

2026 COMMUNITY WELLBEING GRANT INFORMATION SHEET

Goal of the Community Wellbeing Grant

Part of Masterton District Council's purpose under the Local Government Act 2002 is to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities in the present and for the future. To support this, the Community Wellbeing Grant is available to organisations and community groups that contribute to these wellbeing's.

This grant is available to help towards the increased needs and demands on community groups and other organisations for community services. Council recognises that economic uncertainty within our community may have an additional strain on existing financial and non-financial resources of community groups and other organisations carrying out these functions for our community.

The Community Wellbeing Grant provides an avenue for organisations that would usually seek funding through Council's Annual or Long-Term Plan processes, to apply for funding.

This enables Council to consider ALL applications for funding for organisations that contribute to community wellbeing at the same time.

Applicants will need to indicate how their application aligns with the support of our community through the four wellbeing areas mentioned above.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Community Wellbeing Grant, organisations/ groups should:

- be a not-for-profit organisation or community group,
- have their project or activity based in the Masterton District or substantially benefit Masterton residents,
- be delivering a public service benefit or project that contributes to the wellbeing of Masterton district residents,
- show that they will contribute to the project costs, and they can account for the funds,
- have completed the accountability form for any previous funding from the Community Wellbeing Grant.

Eligible Projects

Community

- Providing services, benefits or projects that enhance community wellbeing
- Improving services
- Expanding or creating new programmes

Training

- For staff, community organisations/groups, volunteers, skill development, forum/seminar costs

Administration and Personnel Costs

- Rent, rates, insurance, electricity etc.
- Operational costs e.g. telephone, internet, stationery, printing etc.
- Auditing and/or financial fees
- Personnel costs e.g. staff, volunteers, coordinators etc.
- Travel within district (limited)

Minor Facility Development

- Towards upgrades for minor facility development and it can be demonstrated the project will contribute to the wellbeing of the Masterton community (or parts of it).
[Larger, more substantive facility upgrades should seek funding through the Annual Plan or Long-Term Plan processes].

Ineligible Projects/Applications

- Applications from individuals
- Applications from educational institutions
- Applications to provide/deliver social welfare or health treatment benefits to an individual.
- Debt servicing
- Payment of legal expenditure
- Funds that will be redistributed as grant funding.
- Applications from organisations / community groups that have not completed and returned an accountability form for a previous grant.
- Projects already completed are not eligible.

Funding Year

Applications to the 2026 funding year open on Wednesday, 1 July 2026 and close at 4.30pm on Friday, 31 July 2026.

How to Apply

To be considered for this grant, please complete the application form.

The application form is available on our website

<https://www.mstn.govt.nz/community/community-grants/community-wellbeing-grants> and at our office, 27 Lincoln Road, Masterton.

Information You Will Need for Your Application

- You will need to demonstrate the wellbeing area(s) that your project will contribute to. These are summarised in the table below.

Wellbeing Area	
 Social	Masterton/Whakaoriori is a positive, strong, inclusive, and self-determining community with equitable opportunities for everyone.
 Cultural	Masterton/Whakaoriori values the place and role of tangata whenua and is proud of our cultural identity and heritage.
 Environmental	Masterton/Whakaoriori has rivers we can swim in and drink from, clean air to breathe, green and blue spaces that we can enjoy and share with future generations.
 Economic	Masterton/Whakaoriori has a strong, sustainable economy that supports our people and places.

- Provide Bank verified account details (for the account to which any grant will be paid)
- Latest annual accounts and last monthly financial statement
- Relevant quotes
- A one-page report containing the following information about your project:
 - What you are going to do,
 - Why it is important to our community,
 - Whether you are working with other organisations,
 - How it will contribute to the wellbeing area indicated,
 - Who the project will benefit (including the number of people).

Submitting Your Application

Completed applications should be returned via **ONE** of the following methods:

- Emailing to mdc@mstn.govt.nz or
- Posting to PO Box 444, Masterton 5840; or
- Delivering to Waiaata House, 27 Lincoln Road, Masterton.

Your organisation may be contacted by council staff or elected members for further information if required.

For further information about this grant, please contact Deanna Elwin, Grant Administrator by email deannae@mstn.govt.nz or telephone 06 370 6300.

Please note that an incomplete form or missing supporting documentation may result in your application being returned to you.

Decision-making

There will be an Extraordinary Council meeting on 9 September where the Mayor and elected members will assess and determine outcomes for all applications to this fund.

Payment and Funding Agreement

Organisations that are GST registered, are to provide a GST tax invoice of the grant amount awarded, plus GST, issued to Masterton District Council, PO Box 444, Masterton 5840. Payment will be made on the 20th of the month following the invoice date.

Organisations that are not GST registered, will be direct credited on or from the 20 October 2026.

Accountability

Recipients of a grant must complete an accountability form and return this at the end of the completed project or by 31 May 2027 at the latest.

The form will be provided with the outcome email should you be successful for funding or is available on our Funding and Grants website page.

Applications can only be submitted and considered if the accountability form for any previous grant has been returned.

Other Avenues of Funding

Art	Art organisations and community groups should apply to either the Masterton District Creative Communities Scheme https://www.mstn.govt.nz/community/community-grants/masterton-district-creative-communities-scheme or the Masterton Arts Fund https://www.mstn.govt.nz/community/community-grants/masterton-arts-fund as a first option (unless the purpose of the project is ineligible for funding from those schemes).
Education	Educational institutions, organisations or groups should apply to Masterton Trust Lands Trust, phone 06 370 0155 or visit their website: https://www.mtlit.org.nz/grants
Sports	Sports-related groups should apply to Nuku Ora, website: https://www.nukuora.org.nz/funding/