

9.4 - Notice of Motion – Byford Baptist Church Community Food Market (SJ4090)

Councillor	Councillor Byas
Disclosure of Officers Interest:	No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has an interest to declare in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> .

Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Byas via email on Monday, 4 December 2023.

The Notice of Motion is “That Council, in accordance with Council Policy 5.1.14 - Community Contributions, APPROVES a donation of \$500 to the Byford Baptist Church Community Food Market to support their work over the Christmas period.”

Relevant Previous Decisions of Council

Nil.

Officer Comment

Byford Baptist Church

Byford Baptist Church provides a Free Food Market each Thursday morning from their church. Byford Baptist Church provides the following information on their website about the service:

Always runs on Thursdays at the church, except over Christmas and the New Year. Anyone in need can take home a box of grocery essentials 9am - 12:30pm. No proof needed, just come! One box per household.

Shire Officers attend the Free Food Market regularly to provide support to volunteers. As the Free Food Market is externally delivered, the Shire does not have specific details pertaining to demand for support provided by the Byford Baptist Church. However, based on detail contained a previous grant application (November 2022), the organisation has approximately 25 regular volunteers, encourages attendance by other service providers at their weekly Food Markets (such as NDIS representatives, financial counsellors and free legal services), and supports approximately 250 households per week. As far as Officers are aware, no identifying information such as suburb or address is requested to be supplied by those who attend.

An online ABC news story published on 30 November 2023 reported a surge in the number of people contacting welfare groups for help and support across WA: *WA's welfare organisations are stretched to the limit trying to meet demand for help from hungry people - ABC News*

Contact Us

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Council Policy 5.1.14 - Community Contributions

Council Policy 5.1.14 - Community Contributions provides the following information regarding donations:

Acceptable donations to third parties

It is preferable for organisations to request funding via a community grant process. However, it is acknowledged that in some instances a donation is a more appropriate contribution. These might include charity, community organisations, events or extraordinary crisis support. Donations are a direct, one-off contribution to the organisation or party and do not require an acquittal.

The donation may be used for general purposes or allocated to a specific activity to a maximum value of \$500 (ex GST). Examples of acceptable donation from the Shire may include, but not be limited to:

- *Registered community or charitable organisations seeking ad hoc or crisis funding.*
- *Event or activity that displays a strong and relevant benefit to the local community, but is unable to meet requirements for a community grant.*

Whilst recognition is not expected, it may be requested if appropriate to the circumstances.

A donation of \$500 to Byford Baptist Church for the Free Food Market aligns with acceptable donations to third parties in accordance with Council Policy 5.1.14 - Community Contributions.

Previous contributions/donations to Byford Baptist Church

Over the past four years (December 2019 to date), the Byford Baptist Church has received the following community funding contributions from the Shire:

- December 2022 – General Grant to the value of \$4,222 ex GST towards the purchase of a trailer for the Byford Free Food Market.
- October 2021 - General Grant to the value of \$2,364 ex GST for First Aid and Mental Health First Aid training to volunteers
- October 2020 – General Grant to the value of \$2,207.70 ex GST for equipment (tables, scales and vacuum)
- April 2020 – donation of \$5,000 ex GST approved under Covid-19 Emergency arrangements – for general food and household item provisions.

Financial implications

Account 4300-15430 (Donations) currently has \$203 available for the purposes of Community Contributions (donations). If Council supports this Notice of Motion, a budget adjustment to this account can be considered at the next Quarterly budget review.

Attachments (available under separate cover)

Nil.



Continued

**Ordinary Council Meeting – 11 December 2023 – 9.4 - Notice of Motion –
Byford Baptist Church Community Food Market (SJ4090)**

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Councillor Recommendation

That Council, in accordance with Council Policy 5.1.14 - Community Contributions, APPROVES a donation of \$500 to the Byford Baptist Church Community Food Market to support their work over the Christmas period.