

# **Constellation Communities Trust Limited's Grants Policy**

# **Decision by Net Proceeds Committee**

- 1. All final funding decisions are made by Constellation Communities Trust's net proceeds committee.
- 2. Grant applications found to be non-compliant will not be approved. In this context, "non-compliant" means grant applications that do not contain all the relevant information, are retrospective, where the application does not comply with Constellation Communities Trust's authorised purpose, or where there is information that the applicant has received funding from other source(s) for the full amount needed for the purpose applied for here.

## **Authorised Purpose**

3. Grants will only be made in accordance with Constellation Communities Trust's authorised purpose.

# **Audit Requirement**

- 4. Unless a later date has been agreed upon by Constellation Communities Trust, the grant accountability documentation (including invoices and bank statements) must be provided to Constellation Communities Trust within three months of the grant being made.
- 5. As required by section 115A of the Gambling Act 2003, grant money may only be used by the grant recipient for the specific authorised purpose for which it was granted. The grant recipient commits a criminal offence if section 115A is breached.

- 6. If the funds are not spent for the specific purpose granted, Constellation Communities
  Trust will request a refund. If a funding surplus exists, the surplus must be returned to
  Constellation Communities Trust.
- 7. Where information is obtained by the net proceeds committee indicating that a grant recipient has received funding from other source(s) for the full amount needed for the purpose applied for here, the net proceeds committee will take reasonable steps to obtain a return of the money from the grant recipient.
- 8. If the grant recipient has breached section 115A (failed to spend the funds on the specific purpose granted) and the money has not been returned, Constellation Communities Trust will consider referring the matter to its solicitors for recovery action, and/or to the Department of Internal Affairs for prosecution. Further, any other suspicion of fraud or potential criminal offending by a grant recipient will be notified to the Department of Internal Affairs.
- 9. A random sample of grants will periodically be independently verified by Constellation Communities Trust to ensure the funds have been spent as stated in the audit documentation. The verification may include telephoning grant recipient suppliers, visiting grant recipients and reviewing photographs and other evidence supplied.
- 10. The timeframes set out in this policy may be extended at Constellation Communities Trust's discretion.

#### **Grant Forms**

11. Grants will not be approved unless the application is on Constellation Communities

Trust's grant application form.

### Reasons

12. Grant applicants will be provided with reasons for Constellation Communities Trust's decision if Constellation Communities Trust decides to decline a grant application (either in full or part). The reason given may include insufficient funds to meet the number of applications or a lack of venues in the region in which the applicant is based.

## Complaints

- 13. Complaints can be made to Constellation Communities Trust's Chairperson by writing to the Trust.
- 14. Complaints about the conduct of Constellation Communities Trust may also be made to the Secretary of the Department of Internal Affairs at: P O Box 10-095, Wellington.

# <u>Grant Commitments – Multi-Year Grants</u>

- 15. Grants will only be made from available net proceeds. However, grants may be made by instalments in one or more years, if the following conditions are met:
  - the grant commitment must not exceed 4 years; and
  - the grant applicant must be made aware, on or before the time that the first instalment of the grant is paid, that payment of any future instalments of the grant is conditional on –
    - o Constellation Communities Trust continuing to hold a licence; and
    - Constellation Communities Trust continuing to have available net proceeds; and
    - the specific authorised purpose for which the grant was made continuing to be lawful; and
  - each instalment of the grant must be re-confirmed by the net proceeds committee before payment; and
  - the grant applicant must provide the net proceeds committee with documentary evidence that previous instalments of the grant have been spent for their intended purpose; and
  - Constellation Communities Trust must disclose the existence of multi-year grants it has entered into in its financial accounts and publish the details of its multi-year grants with its other grant information on its website.
- 16. Subsequent instalments of multi-year grants are made in principle, i.e. the existence of the future instalments is strictly conditional upon the above criteria being met.

### **Distribution Timing**

17. A substantial portion of the net proceeds received during a financial year will be distributed to the community for authorised purposes on at least a quarterly basis.

18. All net proceeds received during a financial year will be distributed to the community for authorised purposes within three months following the end of that financial year.

### Record Keeping and Website Publication

- 19. The following records will be kept in a database format and published on Constellation Communities Trust's website:
  - the name of every organisation that has applied for funding;
  - whether the grant has been accepted in full or declined in full;
  - whether the grant has been accepted in part and declined in part;
  - if the grant has been declined in full or in part, the reasons for that decision;
  - the amount of the grant; and
  - any "interest" that a Constellation Communities Trust's net proceeds committee member has in relation to any successful grant applicant.
- 20. The following additional records will be kept in various formats, but will not be published:
  - the date that each grant is made (the date of the meeting/decision);
  - the specific purpose of the grant;
  - the cheque number or direct bank payment transaction details;
  - grant request ID number; and
  - the signatures of the persons approving the grant.
- 21. A net proceeds committee member has an *interest* in a recipient of a grant if:
  - the member may derive a financial benefit from the grant or may have a financial interest in the recipient; or
  - the member is a part of the immediate family of the recipient; or
  - where the recipient is an organisation, club, society, or association, the member
     is:
    - o an officer or a member of the recipient; or
    - a part of the immediate family of an officer or a member of the recipient;
       or
    - the member is, or has been, the recipient's lawyer or is under a professional obligation to the recipient in another professional capacity;
       or
    - the member is, or has been, employed by the recipient, or is, or has been, indebted to the recipient, or is, or has been, involved in business or financial dealings with the recipient; or

 the member is otherwise connected to or involved with the recipient in a way that can reasonably be perceived as having influenced the decision to make the grant to the recipient.

Part of the immediate family means a person who is the member's

- spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner; or
- parent, child, sister, or brother; or

who is the parent, child, sister, or brother of the member's spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner.

22. The grant application and all supporting information will be retained by Constellation Communities Trust if the application is successful.

### GST

- 23. When a grant recipient is GST registered, a grant will only be made for the GST exclusive component.
- 24. When a grant recipient is not GST registered, a grant may be made for the full GST-inclusive cost of the good or service.

#### Grant Influence – Section 113

- 25. Constellation Communities Trust's venue key persons cannot have any input or influence in Constellation Communities Trust's grant process. Venue key persons are:
  - the venue manager (defined as the person responsible for supervising the gambling and venue personnel at a Constellation Communities Trust class 4 venue and for banking the proceeds of class 4 gambling);
  - the venue personnel (defined as the persons who work at a Constellation Communities Trust class 4 venue and whose work involves dealing with gambling equipment, gamblers, or the proceeds of gambling);
  - the venue operator (defined as the occupier of a Constellation Communities
     Trust class 4 venue who owns the primary business at the venue);
  - the venue operator's directors, chief executive and senior manager;
  - any person who has a significant interest in the management, ownership, or operation of a venue operator;
  - a person who has the ability, directly or indirectly, to exert a significant degree of influence over the management or operations of a venue operator; and

- a person contracted to service Constellation Communities Trust's gambling equipment.
- 26. Persons who have a significant interest in the management, ownership, or operation of a venue operator include:
  - people with a financial or ownership interest in the business operating at the venue, or the venue premises;
  - people with the power to make decisions that would normally be made by the directors, chief executive or senior management of the venue operator; and
  - people undertaking or being responsible for duties that are normally the responsibility of the venue manager (e.g. being responsible for the timely banking of gaming proceeds).
- 27. Venue key persons must not provide grant application forms to potential grant recipients.
- 28. Venue key persons cannot provide goods or services to Constellation Communities Trust, apart from the services listed in their venue agreement. For example, if a venue key person also had a photocopier business, the venue key person could not sell a photocopier to Constellation Communities Trust.
- 29. Venue key persons cannot provide goods or services to third parties and be paid from grant money which is derived from Constellation Communities Trust. For example, a venue could not provide catering services to a hockey club if the hockey club plans to use grant proceeds to pay for the food.
- 30. Venue key persons cannot be involved in decisions about who will provide goods or services to a third party, if payment is being made from grant money that is received from Constellation Communities Trust. For example, if a venue key person were also a committee member of a community organisation that received a grant for painting from Constellation Communities Trust, the person could not have any input as to which painter the community organisation employs, if the painter is to be paid from grant money.

### Venue Key Persons Conflict of Interest Register

31. Constellation Communities Trust shall have an internal system to check that the venue key person requirements are adhered to. All grant applications and quotes will be

checked by Constellation Communities Trust staff or contractors against a key person register. If any application is signed, supported or makes any reference to a venue key person the application will be declined. If any application indicates that a venue key person has assisted to obtain quotes or been involved in any decision as to how grant money will be spent, the grant will be declined. If any application indicates that the venue key person will be providing goods or services to the grant recipient using the grant money, the grant will be declined.

32. Constellation Communities Trust's grant application form will also require the applicant to formally declare that they will check that no payment will be made to any venue key person. The declaration will state:

#### **Organisation Declaration**

We declare that:

- The information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of our knowledge.
- We have the authority to make this application on behalf of the applicant.
- This application has not been completed by a person who has any management or ownership interest in a Constellation Communities Trust Limited venue that hosts gaming machines ("a gaming machine venue key person").
- When any grant money is obtained the persons who decide how that money is spent will not be Constellation Communities Trust Limited gaming machine venue key persons.
- When any grant money is obtained a check will be undertaken and no payment will be made from grant money to any Constellation Communities Trust Limited gaming machine venue key person for any goods or service.

We (the undersigned) make a solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957.