
MM25/007 CENTRAL TILBA SCHOOLS OF ARTS TRUST - INTEREST FREE ADVANCE

File Ref: S011-T00024

Attachments: Nil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Central Tilba School of Arts Trust Inc. has submitted a written request dated 7 October 2025 for financial assistance to complete the upgrade of the two historic School of Arts halls. The Trust is seeking an interest-free loan of \$60,000, to be repaid over five years at \$12,000 per annum.

The total cost to complete the project is \$86,000, with the applicant contributing \$26,000 through community fundraising and other sources. The upgrade aims to bring the facilities in line with current fire, health, and safety standards, and includes the installation of a commercial-grade kitchen, accessible amenities (including showers, toilets, and a lift), and a dedicated meeting room. These improvements will support the halls' continued role as a vital community hub.

The project has already received significant funding through the NSW Government's Bushfire Local Economic Recovery program, with a total of \$3.017 million awarded. However, unforeseen structural issues and regulatory requirements have led to a funding shortfall.

The loan request aligns with Council's Policy on *Interest-Free Advances to Sporting and Cultural Organisations*. The Trust meets all eligibility criteria and has provided the required documentation. They have demonstrated financial capacity to repay the loan and have a proven repayment history, having successfully repaid a previous Council loan in full and on time.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Central Tilba School of Arts Trust is offered an interest free advance of \$60,000 for a term of five years, with annual repayments of \$12,000.