

# Service 14: City of Kalamunda Funding Support for Solar Panels with or without Battery Storage on a Community Leased Building

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## 1. Purpose

To provide a framework and guidance for the City of Kalamunda's (City) financial support to enable installation of solar panels with or without battery storage facilities on City buildings leased by community groups.

Lessees of City Community Leased Buildings bear the cost of electricity consumption and as such may propose solutions to reduce their running costs.

## 2. Policy Statement

The City and Council recognise that there is a need to expand the use of renewable energy sources to help mitigate the effects of rising energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Council has committed through its Strategic Community Plan to use technology to produce innovative solutions to reduce power and water usage.

The City therefore supports an expansion in the installation of solar panels with or without battery storage systems on City buildings leased to community groups to reduce their ongoing power consumption and energy costs.

To facilitate the purchase and installation of solar panels, the City will provide community groups with access to a funding, subject to the following criteria:

- (1) The City will provide funding of capital cost up to a maximum of \$20,000 or 100% of the project cost whichever is lower. Any proposals exceeding this amount will require the community group to identify secured funding above this amount prior to approval.
- (2) Tier 1 or Tier 2 solar panels are the minimum standard.
- (3) If battery storage is also proposed, it must be from the same contractor or company proposing the solar panel installation.
- (4) Systems proposed must have a minimum 2 year contractor guarantee against defects in workmanship and 15 years supplier warranty for materials for solar panels, inverters and battery storage unit(s).
- (5) The community group's lease has a minimum 5 years remaining.

- (6) The community group will repay 50% of the City funding within 3 years and no further payment will be required for the outstanding balance.
- (7) The systems installed become part of the community building asset which will pass to the City for maintenance and replacement after the initial defects liability period.
- (8) The lease between the City and the community group will be amended to reflect the requirement for repayment of funding contribution as set out in (6) above.
- (9) The availability of funding support will be dependent on annual budget allocation approved by Council in each year's budget.

Prior to any formal proposal lodged with the City, the Community Group is required to consult with the City to ensure all necessary scope of works and costs have been included in the proposal, (for example electrical switchboard upgrades and or roof works).

The Chief Executive Officer shall have authority to approve applications and funding up to the level provided in the approved budget for the relevant Financial Year.

If applications are received that do not meet the criteria above or cannot be funded within the current budget the Chief Executive Officer shall refer these applications to Council for determination.

Status			
Related Local Law			
Related Council Policies			
Relevant Delegation			
Related Internal Procedures			
Related Budget Schedule			
Legislation	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i> <i>Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996</i>		
Notes and Conditions			
Authority			
Adopted	November 2020	Next Review Date	May 2021