



FAQ'S

NEW FAMILY BASED PROGRAMS IN PORT AUGUSTA

“EXPLORE”, “LET’S DISCOVER” & “LET’S GO”

1. WHAT ARE THE FAMILY-BASED PROGRAMS BEING FUNDED BY PORT AUGUSTA CITY COUNCIL AND THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY?

Port Augusta City Council received two grants totalling \$1.33m over three years. Both programs would not be possible without the funding commitment from The Benevolent Society and Westpac Group’s Safer Children, Safer Communities program and they will be project management by Port Augusta City Council.

The first initiative is a program called **“EXPLORE”** which provides free family activities for the community. Council will work with other agencies, not for profits (NFP’s) and private enterprises, and will liaise with community, to roll out family-based activities for the community to enjoy. The **“EXPLORE”** program will target activities for the third weekend of each month as well as school holidays.

The second initiative is the **“Let’s Go”** and **“Let’s Discover”** programs, which is providing interactive experiences for children 0 to 5 years and 6 to 12 years, focussing on developing literacy and numeracy through Art, Dance, music, reading and play. This program will be project managed by Council.

2. HOW DOES THE COMMUNITY GET ONBOARD TO BE A PART OF THE EXPLORE PROGRAM?

Council will provide agreed funds to community groups, NFP’s, other agencies to sponsor ‘fee free whole of community family inclusive activities’ under the **“EXPLORE”** program, which will bring vibrancy to our community. Sporting groups, recreational groups, community agencies, NFP’s and private businesses are eligible to be part of the **“EXPLORE”** program. An enthusiastic “pitch” proposal (using the **“EXPLORE”** proposal application form) will need to outline the family inclusive activity you wish to project manage and include funds required. Once this has been determined the form needs be sent to Council’s **“EXPLORE”** program team for consideration.



3. WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE EXPLORE PROGRAM?

The “EXPLORE” program is open to family based activities for the community to enjoy e.g. movie nights, picnics at the foreshore and parks, come and try days - kayaking, paddle boarding, roller skating, discos, free pool swim days, skate competitions, VCR exploration programs, and Xbox/Playstation competitions, water slides. Activities must aim to engage the community in fun and recreational experiences and be provided free of charge to participants. Council can assist you with some event planning, however your hosted events will need to be managed by your group or business.

4. WILL THERE BE ANY CHARGES FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE EXPLORE PROGRAM?

No, all activities provided under the EXPLORE program will be provided free of charge for participants. The funding provided by the Port Augusta City Council ensures that these activities are accessible to everyone in the community, and cost is not a barrier. We do acknowledge that there may be additional activities provided which may incur a cost – however these need to be clearly outlined in your submission.

5. WHAT WILL THE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ENTAIL?

As part of the grant funding, Port Augusta City Council will establish a Youth Advisory Committee and work with them to develop a Youth Engagement Strategy. The Youth Engagement Strategy will outline a plan for involving young people in decision-making processes and creating opportunities for their active participation in the community. The Youth Advisory Committee will provide a platform for young people to express their perspectives and contribute ideas to Council and community initiatives.

6. WHAT WILL THE 'LET'S GO' AND 'LET'S DISCOVER' PROGRAMS OFFER?

The 'Let's Go' and 'Let's Discover' programs aim to support literacy and numeracy by providing fun, interactive experiences for children aged 0 to 5 years (Let's Discover) and 6 to 12 years (Let's Go). These programs include art workshops, nature play, story time, and dancing, as well as performing arts programs. All activities will be free of charge for participants. Council is liaising directly with schools, kindergartens and NFP to identify participants.



7. HOW LONG WILL THE FUNDING SUPPORT FOR PORT AUGUSTA CITY COUNCIL LAST?

The grant funding is spread out over the next three years (until 2026); there is a maximum provided per financial year.

8. HOW MUCH FUNDING HAS THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY PROVIDED FOR THESE PROGRAMS?

The Benevolent Society and Westpac Group's Safer Children, Safer Communities program have provided \$1.3 million over the course of three years to support the family-based programs in Port Augusta. This funding aims to benefit the families and young people within the community. The funding also includes wages for additional staff to support the initiatives. It is expected that the funding is shared with other agencies/groups/private sector businesses.

9. DO THE ACTIVITIES HAVE TO INCLUDE ALL COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION?

The grant funding for Project "EXPLORE" is for family activities – which do not discriminate on the basis of race. This project is about all of community having fun!

10. HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY AND AGENCIES FIND INFORMATION AND SIGN-UP FORMS TO BE PART OF THE PROGRAMS?

Port Augusta City Council has a dedicated page for both programs on our website [Port Augusta City Council | Port Augusta City Council](#) which outlines all programs (look for the logos on Councils home page!). The webpage also has information forms to download and has links and contact details.

Additional questions can be directed to Port Augusta City Council via communitydevelopment@portaugusta.sa.gov.au.