

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Background

The Policy provides a framework to ensure that Council has a transparent, equitable, consistent and thorough approach to the leasing and licensing of Council owned and Council managed Crown Land properties for community use, whilst maximising the benefit to the community.

Council aims to maximise the occupation and use of our community facilities, noting the increasing demand for premises for use by community groups. Council encourages tenancies to be shared between groups wherever possible. Groups are encouraged to be inclusive and to provide a range of services to the community, whilst meeting their obligations under the relevant legislation.

Many community groups are comprised of volunteers, are not for profit and provide physical, cultural, social and intellectual services to the public. The Policy provides criteria for assessing applications for the leasing and licensing of community facilities and for determining the appropriate rent, fees, and responsibilities, whilst also providing for transparency on terms and greater equity between similar types of tenancies.

Engagement approach

The draft Policy was placed on public exhibition on Council's Have Your Say website on 13 December 2022 for a period of 77 days. The community groups occupying buildings on Council owned or Council managed Crown land that are on existing agreements with Council and those community groups that are yet to be brought onto agreements, were notified of the policy exhibition by email or letter on 14 December 2022 and a reminder email was sent on 18 January 2023.

A total of eight (8) submissions were received.

The draft Policy on Council's website had 307 webpage visits.

There were 196 document downloads.

Results/Conclusion

7 responses were supportive of the draft Policy, however 5 submissions had concerns if fees were to be applied or increased. One comment was in relation to events which are not covered under this Policy.

The Policy is designed to establish the status of each group ie not for profit or commercial. Each group will be assessed according to whether or not groups:

- are not for profit;
- what maintenance responsibilities they undertake;
- whether they have any commercial income;
- do they pay Council rates;

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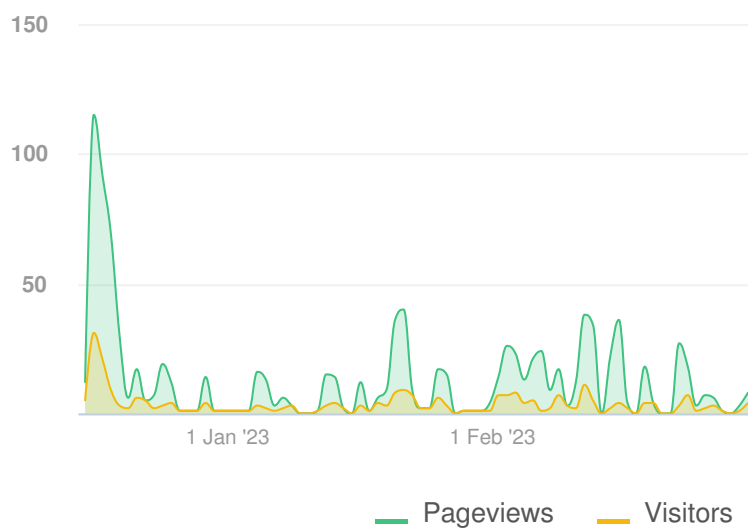
- do they pay outgoings;
- do they charge Council fees for hire;
- do they remit the hire fees to Council or retain them for their own use.

Council application fees and rent will be applied according to the status of each group and the facility that they occupy.

Next Steps

Council has a number of community facilities occupied by various types of community groups that do not have a current agreement with Council for the occupation of the Council owned or Council managed land. Council has commenced communication with some of these groups to guide them through the process of entering into an agreement with Council. We will continue to work with all occupants to ensure current agreements are in place for all facilities.

Visitors Summary



Highlights

TOTAL VISITS	MAX VISITORS PER DAY	
307	31	
NEW REGISTRATIONS		
9		
ENGAGED VISITORS	INFORMED VISITORS	AWARE VISITORS
8	107	219

SELECTED PROJECTS - FULL LIST

PROJECT TITLE	AWARE	INFORMED	ENGAGED
Draft Community Leasing and Licensing Policy	219	107	8