there any ongoing/long-term benefits to the community from your project?</p>

# Application Process

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Applications for the Banyule Social Enterprise Fund Program must be made online via the SmartyGrants link <https://banyule.smartygrants.com.au/>

## Assessment and decision making

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Applications will be assessed through the following steps:

Stage	Who
Eligibility Check	Social Enterprise Lead
Officer Review & Comments	Council Officers with knowledge of the sector
Grants Panel Review	Banyule Senior Officers
Panel Recommendations	Approved under the delegation of the Director of Community Wellbeing

All parties involved in the assessment process **must declare any conflict of interest** prior to involvement in the assessment of grants.