

# Thriving Suburbs Program

**August 2024**

## Co-funding requirements

The Thriving Suburbs Program requires project proponents to contribute toward the cost of their projects. However, we recognise there are a number of project circumstances where applicants may have limited access to contribute a minimum of 50 per cent co-funding towards their projects. The program guidelines included three co-funding groups to ensure eligible applicants delivering projects under these circumstances could access reduced co-funding requirements and deliver projects targeted towards the objectives and intended outcomes of the program.

## Co-funding methodology

The table below summarises the information provided in section 3 of the guidelines for the three co-funding groups, and outlines the methodology used to determine co-funding eligibility specific to the objectives and intended outcome of the program:

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| **Co-funding group** | **Project circumstance** | Total Australian Government funding towards eligible project costs | **Methodology used and evidence required to support the request for co-funding** |
| Group 1 | Projects run by **First** **Nations Community Controlled Organisations.** | Up to 90% | Meet organisational definition **as defined in glossary** within program guidelines. |
| Group 2 | Projects run by **27 identified ‘low rate-based’ councils,** determined using the ratio of Financial Assistance Grant to Net Rate Income. | Up to 70% | **Council is one of 27 councils listed in Appendix E** of the guidelines.Low rate-based councils determined based on **Financial Assistance Grant to Rate Income ratio.** The Financial Assistance Grant to Rate Income ratio is used as a proxy for a council’s ability to generate their own source of revenue – **a higher ratio indicates a higher reliance** on Financial Assistance Grant.The ratio was calculated for each council eligible for the program (those located within the GCCSAs). **The top 20% of LGAs most reliant on Financial Assistance Grants ie ratio of above 9.4% were identified as low rated-based councils.** Noting that the ratio was calculated **based on the total FA Grant allocation rather than the per capita allocation.**  |
| Group 3 | All remaining projects. | Up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs | Application demonstrates **eligibility for up to 50% Commonwealth co-funding.**  |