

11. 2001/02 BURWOOD/PEGASUS COMMUNITY BOARD DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

Officer responsible Community Advocate - Burwood/Pegasus	Author Michael McNabb - Community Development Adviser, DDI 386-0921
Corporate Plan Output: Community Board Funded Activities 6.1.9	

The purpose of this report is to seek Community Board funding support for the New Brighton Community Pre-school and Nursery.

The Pre-school has to complete \$3,000 of urgent interior doorway work between the Centre's toilet and main play areas to comply with building code requirements now being insisted on by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health.

The Pre-school provides a Monday to Friday early childhood care and education service that has involved over 100 children during the past year along with approximately 120 parents and whanau. The Pre-school also provides learning opportunities for parents and child-carers. It hosts: workshops, seminars and meetings; courses on parenting skills, community awareness and adult education, family health and safety; guest speakers/information sessions with government and social service agencies; and home and family management skills development. The Pre-school works closely with other education, health, family support and community support agencies so as to ensure a comprehensive and collaborative early childhood and family/whanau support service is available in the New Brighton community.

The Pre-school has to complete this health and safety building work as soon as possible during the new year so as to comply with health and educational operational requirements. The work has not been scheduled in the Pre-school's current budget and to complete such work will place a pressure on its current financial year. The Pre-school had already budgeted to spend nearly \$4,000 during the Christmas/New Year break in upgrading the Centre's ten year old carpets and curtains. The Pre-school's audited accounts for last year show a \$2,635 operating surplus on expenditure of \$261,285 with net assets representing approximately four months' operating expenditure.

The Christchurch City Council owns the Pre-School building and property with the annual rental costs met by the Council's annual budget provision for early childhood education services. A Council Property Asset Officer has confirmed that all maintenance and the meeting of building requirement costs of agencies such as Health and Education are the responsibility of the tenant. There is no Property Unit budget provision for such work.

Recommendation: That the New Brighton Community Pre-school and Nursery be allocated up to \$2,000 from the Community Board's 2001/02 Discretionary funds as a contribution to this urgent building code work and that any allocation be subject to building work approval by the Property Unit.

Chairperson's Recommendation: That the abovementioned recommendation be adopted.