

Water Safety New Zealand Funding Prospectus

2019/20

15 APRIL 2019



**Water
Safety**
NEW ZEALAND

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FOREWORD

This Funding Prospectus contains details on the ***Drowning Prevention Fund*** which supports projects that deliver drowning prevention interventions that make a difference to New Zealand's drowning toll. This year there are new priority funding areas for the Fund that reflects work Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) has undertaken over the past year on three pilot regional water safety strategies and on drowning prevention for Māori. These new priorities sit with Water Skills for Life as the key areas where WSNZ is keen to ensure our funding is improving water safety outcomes.

Note that there is no funding being provided for sector research projects this year. It is the intent of our major funder that their investment is distributed to the water safety sector for delivery of operational programmes and initiatives. Therefore research projects will not be considered for WSNZ's 2019/2020 funding.

NB WSNZ's funding application process has been fully automated and applicants are required to apply online using the SmartyGrants system – no hard copy applications for 2019/20 funding will be received or processed by WSNZ.

INTRODUCTION

Water safety is a critical issue for New Zealand society – it is the number one cause of recreational death in New Zealand. The core organisations of the water safety sector have agreed to work together better to reduce preventable drowning deaths and injuries. This was the motivation behind the Water Safety Sector Strategy 2020.

As the sector's leader WSNZ has been working on ensuring the objectives contained in the sector strategy are delivered by ensuring funding is allocated to key priorities. One of WSNZ's key tools in this is the allocation of funding towards the sector's priority drowning prevention activities through its annual funding programme. WSNZ investments are a major source of funding for many organisations in the sector and WSNZ recognises the sector has a range of organisations that make different contributions to the sector's core mission of drowning prevention.

Funding priorities

In addition to these targeted investments, WSNZ has a significant role in supporting the development of the capability of the sector needed to address preventable drowning. Our work in this area led to the development of the Water Safety Sector Capability Plan in May 2018. WSNZ has been implementing key aspects of this Plan over for the past year and this work has led to two new funding priority areas for the ***Drowning Prevention Fund***: the pilot regional water safety strategies in Auckland, Waikato and the Bay of Plenty; and Māori drowning prevention initiatives.

These new priority funding areas will sit alongside the ongoing implementation of Water Skills for Life (WSFL), which has been the priority area for funding since 2017/18. This does not mean other drowning prevention initiatives will not be funded, it just means we are keen to support new initiatives in these priority areas. These new initiatives will however still be subject to the same rigorous assessment process that is applied to all funding applications.

Sector funding

It is increasingly recognised that sector funding levels are disproportionate to the problem we face as a sector and as a country. As part of its sector leadership role WSNZ together with key water safety organisation has met with relevant Ministers in relation to the financial and operational pressures the sector is facing. The Government is supportive of the sector and the important role we play in keeping people safe in, on and around the water. Discussions are ongoing to work out the best way to ensure the long-term sustainability of the water safety sector.

A significant programme of work is now underway with Government, in partnership with the sector, to consider all the different sources of funding coming into the sector and to work out the best way to ensure the sector's long-term sustainability. This work is expected to be completed in mid-2019.

Notwithstanding the outcome of this policy process with Government, we will continue to monitor the operation of our funding programme, including the new funding priorities, to ensure our investments are focused on the sector's highest priority objectives and support the development of our funded partners' capability.

Through the WSNZ 2019/20 Investment Programme we look forward to supporting strong drowning prevention partnerships that reduce preventable drowning deaths and injuries.

Ngā mihi
Jonty Mills



Chief Executive Officer
Water Safety New Zealand

DROWNING PREVENTION FUND

INTRODUCTION

WSNZ is inviting funding applications from suitably qualified organisations to deliver drowning prevention interventions that make a real difference to New Zealand's drowning toll. Through this fund, WSNZ will invest in organisations and projects that demonstrate a strong drowning prevention rationale, clear impacts and organisational capability to deliver effectively. The consistent themes of clear benefits, robust evidence, effective delivery, and partnerships to deliver water safety outcomes in the community continue to be important. Funded organisations are also expected to demonstrate how the proposed project has a long-term impact on the drowning toll.

With a finite funding pool, we must be clear on our funding priorities. We will invest in initiatives that clearly demonstrate value for money, aligned to the high-risk priority areas and the Water Safety Sector Strategy 2020. These are clearly specified within this prospectus. As a result, we will be placing strong emphasis on alignment to our funding priorities in the assessment of drowning prevention funding applications. These funding priorities are outlined below along with the evaluation criteria we use to assess funding applications.

Water Skills for Life

Since 2017-18 WSNZ has prioritised the implementation of the Water Skills for Life (WSFL) initiative for children in schooling years 1 to 8. WSFL focuses our education funding on 5 to 13 year old children learning a fundamental set of water survival competencies by year eight. This year WSNZ will again prioritise the ongoing implementation of WSFL and would particularly welcome applications from those looking to provide WSFL in areas where it has not been provided before.

For organisations intending to first apply for WSFL funding through the 2019/20 Drowning Prevention Fund process, it is recommended they upskill themselves on the objectives and operation of the WSFL and WSNZ's contractual and accountability reporting requirements. The seven WSFL skills sets and other supporting information, including a teachers' guide, can be found on the WSNZ website at:

<https://watersafety.org.nz/forlife>

WSNZ maintains a WSFL database for providers to enter data on WSFL students' achievements and run progress reports. This enables WSNZ to more effectively track progress of participants and make the WSFL database more useful for monitoring and evaluation purposes and inform decisions on programme improvements. Successful 2019/20 WSFL applicants will again be required to enter achievement data into the WSFL database in a timely manner.

Maori Drowning prevention

WSNZ has been working on refreshing its Māori Strategy in collaboration with its interim Māori Advisory Group - Tangaroa Ara Rau. One of the enabling tasks for the refresh project was to identify the desired Māori drowning prevention outcomes we are trying to achieve. These were based on the sector outcome set developed during the Capability Review and these have been used to identify drowning prevention funding priorities for Māori for this Prospectus.

For the 2019/20 funding round WSNZ is seeking proposals for initiatives that:

- increase the awareness of water safety risks amongst Māori;
- increase knowledge about Māori water safety (ie kaupapa Māori approaches); and
- provide Māori with the opportunity to learn Māori water safety survival skills and knowledge.

Regional Water Safety Strategies

Over the past 18 months WSNZ has been developing three pilot regional water safety strategies in Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty in consultation with stakeholders and the community. The objective of this work has been to develop a coordinated and collaborative action plan for water safety in each region that identifies priority work streams and investments for drowning prevention. While each of these regional strategies is currently in a different stage of finalisation, immediate funding priorities have been identified for each region. It is these funding priorities that WSNZ is using to guide our new investments in these regions during 2019/20. These priorities are:

Bay of Plenty

- Greater coverage for Water Skills for Life across the Bay of Plenty, including:
 - More children being taught WSFL;
 - More trained WSFL deliverers in schools;
 - Collaborations between private providers, schools and swim schools, particularly in rural and remote areas;
- Increase in uptake of Coastguard membership and training, particularly the Day Skippers course;
- Establishing a regular forum for those involved in aquatic recreational activities to strengthen the collective ability of the BoP community to address water safety issues.

Waikato

- Improved water survival education:
 - Greater coverage for WSFL across the Waikato
 - Increased availability and uptake of river safety education
 - Greater focus on youth and migrants (especially Asian and Pasifika)
 - More trained water safety teachers and experts
- Better communications:
 - Safe river zones
 - Educational Safety signage
 - Use of social media, video and other technologies (eg augmented reality)
- More effective partnerships with:
 - Waikato-Tainui and other iwi
 - Waikato River Authority
 - Waikato Regional Council
 - Swimming Waikato and other water sports codes (eg NZ Polo)

Auckland

- Greater focus on 'at risk' individuals/families/communities that are not currently being reached through education programmes, particularly:
 - those aged under 24 for water safety and survival skills;
 - males aged over 45 for recreational boating safety;
 - international students and migrant groups;
- Continue and, where possible, extend reach and coverage of existing programmes
 - eg extension of DPA's Wai Wise programme
- More effective targeting of audiences by using new communications tools/techniques, including:
 - social media
 - multi-lingual translations of water safety teaching materials/videos
- Use data to drive approach to drowning prevention by identifying new and emerging trends and areas to focus drowning prevention activities.

FUNDING CRITERIA

Applications are required to demonstrate how they will achieve results against three tiers of funding criteria. These criteria are outlined below and summarised on the Application Form.

STEP ONE: FUNDING GOALS

Each application will identify the Funding Goal to which it most closely relates. The Goals are derived from the New Zealand Water Safety Sector Strategy 2020¹.

1. *Every New Zealander has the opportunity to develop water safety knowledge and survival skills*
2. *New Zealand communities take the lead to promote the safe enjoyment of local water*
3. *Males improve their knowledge, attitudes and behaviour to take personal responsibility for water safety and*
4. *Parents improve their knowledge, attitudes and behaviour to take personal responsibility for supervising preschool children around water.*

STEP TWO: PRIORITY AREAS

The funding Priority Areas reflect New Zealand's highest areas of risk for drowning deaths and injuries based on the drowning prevention targets set for the sector in the New Zealand Water Safety Sector Strategy 2020. WSNZ will direct drowning prevention funding towards these priorities in 2019 – 20.

Note: WSNZ will not exclude applications from outside these Priority Areas where it can be shown that clear drowning prevention benefits will be achieved for a recognised area of need.

Applications must target the Priority Area or Areas to which they relate. These are:

¹ These Goals are set in full at: [https://watersafety.org.nz/Water Safety Sector Strategy 2020](https://watersafety.org.nz/Water_Safety_Sector_Strategy_2020)

Water Skills for Life for children in schooling years 1 to 8

Development of basic aquatic survival skills and knowledge at a young age underpins life-long water safety awareness and ability.

Tip: Applications must propose programmes that deliver Water Skills for Life.

Children Under five

This age group continues to be vulnerable to drowning fatalities and injuries and a specific drowning reduction target has been included in the Water Safety Sector Strategy 2020.

Tip: Projects and initiatives that focus on parental education on the need for active supervision will be preferred.

High Risk Groups, Activities and Environments

WSNZ invests in projects that reduce drowning deaths and injuries in priority areas. Applications are invited for projects that deliver strong water safety outcomes for High Risk Groups, Activities and Environments, particularly related to one or more of the following:

- **Communities** where there is a disproportionate risk of poor water safety outcomes and participation in water safety training activity is low, including: Maori, Pacific peoples, Asian, new immigrants, low decile schools and hard to reach or remote communities.

Tip: Projects and initiatives aimed at improving water safety knowledge and understanding in high risk communities are being sought.

Tip: Projects and initiatives aimed at Māori drowning prevention are being sought.

Tip: Projects and initiatives aimed at addressing the drowning prevention priorities in the three pilot water safety strategy regions are being sought.

- **Males** represent approximately 80% of drowning fatalities and 72% of non-fatal incidents.

Tip: Targeted water safety projects and initiatives aimed at reaching males, especially aged 15 – 24 years and 45 years plus are welcome.

- **Environments** that pose particular drowning hazards such as high-risk rivers, dangerous swimming holes, beaches or high drowning incident fishing areas.

Tip: Interventions such as education and awareness raising, signage, rescue and/or prevention services, access restriction, emergency equipment or engineering solutions that offer practical responses to reduce injury and death, will be preferred.

- Water safety **awareness and education** towards **attitude and behaviour change**.

Tip: An example of what is sought would be the provision of water safety messages for hard to reach groups or training programmes for specific water safety skills.

- **High risk activities** including scuba and free diving, snorkelling, rock fishing, recreational power boating, non-powered boating (such as yachting and kayaking) or activities such as stand up paddle-boarding.

Tip: An example of what is sought would be the design and provision of training programmes for activities where water safety interventions are not well developed.

Innovation and Value-added Opportunities

Applications are invited for projects that provide innovative solutions to known water safety priority problems or add value to existing drowning prevention interventions. These projects will demonstrate creative leadership and/or future focussed thinking that will push the boundaries of drowning prevention activity.

Tip: Examples of what is sought would be:

- *Local innovations with scalable, national application;*
- *New initiatives that have the potential to address priority water safety issues and high-risk groups, activities or environments*

STEP THREE: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The third application step is to demonstrate how projects will meet the following Assessment Criteria:

1. Benefits and Evidence

Applications must state why there is a need to undertake this project, and demonstrate that it will address a particular drowning problem/s.

- Benefits: how will this project meet the Funding Goal and Funding Priorities and how will it increase water safety? Who, and how many people, will receive those benefits?
- Evidence: how do you know your project will deliver these benefits?

Tip: This is the most important assessment criteria, so applications should contain enough information for WSNZ to form a view of what the benefits being sought are and how the project will deliver them.

2. Warranty

Applicants are required to demonstrate that their organisation has the track record and capability to deliver the project to the standards it has proposed, efficiently and effectively.

- What is the level of trust and confidence WSNZ has in the applicant and how has the applicant demonstrated it can be trusted?

Tip: Information is needed on the likelihood of successful project delivery.

3. Collaboration and Leverage

WSNZ is interested in how applicants can add value to the initiative and 'scale up' the impact through other partnerships and resourcing.

- What additional investment will this project achieve? What partnerships opportunities will it leverage?

Tip: This is about the ability of the project/applicant to generate collective effort and buy-in, or additional funding from other stakeholders.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Applicants are required to monitor and report on performance measures to assess the effectiveness of the project and the achievement of outcomes.

- How will you monitor the project and demonstrate its effectiveness?
- How has your project made a difference to the drowning toll?
- Project budgets must include provision for monitoring and evaluation.

Tip: Applications should indicate to WSNZ how the achievement of the project benefits will be measured.

APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Contract Manager

Funded organisations are required to assign one person as the 'Contract Manager' for the project. This person should have full delegated authority to manage the project and report to WSNZ.

Accountability Reporting

WSNZ requires a six month and year end report in the provided form, satisfactorily completed by all funded parties. These consist of:

February Report (six month report)

- A completed *Accountability Report* covering what has been delivered to date, its results and grant expenditure to 31 December 2019.

July Report (year-end report)

- A completed *Accountability Report* covering what was delivered, its results and grant expenditure to 30 June 2020.

Programme Audit

Please note that in making an application for funding to WSNZ you acknowledge consent to a financial or programme audit. In the unlikely event that WSNZ (or its auditor) find that funds have been used inappropriately, or for a purpose inconsistent with the grant purpose, those funds will need to be reimbursed in full. Any variance to expenditure that jeopardises outcomes will need to be raised with WSNZ.

Uncompleted Projects

In the event that a project is not completed, or funding is not spent, organisations are required to inform WSNZ as early as possible through their Contract Manager. Funds will either need to be returned or a time extension requested.

Recognition of WSNZ

Applicants are required to record WSNZ investments in their *Annual Financial Statements* and appropriately recognise WSNZ (and its commercial partners, if applicable).

INFORMATION FOR ALL APPLICANTS

Please read this information in conjunction with Part Five: Applicant Responsibilities.

Eligibility

1. Any organisation is eligible to apply for funding. Collaboration and partnership-based applications are particularly welcome. These should identify one responsible lead organisation for application and accountability purposes.
2. WSNZ will only fund specified water safety and survival programmes, or specific water safety components of other aquatic activities. Applications that relate to participation in general water-based activities or sports (such as sailing, kayaking, surfing, waka ama etc.) must set out in detail the specific water safety components for which funding is sought. (Note: if water safety is integral to a water based activity or sport, the provision of water safety training to participants will not generally be considered eligible.)
3. WSNZ does *not* fund the following:
 - Search and Rescue. Funding for this may be available through the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board Outdoor Safety Committee
 - Costs arising from changes to government policies, regulations or legislation
 - Core rescue capability

In general, applications for capital expenditure, salaries, debt repayments and organisation's day to day operational/running costs are unlikely to be funded.

Applications

Applicants are required to apply online using **WSNZ's automated grant management system**, hard copy funding applications will not be received or processed by WSNZ. WSNZ has moved to the new system to speed up the process for processing grant applications by eliminating paper-based applications and assessment processes, as well as providing a strong audit trail through the granting.

To apply for funding from WSNZ go to <https://watersafety.smartygrants.com.au>

- Choose the link to the application form for the Drowning Prevention Fund;
- Enter the requested information (note you do not have to complete the form in one session – you may save your form and complete later); and
- Submit the completed form(s) by the closing date below.

Note that:

- You may submit more than one application for funding;
- Funded organisations may subcontract parts of a project's delivery, but they remain fully accountable for the project's completion and success.
- Funding decisions will only be confirmed upon the receipt and satisfactory fulfilment of all deliverables and reporting requirements from any previously WSNZ-funded initiatives.

Key Dates

The following table summarises the application process and dates.

Stage	Date
Applications open	Monday 15 April 2018
Applications close	Tuesday 21 May (10 am) 2019
Final 2018 - 19 Accountability Reports due	Tuesday 30 July 2019
Notification of outcomes to applicants	Tuesday 30 July 2019 (indicative)

Additional information is available at:

<https://watersafety.org.nz/Get Funded>

For further information on the WSNZ funding process please contact:

Neil McInnes, Manager: Capability and Investment on 029 770 7198 or 04 801 9600.