

18 May 2018



Open Letter

Dear Sir/Madam

The purpose of this letter is to let you know of changes Ashburton Licensing Trust has recently made to its community support policy and process. Your organization was added to this mailing list because it was the recipient of donations or sponsorship funding from the Trust in recent years.

Over the last 2 or 3 years Ashburton Trust has been moving away from directly operating hospitality venues, to become a landlord. As part of this change in business model the Board has also been reviewing its granting objectives and policy.

The board has recently adopted a new 'Statement of Granting Policies and Objectives' which is very different to the mechanisms previously in place. A copy of this document is available at www.ashburtontrust.co.nz. The new policy aims are to ensure a stable level of granting each year, to maintain fairness between present and future generations within the community, and to ensure it does not erode the real capital base of the Trust.

The Trust is targeting an annual budget for all grants to ultimately be calculated as a percentage of the Trust's net assets, but for the transition period over the first 5 years it has instead set a total budget for all grants of \$100,000 p.a. This total budget will be divided into four categories. The closing dates for applications are as follows:

	Quick Response	Annual	Multi-Year Grants	Big Projects
Total Budget p.a.	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Maximum per Application	TBC	\$10,000	\$10,000	No limit but funds must be accrued
Closing Dates for Applications	1 st February	1 st February		
	1 st April			
	1 st June			
	1 st August	1 st August	* 1 st August	* 1 st August
	1 st October			
	1 st December			

*The 'Big Projects' and 'Multi-Year' funds may be built up and awarded only once every 3 - 5+ years, at the Board's discretion.

Applications to the Ashburton Licensing Trust for any grants must be made on the application form available from www.ashburtontrust.co.nz, or from the Trust office at level 2, Somerset House, Burnett Street, Ashburton.

Related to this, the board is in the process of commissioning a study of funding needs-gaps within the community, recognizing that even with the best intentions and endeavors it will not be able to meet the full range of deserving needs within the community. When that report is available the Board plans to develop a 5-year strategic framework to guide its granting by increasing its focus on key areas for change, or projects which may require multi-year funding in order to see real change and improvements in the community.

Depending on the size of the grant, the duration of the funding and the outcomes sought in the community, recipients of grants will be required to report back on the outcomes of the work financed by the funds provided by the Trust. As part of the fundraising efforts of recipients the Trust will encourage recipients to make the Trust's logo visible in promotional material and at events.

Ashburton Trust urges all organizations to carefully consider how these changes affect their organization. In many instances Ashburton Trust staff have previously been able to respond to last minute requests for grants or raffle prizes at the Trust offices, but these **urgent/last-minute requests are not provided for with the new granting process.**

To avoid disappointment organizations are urged to plan well ahead to ensure their application is received by a closing date well ahead of when the funds are required.

The new granting mechanism outlined above relates to the Ashburton Licensing Trust. Distribution of gaming grants in partnership with the Lion Foundation is quite separate and remains unchanged. Information about applications for gaming machine funding from the partnership between the Ashburton Trust and the Lion Foundation is available at <https://www.lionfoundation.org.nz/applying-for-funding/>.



Fay Watson
PRESIDENT



Rob Reid
GENERAL MANAGER