

Community Partnerships Policy

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Related Documents	Authority Charter; Delegations Policy		
Applicable Legislation	Nil		

1. Overview

The Fleurieu Regional Aquatic Centre Authority (the Authority), in accordance with its Charter, may develop collaborative relationships with organisations, groups, or individuals to assist in delivering is objectives.

Where proposals for collaboration relate to the delivery of programs or services at the Fleurieu Aquatic Centre (the Centre), they will be deemed Community Partnerships and managed in accordance with this policy.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set a clear and transparent process for the development and implementation of community partnerships related to the operations of the Centre.

3. Guiding Principles

The Authority is committed to the achievement of its Charter objectives. Prospective community partners are encouraged to propose innovative and unique ideas related to programs and services at the Centre that align with the Authority objectives and strategy. The Authority may also choose to undertake direct market engagement to explore the appetite and capacity of potential community partners to collaborate with the Authority to develop or access opportunity for the community. Community partnership concepts and opportunities may include activities such as:

- Joint applications for grant funding.
- Delivery of new or expanded programs or services to the community.
- Facilitating community and stakeholder engagement.
- Provision of equipment for community use.
- Use of the Centre facilities or land by the community.
- Any other innovative concept or opportunity.

The following do not constitute a community partnership and will not be considered:

- Proposals seeking to provide goods or services to the Authority or the Centre and bypass a future tender process.
- Proposals for extensions to existing contracts.
- Proposals to provide widely available goods or services to the Authority or the Centre.
- Proposals for consultancy services.
- Proposals seeking grants, donations, or sponsorship.

The Authority has adopted the following core principles to guide the consideration of community partnership proposals:

- Encourage unique and innovative opportunities and ideas related to the Centre that are in line with Charter objectives.
- Ensure the process is not used as an avenue to circumvent due process, legislative requirements, or existing policies and procedures.
- Recognise that the opportunity to take advantage of proposals will often require a timely response, yet not at the expense of transparency and due diligence.

The Authority has adopted several broad objectives when considering community partnership proposals. These objectives may guide discussion but do not represent assessment criteria and are not part of a formal evaluation process. They aim to ensure net benefits are delivered to the Authority and to reduce unnecessary work for both the potential community partner and the Authority. The broad objectives are:

- Upholding public interest to ensure arrangements serve to benefit the public at large from a social, economic or environmental perspective.
- Ensuring the proposal supports the Authority's objectives and strategy.
- Ensuring a delivery method is used that is both reasonable and cost-effective.
- Ensuring appropriate delivery of the arrangement between the Authority and the community partner in terms of applicability, transparency, accountability, competition and contestability, commercial viability, and risk sharing.

The Authority Executive Officer will manage the development an implementation of community partnerships and will:

- Meet with potential community partners to identify and discuss potential opportunities.
- Undertake an assessment of any proposed community partnerships in relation to the objectives outlined in this policy.
- Develop and approve community partnerships agreements.
- Report all approved community partnerships to the Authority Board.

The Authority reserves the right not to proceed with any community partnership proposals in its unfettered discretion.

4. Delegations

The Authority Executive Officer has the authority to implement this policy.

5. Availability of Policy

This policy will be available on the Fleurieu Aquatic Centre website.

6. Review

This policy shall be reviewed by the Authority triennially.

Document History

Version	Document	Action	Date
1.0	Approved	FRAC Authority Board endorsement	11 December 2018
2.0	Approved	FRAC Authority Board endorsement	24 September 2021