| **Categories** | **Low (1-3)** | **Medium (4-6)** | **High (7-10)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Evidence of need (30%)** | * Need for the project is unclear, is not adequately explained or is already being met.
* No research to provide evidence of need.
* No community support or endorsement from local community provided.
* No engagement or collaboration with local community detailed.
 | * Need for the project is clear, adequately explained or addresses a need that is not otherwise being met.
* Some community support and/or endorsement included.
* Some engagement or collaboration with local community planned.
 | * Need for the project is clear, strongly articulated, and includes research as evidence.
* Project is an innovative/creative idea that contributes to community resilience/wellbeing.
* Multiple letters of support/endorsement from community.
* Strong engagement/collaboration with other community groups demonstrated.
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| **Alignment to Council Priorities (20%)** | * No or minimal alignment to Council Priorities/documents.
 | * Moderate alignment with council plan items/strategic documents.
* Some evidence of understanding of relevant Council Plans.
 | * Strong alignment to Council priorities/strategic documents with reasons strongly articulated.
* Supports initiatives that advance reconciliation and/or celebrate First Nations Peoples.
* Supports one or more of Council’s environmental/wellbeing priorities.
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| **Community Benefit (30%)** | * Community benefits are not clear or appear unachievable.
* Low benefit for target group/will only benefit applicant.
* Minor increase in community participation likely.
* Gender, accessibility and inclusion has not been considered.
 | * Community benefits appear clear and achievable.
* Moderate benefit for target group/ impact is likely to include other groups in Shire.
* Moderate increase in community participation likely.
* Gender, accessibility/inclusion has been considered.
 | * Community benefits appear clear, achievable and well considered.
* Significant benefit for target group/ impact will benefit Shire broadly.
* Large increase in community participation likely.
* Increased participation has been actively sought for specific groups e.g. gender, age, ability.
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| **Ability to deliver project (20%)** | * Project planning - aims unclear or appear unachievable, project timeline/tasks lack clarity.
* Budget - unclear/incomplete, no in-kind/financial contribution, project costs exceed project value or will require ongoing funding.
* Potential risks or strategies to mitigate these not considered.
* No supporting documentation provided
 | * Project planning - clear and achievable aims and project timeline that outlines key steps.
* Budget - most costs or income sources identified, some funds/in-kind contribution included, and project costs equal project value.
* Some relevant risks considered with strategies to mitigate these.
* Some supporting documentation provided.
 | * Project planning - clear and achievable aims and all tasks logically ordered with realistic timelines.
* Budget - all costs and income sources identified, significant funds or in-kind contribution, and project value exceeds project cost.
* Relevant risks carefully considered with strategies to mitigate these.
* All supporting documentation provided
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