



Our Ref: 05867-05

Mr Grant Thompson
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Kojonup
PO Box 163
KOJONUP WA 6395

Dear Mr Thompson

2022/23 LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS SCHEME (LGGs) MANUAL AND OPERATING AND CAPITAL GRANTS

I write to inform you about this year's grant application process and to alert you to changes made to improve the manual and the LGGs processes.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) is committed to working with local governments to support you and your volunteer groups which provide emergency services to the community. Information regarding the 2022/23 LGGs Capital and Operating Grants and associated forms is provided in the primary email received and can also be downloaded from the DFES website except for the pre-populated LGGs Forms 3a and 3b.

Amendments to the 2022/23 LGGs Manual are summarised in the Document Control - Summary of Change section of the LGGs Manual.

Operating Grants

Operating Grant offers continue to be based on the average of your previous two years completed acquittals (which demonstrates past expenditure trends) and the current year's actual allocation, then indexed with the prevailing cost escalation factor, being one percent for 2022/23.

You have the option to accept the assessed allocation or apply for an alternative allocation. If you accept the offer, you will only need to make a submission for items between \$1,500 and \$5,000, that is, line item 9 requests using LGGs form 7 'non-recurrent expenditure justification'.

If you wish to request a different offer, please submit an application using the LGGs form 6 'Operating grant budget estimate – alternate allocation'). Justification to support the increases across line items 1-8 must be included.

Capital Grants

LGGS Form 3a Capital - Fleet

To improve the delivery timeliness of scheduled replacement fleet assets and to offset the effects of COVID-19 on global supply chains, the 2022/23 scheduled fleet replacement component of the LGGS Capital Grants process was brought forward with scheduled replacement offers provided to local governments in October 2021.

The BFS and SES Capital Grants Committees convened out of session in December 2021, endorsing the 2022/23 Replacement and Build programs. Where applicable these approvals have been reflected in the Form 3a.

To enable effective planning of the appliance and vehicle build programs, you are encouraged to consider your requirements over the 4-out-year period and adjust the program where necessary. This will enable DFES to plan fleet replacements and assess supplier capacity compared with demand. This is critical during the current global pandemic. Should you wish to make additional fleet requests for 2022/23, please complete the relevant sections of the Form 3a.

LGGS Form 3b Capital – Facilities

This form is used for capital grant requests for new facilities. Form 3b will be provided by DFES to Local Governments listing current facility records. Local Governments are required to verify the facility listings and advise their 2022/23 facility requests at the 'Alternate Program' section of Form 3b.

Please verify and update the information where required in forms 3a and 3b and include the forms with your application.

Guiding Principles for Capital Grant Considerations

Please note that in considering Capital Grant applications, the BFB and SES Capital Grants Committees (CGC) adopt the following guiding principles:

- In the first instance, all DFES offers for fleet in the 2022/23 Replacement Program will be honoured.
- New facilities will not be approved unless the land is identified and acquired or assigned.
- Priority will be given to new facilities and facility modifications:
 - that house prescribed assets that are currently in the open or housed on private property; and
 - Where a fit for purpose assessment has been undertaken and has shown the existing facility is not fit for purpose and requires either replacement or upgrading.
 -
- New and additional fleet requests will, as a general principal, be unlikely to be considered unless a risk-based assessment of capability requirements sufficiently supports the placement of additional appliances/vehicles.

Contacts should you need assistance or information

- Mr Terence Evangelista, A/LGGS Funding Officer, is available for any general queries relating to the LGGS via terence.evangelista@dfes.wa.gov.au or 9395 9846.
- Ms Natasha Dudarz, Resource Allocation Officer, is available for queries relating to appliances/vehicles and facilities via email on natasha.dudarz@dfes.wa.gov.au or 9395 9857.

Lodging your application

Applications must include signed LGGS Forms 1, 2, 3a and 3b (together with any other/alternative requests and supporting documentation) and can be emailed to peter.raykos@dfes.wa.gov.au or posted to:

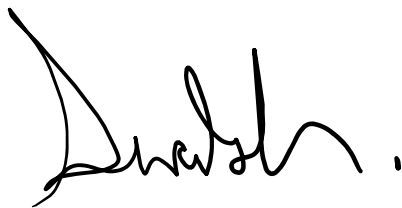
Mr Peter Raykos
Grants Funding Officer
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
PO Box P1174
PERTH WA 6844

Closing Date

2022/23 LGGS applications close at **5pm Friday, 25 March 2022**. If an application is not lodged, DFES will apply the assessed operating and capital grant for 2021/22.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the support that you and your volunteers provide to help keep our communities safe. It is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely



STUART WALSH
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

7 January 2022