

9.2.7 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - GRIP LEADERSHIP

File No: 21.00012

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- i) provide a reduction of \$641.20 in BMEC venue hire fees to GRIP Leadership for their 2024 Bathurst Primary School GRIP Leadership Conference, to be funded from Section 356 – BMEC Community Use Budget; and
- ii) approve a budget transfer from the Section 356 – Mount Panorama allocation to fund this request.

REPORT:

Council has received a request from GRIP Leadership seeking a reduced hire fee for their use of BMEC for the 2024 Bathurst Primary School GRIP Student Leadership Conference. See [attachment 1](#).

The organisation GRIP Leadership is an independent organisation that exists to train and develop leaders with a special focus on school students and the educational sector. Mostly known for the 'GRIP Student Leadership Conferences,' the team also presents tailored seminars and presentations for schools. GRIP Leadership programs are fresh, practical, interactive and enjoyed by tens of thousands of students each year. GRIP Leadership is endorsed by leaders, educators, politicians and business people around Australia.

Council's Revenue Policy allows for a 40% discount to the commercial venue hire fee for Schools and Universities. Given the nature of this conference, it could be considered appropriate to apply an equivalent discount to the venue hire for this event. Council applied this rate and provided a discount to the group in 2017, 2019 and in 2023. Should Council resolve to support this request, then a reduction of approximately \$641.20 (including GST) in BMEC venue hire fees would be incurred. It is recommended that Council support this request with the reduction in venue hire fees being funded from Section 356 - BMEC Community Use Budget.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Should Council resolve in accordance with the recommendation of this report the request is able to be accommodated within Council's adopted budget. Note, that as the Section 356 – BMEC Community Use budget has been fully committed, a budget transfer from the Section 356 – Mount Panorama allocation is required to fund this request.

BATHURST COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN – OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES:

Objective 1: Our sense of place and identity.

Strategy 1.3 Enhance the cultural vitality of the region.

Objective 5: Community health, safety and well being.

Strategy 5.2 Help make the Bathurst CBD, neighbourhoods and the region's villages attractive and full of life.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

01 **Inform** - to provide the public with balanced and objective information to help them understand the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. GRIP Leadership request [9.2.7.1 - 1 page]



GRIP LEADERSHIP

ATTN: David Sherley (General Manager)
Bathurst Regional Council
Wiradjuri Country
158 Russell Street
Bathurst NSW 2795

RE: Venue Hire – Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre

Dear David,

GRIP Leadership is an organisation that conducts both primary and secondary school leadership conferences throughout Australia.

The Bathurst primary school GRIP Student Leadership Conference is scheduled to be held on the 28th of March 2024.

We have been in contact with Graham McNab at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre regarding the venue hire and the fees associated, and have been informed that we should contact you for consideration of the venue hire and equipment hire fees.

We have conducted previous conferences at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre and have been granted a reduced rate given the nature of our conference (it is a community-based event solely for primary school students). Attached to this letter is a series of reviews that we have received from school staff who have previously attended the conference. The conference has now been held in Bathurst annually since 2009. Currently between 25 and 30 schools attend each year.

If you can please consider providing GRIP Leadership with a reduced rate of venue hire for the April conference that would greatly be appreciated.

If you would like to know more information, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards,

Andrew Strong
GRIP Leadership