

HEALTHY LAND AND WATERWAYS

GUIDELINES FOR GRANT FUNDING

COMMUNITY GROUPS



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43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah NSW 2480 • PO Box 23A, Lismore NSW 2480 • T: 1300 87 83 87 • E: council@lismore.nsw.gov.au • ABN: 60080932837 Lismore City Council acknowledges the people of the Bundjalung Nation, traditional custodians of the land on which we work. This document outlines the guiding principles and processes engaged in the delivery of a small-grants program to ratepayer groups in the Lismore Local Government Area.

Version Control

Version	Date	Author
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Contents

1. What is The Rural Landholder Initiative?	3
2. Overview of the RLI Community Groups Grants	4
3. Eligible organisations	4
4. Grant Funding Priorities – Where will we fund?	6
5. What will be funded by Council?	7
6. Activities ineligible for funding	8
7. How Much Funding is available?	9
8. What is the application process?	9
9. Selection Criteria	10
10. Other tips to submitting a well-planned project.	12
11. If your Community Grant application is successful	13
12. Timeline of delivery	14
13. Field days	14
14. On-ground works contractors	15
15. APPENDIX – Copy of Community Grant Application Questions	16

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1. What is The Rural Landholder Initiative?

The Rural Landholder Initiative is part of Lismore City Council's Biodiversity Management Strategy (BMS). It is designed to assist the conservation and restoration of areas of high conservation and landscape value on private land through education and financial incentives. The BMS identifies a range of pressures on biodiversity within the Lismore Local Government Area (LGA) including:

- Clearing and fragmentation of native vegetation
- Environmental, agricultural and priority weeds
- Pest animals
- Degradation of waterways and altered hydrology
- Grazing of livestock in native vegetation and sensitive environments
- Exacerbated impacts of shifting climatic factors (drought, flood, fire)

The Rural Landholder Initiative aims to address the above pressures on biodiversity through three broad objectives:

1. Provide landholders with financial assistance to support best practice land management that benefits the ecosystem services provided by native vegetation, biodiversity and healthy water bodies as well as agricultural production.

2. Develop genuine partnerships with Lismore's rural landholders, industry groups and community groups to support best practice land management.

3. Rehabilitate degraded habitats, build landscape resilience, and assist in the recovery of threatened species.

Council seeks to assist landholders to significantly improve the condition of high conservation value natural assets on private land and reduce the impact of the above pressures on biodiversity, catchment health, cultural and social amenity values.

Delivery of the program is primarily through work with landholders wishing to address land management issues associated with five land use sectors: beef grazing, dairying, orchardists, floodplain cropping (e.g. sugar cane, tea tree) and non-commercial 'lifestyle' rural landholders.

Since 2015 these grants have provided private individual landholders with funds to work on their properties.

This document details the expansion of grants delivery to *Community and Industry Groups* who seek to access Rural Landholder Initiative funds for projects commencing 1st July 2025, for a period of one to three years.

Online applications will be open for Expressions of Interest from Tuesday 1 October2024 to Sunday 2 February 2025.

EOI's must be fully completed and submitted on the online application form. If you are unable to complete the form online, please contact Lismore City Council on 0266250500

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2. Overview of the RLI Community Groups Grants

Lismore City Council will provide RLI Grants to not-for-profit community organisations and industry groups who work within the Lismore LGA. The RLI Community Groups grants will achieve significant on-ground biodiversity and natural resources outcomes through the funding of projects that demonstrate collaborative and inclusive activities and be focused at a sub-catchment scale or share a common environmental theme across project sites.

Up to \$50,000 will be awarded to eligible organisations for up to a 3-year period. An additional 10% will be provided to the applicant organisation as allowance for project management.

Projects that include contributions as in-kind will be considered favorably. In-kind support is expected from landholders involved in the project as time, labour, materials, or cash. The group may also offer in-kind inputs to boost the project delivery.

3. Eligible organisations

Applications are sought from incorporated Landcare groups, non-government organisations, First Nations organisations, Industry representation groups, Schools, or other not-for-profit community organisations that recognize governance principles reflective of the aims and intent of the Lismore City Council Biodiversity Management Strategy.

Where an organisation is eligible to apply for funding, that organisation must apply under its own legal name and ABN (if applicable). An application may include collaborations involving any of the above groups, but must be made by a single organisation that will accept responsibility for the delivery of the project if the application is successful.

Eligible groups will demonstrate the following characteristics:

- Demonstrate accountability and governance structures suitable for the administration of public funds.
- Represent rural ratepayers in the Lismore LGA.
- Accept responsibility for financial management of a group project.
- Previous public fund grants have been properly acquitted
- The group has no outstanding debts to Council
- Be incorporated or auspiced by another incorporated organisation,
- Ensure the proposed project activities are consistent with Local, State and Federal laws.

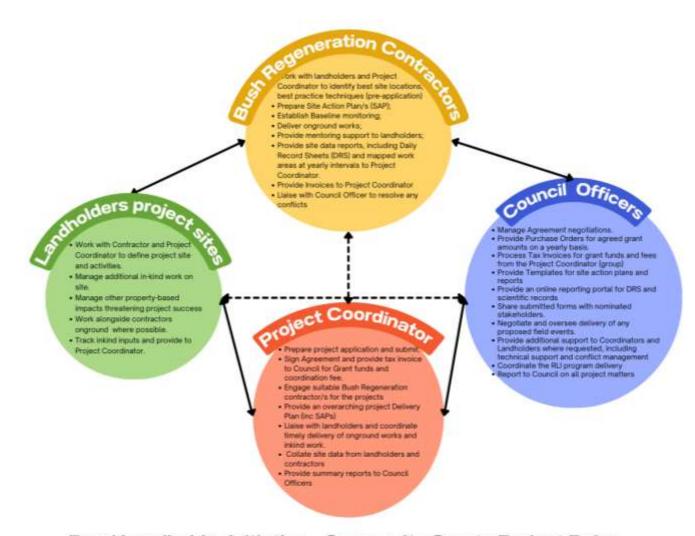
Applications must be provided on the RLI Community Groups Grant Form within the Expressions of Interest period.

Successful applications will provide information about:

- ✓ Organisational capacity, structure, experience, history and context
- ✓ Lot & Plan information of all proposed sites
- ✓ Signatories of all landholders including any Authorized Land Manager if required for public land
- ✓ Spatial spread of the projects (i.e. a map)
- ✓ Engagement with suitably qualified Bush Regenerators in the development of project proposals¹

¹ A list of Council-accredited providers is at the end of this document. However, the group has discretionary capacity to appoint a suitability qualified and insured provider.

- ✓ How the project represents good value for money including in-kind contributions
- \checkmark How the project provides strategic benefits to the ratepayers of Lismore
- ✓ The reporting structure for projects.



Rural Landholder Initiative - Community Grants Project Roles

4. Grant Funding Priorities – Where will we fund?

RLI Community Grants Projects may work across one or more sites that have a geographic linkage or propose to engage a group of landholders in a rural industry group. Community Grants projects should show landscape scale collaborations. For example, this may be through multiple neighbours working together, project sites connected along a waterway, or projects within an industry or community group that work towards a common theme.

• Projects that improve management of High Conservation Value areas

The restoration and expansion of High Conservation Value habitats through weed control and restoration are a priority for funding. These are areas of existing native vegetation that provide habitat and connectivity for priority flora and fauna.

The BMS identifies criteria considered as High Conservation Value (HCV) to include:

- Land containing threatened species or populations
- Key habitat for threatened fauna and flora, e.g. Regent Honeyeater habitat
- Endangered Ecological Communities, e.g. Rainforest; Swamp Sclerophyll Forest
- Key habitats that support priority vertebrate assemblages, e.g. Forest Red Gum grassy open forest
- Land within areas identified as very high priority wildlife corridor (this may include previously cleared country, regrowth or high weed density areas that through restoration can improve wildlife habitat and connectivity).
- Koala habitat Primary, Secondary A and B
- Old growth forest
- Native riparian vegetation
- Wetland and estuarine vegetation.

Maps indicating priority criteria areas are available to view on the Council webpage. You can investigate other details in relation to your property in the Lismore City Council <u>online mapping</u> service.

Properties that have received RLI funding in the past will be eligible in the Groups program. Where works are proposed on previously funded properties, priority will be given to new proposals which expand upon previously funded work.

• Restoration on the floodplain: Identify priority riparian areas for rehabilitation.

The floodplains of the Richmond River are a priority to protect and enhance through weed management, revegetation, erosion control and habitat improvement. Retaining, rehabilitating and conserving existing native floodplain vegetation on riverbanks and wetlands is encouraged.

Fencing for stock exclusion and off stream watering in sensitive riparian areas and wetlands on the floodplain is eligible for funding where it is undertaken with habitat restoration actions.

Restoration activities on the floodplains are informed by the <u>Coastal Zone Management Plan</u>. This is a catchmentwide initiative.

• Projects that propose mutual benefits for primary production and landscape health and function.

Agriculture has great potential to enhance biodiversity and promote landscape health in rural areas through mutually beneficial practices that restore soil health, protect water quality, and support diverse habitats for wildlife; whilst producing critical food and fibre and supporting rural livelihoods.

Primary producers and small-scale farmers seeking improved sustainability and productivity of the farming enterprise though changed land management practices are encouraged to apply. Eligible projects include those that support mutual benefits for agricultural production and landscape-scale environmental outcomes providing public benefits such as improved water quality, mitigation of soil loss, landscape connectivity, flood resilience and regional food security.

5. What will be funded by Council?

The projects should reflect a Groups' strategic objectives related to environmental and ecological best practice. Lismore City Council will fund a combination of activities for on-ground environmental works that share one or more of the following themes:

THEMES

- Native habitat health and connectivity,
- ✓ Environmental improvements associated with regenerative farming,
- ✓ Nature-based measures that assist flood and drought mitigation, build landscape resilience, and improve catchment health,
- ✓ Community engagement and agricultural industry capacity building.

The following activities are eligible for funding in areas that contribute to protection and enhancement of biodiversity:

ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Environmental weed control and initial follow-up maintenance.
- ✓ Bush regeneration works to restore areas of native vegetation
- Revegetation with local native plants and associated materials such as mulch and tree guards.
- ✓ Fencing materials to construct fencing to manage grazing pressure in areas of land degradation, remnant vegetation or exclude livestock from dams, riparian and other sensitive areas.
- ✓ Off-stream stock watering equipment to protect waterways from stock impact. This includes fixed equipment such as base fill, troughs, tanks, piping and fixtures.
- ✓ Planning for and the application of Ecological or Cultural Fire techniques.
- Planning for and implementation of landscape hydration works (subject to cost-sharing ratios).
- ✓ Limited earthworks with clear environmental benefits such as sediment traps, constructed wetlands, leaky weirs, and use of low impact soil interventions such as the Yeoman's plough.
- Plantings for erosion stabilisation using local native plants considered indigenous to the site.
- ✓ Other erosion control works that employ industry-recognised geotechnical advice.
- ✓ Stabilising stock crossing points for natural waterway improvement.
- ✓ Group and community engagement events that bring people together to learn, share knowledge, skills and resources.

Council may consider assisting with other activities if they meet the objectives of the RLI and exhibit a high public and environmental benefit (e.g. pest animal control). However, please discuss any activity not listed with Council's Extension Officer before you submit your Expression of Interest (EOI). Activities that lead to broader public benefits and improvements at a landscape scale will be given priority over activities deemed to be of high private benefit or considered to be part of a landowner's general responsibility e.g. general biosecurity duty for weeds as per the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The general biosecurity duty supports the principle of shared responsibility and means everyone is doing what is reasonable for them to do to prevent, eliminate or minimise biosecurity risks.

Where a group application includes sites with past or current RLI grant-funded works, these should be identified, and detail provided as to how additional funding will extend the current work. Current actively funded sites cannot be funded again however, extension to the area will be considered.

6. Activities ineligible for funding

The following activities will not be eligible for funding:

- a) Direct farm production inputs such as fertiliser and lime.
- b) Capital items, assets or non-fixed equipment such as dams, bores, tractors, chainsaws, pumps, and spray units.
- c) Boundary fencing, unless the fence is a riparian fence as part of protection of waterway habitat and will lead to stock exclusion (including neighbour's stock)
- d) Costs of fencing installation. The landholder needs to cover as in-kind the cost of labour associated with fencing construction.
- e) Costs associated with the installation of off-stream watering equipment. The landholder needs to cover as in-kind the cost of labour associated with off-stream watering.
- f) Revegetation works within 50m of a dwelling.
- g) The repair or replacement of existing access roads and tracks, existing water supply infrastructure deemed to be routine property maintenance and management.
- h) Cost of acquiring permits, licences or approvals to undertake eligible activities.
- i) Project sites that are primarily for beautification or improving amenity without significant environmental outcomes.
- j) Projects that are primarily for the improvement of economic viability of a farming enterprise.
- k) Any work that is a requirement in whole or in part of any development consent condition.
- Activities or ongoing maintenance of activities which organisations or individuals have a current commitment to a grant from any funding source.
- m) Projects that primarily focus on weed control only and are not part of a holistic restoration project. See link to Weed Biosecurity list of priorities in the <u>Rous County Council</u> jurisdiction for details.
- n) Retrospective funding projects which are already underway or which will commence prior to the date indicated in our online application information.
- o) Works on lands zoned Large Lot Residential (R5), Rural Landscape (RU2) and Village (RU5) <u>less than 2ha</u> under the LCC LEP 2012.
- p) Works on lands zoned Residential R1 and R2 under the LCC LEP 2012.
- q) Work on any lands zoned B1, B2, B3, B4, B6, Industrial (IN1, IN2) and Infrastructure (SP2) under the LCC LEP 2012.

r) Activities outside of the Lismore City Council area.

7. How Much Funding is available?

RLI Community Group Project funds up to \$50,000 (ex GST) are available for projects up to a 3-year time frame. Additional funds may be negotiated where an application exhibits outstanding environmental outcomes and value for money.

An additional allowance of 10% of grant funds (up to \$5000) will be provided to cover the costs of project management including project initiation, contractor engagement, collating monitoring, and annual reports. The allowance will be provided to the organisation to support a principal officer to undertake these actions.

Providing a realistic and accurate description and costing of the site works will contribute to the strength of an application. The project proposal should be realistic and achievable in the proposed time frame and reflect the groups and the landholder's abilities to manage and contribute to the project.

The application should provide an estimated schedule of works across all proposed work sites. i.e. what work will be done, when and where? An estimate of the cost needs to be provided for each project work site. The application form provides a budget table for this purpose.

Applications will be accepted for shorter timeframes and for less than the maximum amount of grant funding.

Applications will be assessed against the environmental value of the application regardless of its scope. Selection Criteria for assessment of projects are included in these guidelines.

8. What is the application process?

- a) <u>Online Expressions of Interest</u>: Online applications will be open for Expressions of Interest from 1st October 2024 to 2nd February 2025. EOI's must be fully completed and submitted on the online application form. If you are unable to complete the form online please contact Lismore City Council on 02 6625 0500
- <u>Acknowledgement of receipt</u>: Online Expressions of Interest will receive an email message confirming applications have been successfully submitted. If you do not receive acknowledgement within 2 weeks, please contact Lismore City Council on 02 66250 500.
- c) <u>Shortlist Assessment Criteria</u>: Lismore City Council Environmental Strategies staff will assess and shortlist proposals against the following criteria. These are expanded further in Table 1:
 - Contribution to Lismore City Council Biodiversity Management Strategy priorities.
 - Capacity to deliver environmental outcomes and demonstrate best management practice in the available time frame.
 - The organisation meets the eligibility criteria as in section 3 above.
 - Evidence of consultation with qualified bush regenerators and advisors.
 - Evidence of project planning that demonstrates a strategic approach.
 - The strategic vision of the project and alignment of the works to that vision
 - Size of the project, value for money, including adequate in-kind or cash contributions.
 - Relevance of the project to reflect and respond to an issue of community concern
 - Ability of applicant organisations to engage partners, neighbours and build community capacity.
 - Capacity of individual landholders to maintain project outcomes beyond the term of the project.
 - Fair representation of diverse rural industries, land-use types and land management issues.
 - Assessment of the organisations capacity to provide project sites support, landholder liaison and reporting.
- d) <u>Proposal Verification</u>: A meeting with the proponent and/or site visits may be arranged to verify the proposal and refine project outputs. Information from this meeting will be used in a final determination. If your group project is shortlisted, you will need to communicate in a timely manner for your application to remain eligible. Not all shortlisted projects are guaranteed funding.

- e) <u>Technical Assessment Panel:</u> Final recommendations for funding proposals will be made to a Lismore City Council Assessment Panel, where decisions will be finalised for offers for project funds. In addition to the criteria above the following will be used in this assessment of proposals:
 - Geographic spread of projects
 - Industry representation of projects
 - Demonstration of Best Management Practice activities appropriate to the projects on offer.
- f) <u>Notification</u>: Groups with successful proposals will be contacted privately to finalise project arrangements. Public announcement of successful projects will be made via Lismore City Council's quarterly Biodiversity Newsletter and on our <u>web site</u>. Unsuccessful groups will be notified in person and provided opportunity for feedback. All notifications will be provided by mid-April 2025. Successful projects will be timed to begin from 1st July 2025.

9. Selection Criteria

Table 1. Expanded Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria	Evaluation Measures	Notes to improve your application
Community Group, NGO, or Industry Group capacity to oversee delivery of multiple projects	 Group charter aligns with the Biodiversity Management Strategy goals and actions The group managing the project have a proven track record of successfully completing similar projects. New groups can otherwise demonstrate their capacity to manage the project 	 Tell us about the aims and intention of the organisation. Tell us about experience within the group to manage projects. The project proposal should be realistic and achievable and reflect the group's abilities to manage and contribute to the project.
Landholder capacity and project scope	 Work programs for individual sites is achievable in the timeframe. Preliminary results can be measured in 12-month timeframe Previous works are evidence of landholder capacity to continue project maintenance Landholders demonstrate capacity and commitment to maintain project outcomes into the long-term 	 Provide a realistic and accurate description and costing of the site works Scope of site works should reflect the landholders' abilities to contribute to the project Individual sites should be mapped to show linkages to the larger project, Projects should focus on achieving long-term outcomes, for example connecting vegetation between a fragmented landscape, fencing waterway reaches, tackling weeds across property boundaries, What works have already been achieved at the sites and how are they maintained?
Best Management Practice for biodiversity improvement	 Projects follow the best methods for protecting cultural values, planting native vegetation, building fences, providing off-stream watering for livestock, and other riverbank restoration activities Long-term outcomes and site maintenance are considered 	 Consult with the professional bush regenerators listed on the Council panel of providers. Consult the <u>"Healthy Landscapes and Waterways" booklets</u> for ideas on land management practices that relate to improving and conserving biodiversity across four key industries operating in our region.

Selection Criteria	Evaluation Measures	Notes to improve your application
Aligns with one or more priority areas identified in the BMS	 Areas of land identified with High Conservation Value identified in <i>BMS s.</i> <i>3.1.4</i>: including: Endangered Ecological Communities, Koala habitat, rainforest, old growth forest as well as native riparian, wetland and estuarine vegetation. Areas of land identified as key habitat for species of local conservation priority identified in <i>BMS Technical</i> <i>Appendix 2</i> as well as threatened flora and fauna species listed in the <i>TSC Act</i> or <i>EPBC Act</i>. Areas of land identified as providing very high or high habitat corridor values in <i>BMS Technical Appendix 2</i>, including 100m river corridors and 50m creek buffers. Areas identified as priority in the Richmond River <i>Coastal Zone</i> <i>Management Plan</i>. The area identified may be located in the Clarence-Richmond Alluvial plain which is an over-cleared NSW Landscape Areas of Koala habitat as defined under the <u>Comprehensive Koala Plan of</u> <i>Management for South-east Lismore</i> (KPOM; Lismore City Council 2013c) and the <u>Northern Rivers Koala Strategy</u> are a priority for restoration. 	 Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate a high potential to maintain and improve the quality of assets in areas of High Conservation Value. To find out where areas of High Conservation Value occur check <u>Council's</u> <u>online mapping</u> system. Use a recognised classification of vegetation communities such as Keith Formations or Class, or <u>Plant Community Types</u> to describe vegetation communities. The Rural Extension Officer can assist to provide you a map of your property. Areas where koalas are known to move through or live are a priority. Enhancement through tree planting expansion and protection projects Demonstrate how your projects will Protect, Restore, and/or Create priority koala habitat. Refer to the <u>Northern Rivers</u> <u>Regional Koala Conservation Strategy</u> for guidance.
Value for Money	 Projects demonstrate equity in matched funding ratio when considering private and public benefits to be gained. Grant recipients must demonstrate an equitable contribution of funds, labour and/or materials to the whole plan. The project application as a whole should demonstrate how in-kind contributions will be shared across sites. May be summarised as Total investment per area of land involved (\$/ha) 	 An in-kind contribution is where the applicant gives their own time in physical labour and/or materials to the project. Project management costs (above the 10% project management allowance) may be counted as in-kind Attendance at meetings, provision of labour for fencing & stock water infrastructure, providing trees from your own nursery, taking monitoring photos and working on the sites are examples of in-kind contributions. Leverage additional resources or funding from other sources Individual landholders commit to the success of the on-ground project through

Selection Criteria	Evaluation Measures	Notes to improve your application
		working alongside contractors, learning bush regeneration techniques to maintain the site for the long-term, or committing to engaging in other ways to look after the project.
Collaboration	 Project demonstrates an engaged approach to bringing industry partners, neighbours and community groups together. Projects show landscape level integration. Plans for effective sharing of relevant information with everyone involved and others outside the project. Projects represent a geographic spread across the Lismore LGA Projects represent the predominant five land use sectors across the LGA: beef grazing, dairying, orchardists, floodplain cropping (e.g. sugar cane, tea tree) and non-commercial 'lifestyle' rural landholders 	 Your willingness to host a field day is not essential or required to be eligible for funding, although we will be looking for sites to demonstrate good environmental projects to the community. Collaborative projects between neighbours or community groups are highly regarded. By working together the outcomes of the project will be greatly improved.

10. Other tips to submitting a well-planned project.

When preparing your application, you should consider the following tips:

- a) Ensure the project description in the application form is clear and all sections are completed.
- b) Consult and seek advice from a professional Bush Regeneration contractor. Bushland Regeneration contractors should be able to provide advice and assistance with the preparation and costing of projects and EOI's. They will be able to provide advice on industry standard techniques and approaches and a reasonable estimation of follow up and maintenance required on the site.
- c) Use a map to define the location and extent of your project. Maps can be hand drawn or developed on Lismore City Council <u>intramaps</u> or a mapping program like Google Maps.
- d) Access <u>"Healthy Landscapes and Waterways" Booklets</u> available online to guide your restoration works.
- e) Ensure the project can be easily completed within the key time frames.
- f) Applicants within the group are encouraged to have action plans advanced in development for their sites. Council's Rural Landholder Initiative officer can provide a template to guide the development of individual Site Action Plans.
- g) Lismore City Council's Rural Landholder Initiative officer may be able to provide limited support and assistance towards the development of a project plan and EOI.
- h) Projects should clearly outline inkind contributions from landowners and other project partners. In general, in-kind contributions should aim to match grant funding sought.
- i) A range of fence types can be applied, however fencing should be designed in line with best practice <u>wildlife-friendly fencing</u>. Fencing must be constructed to industry best-practice specifications required to

manage stock and minimise risk of damage due to flood events. Electric fencing must at a minimum use permanent star-picket.

- j) In kind labour / time contributions should be calculated at \$45/hour or \$350/day
- k) Cash contributions towards the project may include the landholder paying for external labour.
- I) Materials and external labour should be calculated at cost.
- m) Small machinery and tools (e.g. chainsaw, brushcutter) should be calculated at up to \$75/day.
- n) Large machinery (e.g. excavator, tractor, backhoe) should be calculated at up to \$150/hr.
- o) Ongoing maintenance as a general rule is \$100/year for each \$1000 of initial funded work.
- p) Funding from other Environmental grants cannot be used as part of a contribution
- q) Activities already started or completed cannot be claimed as an in-kind contribution to the project

11. If your Community Grant application is successful

Successful group applicants will be offered to enter into an Agreement with the Lismore City Council to refine a Delivery Plan and co-ordinate one-year, two-year or three-year staged projects. The Agreement outlines the roles and responsibilities of Council, the community group project co-ordinator and the individual site landholders.

If requested, Council staff can work with the Group leader and members to finalise the Delivery Plan, including details for the relevant site(s). Otherwise, the community group is responsible for engaging Professional Bush Regeneration contractors, or other technical advisors, to work with the landholders to complete an approved Delivery Plan. This can assist in identifying accurate costings, achievable works targets, best practice techniques and worker availability.

The final budget for project works will be determined at this stage of project refinement.

Only the registered owners of a property can be included in a group application. Successful community group projects will require all landholder participants to sign an Agreement as evidence of their commitment to the project.

The Community Group will return the Signed Agreement and the completed Delivery Plan having gained all landholder agreement and approvals.

A schedule of payments and Purchase Order/s will be provided by Council to the Group to facilitate the grant payments.

Current Shareholders in a Multiple Occupancy (MO) property can apply for group funding. It is up to the shareholder/s to consult with the Governance Group of the MO to gain general approval for the project and for the Governance Group to determine who the appropriate signatory is to an Agreement. Prior to sign-off of Management Agreements, successful shareholders must provide documented evidence of the approval of the proposed works and approved signatory to any Agreement by the MO Governance group.

12. Timeline of delivery

Applications open	1 October 2024
Applications close	2 February 2025
Short list Assessment period	3 February – 28 February
On ground visits for shortlisted projects	1 March – 30 April 2025
Notification of outcomes	5 May 2025
Offer of agreements and Develop Delivery Plans	May 2025 to June 2025
Approval of plan and sign-off	30 June 2025
Works commencement	July 2025
Reporting	Yearly reporting (June 2026, June 2027, June 2028)
Payment dates	to be determined when successful Agreement is made.

13. Field days

An important part of promoting improvements in land management practices is to demonstrate these to the wider community. The group may seek to co-host a field day event with Lismore City Council, where the work and the learnings of the project can be demonstrated to a wider audience. Council staff have the capacity to organise, facilitate and cater an event, invite guest presenters and advertise locally for other interested landholders and neighbours to attend.

The group members would be responsible for preparation of any sites prior to conducting the field day, helping promote the event to neighbours and industry partners, provide an introductory welcome, some guidance about the site, its history, and your management intentions on the day.

Landholders do not need to have insurance for public access during a co-hosted field day. Council's insurance extends to this function and will be identified in the management agreement.

Not every project will host a field day event, and it is not compulsory or expected to have a field day.

The group may seek to co-host a field day event with the Lismore Council, where the work and the learnings of the project can be demonstrated to a wider audience. Additional funds up to \$2000 may be made available to deliver a field day event.

14. On-ground works contractors

Where materials, equipment and professional labour are required at the project sites, these must be provided by a relevant qualified contractor or provider. The community group is responsible for appointing providers to the projects that meet industry standards, fulfil workplace health and safety requirements, and maintain appropriate insurances.

Table 2 lists the Lismore City Council panel of providers for bush regeneration contracts as a suggested source.

Table 2 – Lismore City Council Panel of Providers for Bush Regeneration REVISED AS AT JAN 2025
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Supplier	Location	Email
Envite Environment	Goonellabah, NSW 2480	danc@envite.org.au_
Big Scrub Regeneration Pty Ltd	Modanville, NSW 2480	jesse@bigscrubregen.com
Richard Burer	Stony Chute, NSW 2480	richard.burer@gmail.com
Brett Weissel	McLeans Ridges, NSW 2480	nikweissel@gmail.com
DC De Nardi & HR Lunn	Marom Creek, NSW 2480	messagegourd@yahoo.com.au
John Blatch	Blue Knob, NSW 2480	lantanaman62@gmail.com
Goanna Ecological Pty Ltd	Spring Grove, NSW 2470	max@goannaeco.com
Bushland Restoration Services Pty Ltd	South Murwillumbah, NSW 2484	goorambil2@bigpond.com
Julien Pearce	Rosebank, NSW 2480	julienpearce22@gmail.com
Trisian Mules	Nimbin, NSW 2480	brettfred7@gmail.com
Bush Boss	Caniaba, NSW 2480	chris@bushboss.com
Samuel Davies (Future Forests)	Federal, NSW 2480	sam@futureforests.com.au
Subtropic Environmental	Goonellabah, NSW 2480	dcleaver@live.com
Darren Bailey	Lennox Head, NSW 2478	bailey.environmental@gmail.com
Lennon Brothers Bush Regeneration	Lismore, NSW 2480	paddy.p.lennon@gmail.com
George Tutua	Whian Whian, NSW 2480	spikyechidna@gmail.com
Greenify Solutions	Lennox Head, NSW 2478	d.wangeskog@gmail.com
North Coast Natives Tree Nursery & Conservation Services	Coffee Camp, NSW 2480	brodie.winchester1@hotmail.com
Organic Fungi Bush Regeneration	Main Arm, NSW 2482	fungiregen@gmail.com
Nature Repair Services Pty Ltd	Townsend, NSW 2463	jane@kingfisherenv.com.au

15. APPENDIX – Copy of Community Grant Application Questions

To be advised