

7. MAYOR'S WELFARE FUND CHARITABLE TRUST - SIX MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2003 TO 30 JUNE 2003

Officer responsible Community Relations Manager	Author Paul Noble, DDI 941-6434
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The purpose of this report is to advise the Community and Leisure Committee on the status of the Mayor's Welfare Fund (the Fund) and information on the number of clients accessing the Fund. Comparative figures for the same period of 2002 are shown in brackets.

During the period covered by this report, 878 (948) people approached the Fund for assistance. Of those 514 (556) were granted financial assistance with a further 342 (372) assisted through the Fund Officers advocating on their behalf with vendors and landlords and through referral to appropriate welfare agencies.

The highest demand on the Fund was in the following areas:

Rental	\$23,789 (\$31,703)
Electricity	\$17,669 (\$14,155)
Firewood	\$8,412 (\$9,260)

Grants from the Child Enrichment Fund for the period were \$26,471 (\$22,555). These payments are made to provide children with the same opportunities as their peers to attend school camps, trips, sporting and cultural events and to subsidise childcare costs for children in 'at risk' situations.

Grants from the Making it Happen Fund for the period were \$1,518 (\$2,865). The Making it Happen Fund is available to individuals where it can be shown that such support will result in ongoing benefits, allowing them to make the most of their talents and abilities and to ensure that rare opportunities are not lost through lack of funding.

Total assistance given over the six months was \$91,864 (\$96,753)

Attached is a copy of the financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2003.

There is a need to amend the Mayor's Welfare Fund's authorised receipt and cheque signatories as a result of unit reorganisation.

Under the conditions of the Income Tax Act 1994, those making a donation require a receipt that meets the following criteria in order to qualify for a tax rebate:

- be officially stamped with the name of the organisation
- show the date the donation/or gift was received
- be signed by a person authorised by the Fund to accept donations

Those currently authorised to issue receipts are: The Deputy Mayor, Therese Carey, Brian Pegler and Paul Noble.

Those currently authorised as signatories to the Mayor's Welfare Fund National Bank accounts are:

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Director of Finance
Director of Business Projects and Relationships
Community Relations Manager
Financial Services Manager
Team Leader, Mayor's Welfare

It is proposed to add David Coom (Team leader Community Services) to both the authorised receipt and cheque signatories, as the Mayor's Welfare Fund is now part of the Community Services Team.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That all previous authorities in respect of the Mayor's Welfare Fund Charitable Trust to sign receipts be cancelled and any of the following officers of the Council be authorised to sign receipts for donations or gifts:

The Deputy Mayor
Brian Pegler
Therese Carey
Paul Noble
David Coom

2. That all previous authorities in respect of the Mayor's Welfare Fund Charitable Trust operated on the National Bank of New Zealand be cancelled and any two of the following officers of the Council be authorised signatories of the account:

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Director of Finance
Director of Business Projects and Relationships
Community Relations Manager
Financial Services Manager
Team Leader Community Services
Administration Officer Community Relations

3. That the information be received.

Chairman's

Recommendation:

That the above recommendation be adopted.