

Ron Hoenig
Minister for Local Government

Steve Kamper
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Lands and Property
Minister for Multiculturalism
Minister for Sport

Media Release

NSW Government launches local council grants to combat hate and strengthen community cohesion

Thursday, 20 February 2025

The Minns Labor Government has launched the latest round of the NSW Social Cohesion Grants for Local Government designed to enhance councils' ability to prevent and respond to hate.

The program strengthens local government capability to foster connection and belonging within and between communities, as well as build trust in local institutions.

Applications for the latest round of grants are now open, with local councils across NSW to share in \$500,000 for projects that strengthen social cohesion and deliver stronger and more resilient communities.

Councils may apply for between \$50,000 and \$150,000 to address a social cohesion challenge in their community, with the current round focused on preventing and responding to the prevalence of hate.

Projects should aim to address the impacts of hate, polarisation and the localised impacts from global crises and events that councils are experiencing.

In previous rounds, the NSW Social Cohesion Grants for Local Government program has funded projects to build community cohesion in high density residential neighbourhoods, support community centre activations in areas impacted by bushfire, and intercultural community leadership programs.

Applications are open until 11:59pm on Friday 28 March and can be made at:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/nsw-social-cohesion-grants-for-local-government-round-4-bolstering-local-government-response-to-hate-nsw>

Minister for Local Government Ron Hoenig said:

"The impact of recent hateful events has been felt across the state.

"Local governments are at the heart of their communities, and these grants will help councils create meaningful initiatives that foster inclusion and support communities to feel connected.

"Our strength lies in our unity, our respect for one another and our shared commitment to making NSW a safe and welcoming place for all."

Minister for Multiculturalism Steve Kamper said:

"This funding will assist with projects to help build community cohesion.

“By supporting Social Cohesion Grants for Local Government, we are investing in the future of our state.

“These grants will contribute towards protecting our society and supporting the true spirit of our multicultural state.”

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