

Funding Schemes Update - October 2026

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1. Overview

- 1.1 Council currently administers four funding schemes for the Rangitikei District, these are:
- a. Community Initiatives Fund
 - b. Events Sponsorship Scheme
 - c. Creative Communities Scheme
 - d. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

2. Community Initiatives Fund

- 2.1 This is a Council fund intended to support community-based projects in the Rangitikei District that develop community cohesion and community resilience.
- 2.2 Council allocated \$30,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds. Council also approved carry-forward of unspent funds from 2025/26. The combined amount allocated for 2026/27 totals \$33,717.70.
- 2.3 Decision was made at the Community Grants Committee meeting on the 24 September 26 to allocate the funding to the below groups:
- Bulls & District Friendship Club – \$2,750
 - Bulls and District Community Trust – \$1,500
 - The Marton & District Historical Society – \$2,500
 - The Marton and Surround ICT Hub Charitable Trust – \$2,500
 - Parkinson's New Zealand – \$2,000
 - Te Kai Whaka Ora – Marton Youth Trust – \$2,500
 - Whangaehu Hall Committee – \$1,500
 - Youth Services Trust Whanganui – \$500
- 2.4 The total amount allocated in Round one 2026/27 is \$15,750, with \$17,967.70 remaining for Round two 2026/27.
- 2.5 Round two for 2026/27 opens on 06 December 2026 and closes on 26 March 2027, with a decision being made in April 2027.

3. Events Support Scheme

- 3.1 This is a Council fund intended to support events in the district that help to develop community cohesion and reinforce economic growth.
- 3.2 Council has allocated \$25,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds. Council also approved a carry-forward of unspent funds from 2025/26. The combined amount allocated for 2026/27 totals \$26,620.

3.3 Decision was made at the Community Grants Committee meeting on the 24 September 26 to allocate the funding to the below groups:

- Bulls and District Community Trust – \$3,750
- Hunterville Huntaway Festival – \$3,500
- Mangaweka School Board of Trustees – \$2,000
- Marton Country Music Festival – \$3,000
- Rangitikei Shearing Sports Incorporated – \$3,500
- Tūtaenui Stream Restoration Society Incorporated – \$1,500

3.4 The total amount allocated in Round one 2026/27 is \$17,250, with \$9,370 remaining for Round two 2026/27.

3.5 Round two for 2026/27 opens on 06 December 2026 and closes on 26 March 2027, with a decision being made in April 2027.

4. Creative Communities Scheme

4.1 This fund is supplied by Creative NZ and administered by Council. Applications are encouraged from community groups and individuals whose projects:

- Demonstrate growth over time
- Develop and support local artistic communities
- Encourage a transfer of artistic skills
- Support diversity and inclusion
- Projects with a youth focus are also encouraged

4.2 Creative NZ has allocated \$24,397.80 + GST to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis, and this is distributed across two separate funding rounds.

4.3 Round one for 2026/27 is now open until Sunday 25 October 2026, with a decision being made Wednesday 18 November 2026.

5. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

5.1 This fund is supplied by Sport NZ and administered by Council. The fund is targeted at young people aged between 5 and 19 years and is open to rural sport club teams and rural school club teams with eligible members who require subsidies to assist with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.

5.2 Sport NZ allocated \$9,500 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis. There is one funding round per year.

5.3 The 2026/27 round is now open until Wednesday 31 March 2027, with decision being made in April 2027.

6. Further Information

6.1 More details about these funding opportunities can be found on the Council website (link below) and this is also where applications can be submitted:

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/community/grants-funding>

7. Rangitikei Grant Finder – Grant Guru

- 7.1 The Rangitikei District Council has joined forces with one of New Zealand and Australia's most powerful grant search engine, GrantGuru, to deliver a free one-stop-shop grants portal.

How it works

- 7.2 The Funding Finder hand-picks grants and funding opportunities specific to local businesses and community groups, encompassing all government and private sector grants available. It also provides advice and top tips for finding and applying for grants to maximise the chances of receiving funding.
- 7.3 GrantGuru is regularly updated with new information and grants. It features all council grants and initiatives. It replaces the Generosity NZ portal which previously was available through the Rangitikei Community Hubs.
- 7.4 Register via the website: <https://grantguru.com/nz/rangitikei>
- 7.5 Please reach out to our Funding Specialist if you require more information about Grant Guru, Charissa Lawlor, charissa.lawlor@rangitikei.govt.nz

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Recommendation

That the report Funding Schemes Update - October 2026 be received.