



Albert-Eden Local Board Grants Programme 2025/2026



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The Albert-Eden Grants Programme provides contestable community grants to local communities and organisations.

Outcomes sought from our community grants programme

Our grants programme will be targeted towards supporting the following outcomes, as outlined in our local board plan:

- Our people are thriving, have a strong sense of connection to Albert Eden and celebrate our differences.
- Our changing neighbourhoods reflect our unique identity and are well designed, creating places that are great to live, work and play.
- Our natural environment is valued and cared for, people feel a connection to our local parks, awa (streams) and coast and are involved in improving for them.
- Our town centres thrive and support a varied business landscape.
- Our communities have the places and activities that enhance their lifestyles. Our community is resilient and supportive, particularly through times of change and challenge, so we can thrive.

Our priorities for community grants

We welcome grant applications that align with the following priorities:

These priorities align with our local board plan, to read more about our vision for the Albert-Eden area view our [local board plan](#) available on the Auckland Council website.

- Support local initiatives that celebrate Māori identity and culture and Te Reo Māori.
- The history, identity and character of our neighbourhoods are celebrated.
- Communities of greatest need are a focus of support.
- People live low carbon lives and know how to take climate action.
- Our parks and open space meet the needs of our changing and growing population.
- Transition our services and facilities to meet the needs of our changing community.
- Resilient communities who have strong local connections, support each other, and can tackle challenges together.
- We celebrate and value diversity, making sure everyone is included.
- The natural environment is cared for and valued.
- Town centres are hubs of business and social life.
- Albert-Eden is a vibrant and exciting destination to visit.

Higher priority

- Projects and activities that support mental health, physical health and wellbeing and promote smoke-free and healthy housing programmes.
- Projects and activities that promote sustainability, zero-waste and low-carbon messages.
- Match funding
 - We will also consider applications for match funding. Match funding is where grants are provided in exchange for the community's 'match' in volunteer labour, cash or donated goods and services up to the value of 50%. Applications will be prioritised and assessed under the same priorities as other grants.
- Applicants who have considered other sources of funding for their project.
- Projects that are inclusive and support under-represented members of the community.
- Projects/activities with Māori outcomes.

Lower priorities

We will also consider applications for other services, projects and initiatives; however, they may be considered a lower priority. We have identified the following activities as lower priorities:

- commercial entities and promotion of commercial entities
- ticketed events which have an entry fee
- activities that primarily benefit communities outside the Albert-Eden Local Board area
- activities that primarily benefit a third party (e.g., activity to gain money for an organisation)
- grants to support the purchase of, or maintenance associated with, motor vehicles
- administrative expenses, e.g., power, water, insurance, etc.
- projects and activities in schools unless one of the following can be demonstrated:
 - ❖ benefit to the wider community; or
 - ❖ a plan on how the project will be open to the wider community; or
 - ❖ environmental or climate change initiatives
- catering
- fundraising activities for a group or organisation
- gifts /prizes
- grants to support the purchase of assets and/or equipment with limited future use
- initiatives that are eligible and can be funded by the central government
- activities that promote religious ministry or political purposes/cause/objectives
- travel and accommodation unless there is strong evidence of benefit to the community

Exclusions

In addition to the eligibility criteria outlined in the [Community grants policy](#), we will not fund:

- applications towards alcohol or liquor licences.
- groups that have failed to meet accountability obligations from previous council grants, will not be funded except in exceptional circumstances.

- applicants are ineligible to apply for the Albert-Eden Local Board contestable grants if they have had one successful grant application within the current financial year (excluding the Accommodation Support Fund).
- groups requesting funding that is not within the minimum and maximum amount set.
- grants for the sole purpose of an individual.
- retrospective costs.

Please refer to the [Community grants policy](#): “Scope and eligibility” for general eligibility criteria:

- Ineligible applicants – Paragraph 78
- What we won’t fund – Paragraphs 84-86
- Lower priority – Paragraphs 87-88.

Grant schemes and funding thresholds

For 2025/2026, we will operate three contestable grant schemes to support the community grants programme:

- Local grants – for smaller and larger grant applications
- Accommodation support – for supporting community groups with their rates, lease payments and venue hire costs from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

Discretionary funding

In addition to our contestable grants schemes, we also provide discretionary grants toward strategic projects, initiatives or events that align with the priorities of our local grants programme. These grants are allocated through the local board’s work programmes and administered by the relevant departments.

Please contact the local board directly if you have any questions regarding discretionary funding.

For more information and criteria about the local grants and match funding schemes, please refer to page 34 of the [Community grants policy](#).

Grant thresholds

Grants scheme	Minimum amount per application	Maximum amount per application
Local grants	\$500	\$10,000
Neighbours Day	\$100	\$200
Accommodation support	\$2,000	\$20,000

Grant rounds

The following tables outline when funding rounds for our grants schemes throughout 2025/ 2026:

Local grants				
Grant round	Opens	Closes	Decision made	Projects to occur after
Round one	23 June 2025	1 August 2025	25 September 2025	1 October 2025
Round two	19 January 2026	27 February 2026	23 April 2026*	1 May 2026
Round three	16 March 2026	24 April 2026	25 June 2026*	1 July 2026

Accommodation grant: for accommodation costs from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027			
Grant round	Opens	Closes	Decision made
Round one	19 January 2026	20 March 2026	28 May 2026*

*** Please note that due to local board elections in October 2025 the decision date for 2026 may change**

Accountability measures

We request that all successful grant applicants and recipients of both contestable and discretionary grants provide the following:

- photos of the activity are to be provided to the local board
- invitation to the activity to be extended to the local board
- speaking opportunity for local board delegate at any event, function, project launch
- inclusion of local board logo on advertising and display of local board branding at events
- reference to local board funding in any media releases or other communication to the public.

Other community grant programme provisions

Accommodation support fund criteria

Community groups and organisations applying for our Accommodation Support fund need to consider the following criteria:

- applicants need to be a community organisation, as outlined in the Community Grants Policy.
- accommodation costs applied for are for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.
- evidence of the accommodation costs is provided.

- the organisation is not the leaseholder of an Auckland Council community lease or community occupancy agreement.
- if the applicant is requesting a grant for a venue that has an Auckland Council community lease or community occupancy agreement, the council's approval for the sublease or hireage needs to be verified by the applicant.
- the organisation is located in the local board area and primarily benefits the residents of the Albert-Eden local board area.
- the organisation has been operating for a full financial year prior to the application date.
- the organisation has provided its last full-year financial statements and/or audited accounts.