

4. 2004/05 PROJECT FUND ALLOCATION PROCESS

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The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with an opportunity to review its process for allocating Project Funds, review currently funded projects, and to hear from groups proposing new projects.

BACKGROUND

At the time of going through the allocation process for the current year, the Board raised concerns that while lists of projects were put before them for consideration, they were concerned that there could be other groups and projects which had not been identified and those groups did not have the opportunity to have projects considered. Members also felt they would like to hear direct from new groups who were seeking funding.

With regard to reviewing currently funded projects, it is too early to be able to provide useful information as these projects have only been going for under six months. For the projects funded in the 2002/03 year information will be available within the next few weeks. Groups were requested to submit an evaluation return by the end of November, and this information will be collated and reported to the Board early next year.

In previous years, the total cost of projects put forward for funding generally far outweighed the amount of funding available. All projects were included on the list, prioritised and ranked by staff, prior to submitting to the Board for consideration. The process used by staff to prioritise projects include:

- Alignment with the Board's Objectives and Outcomes
- Projects which meet the Council's policies
- Projects identified through research
- Projects identified by community groups/networks
- Continuation of projects previously funded
- Projects which meet the specific funding criteria, e.g. \$40,000 to support community workers or towards new community worker projects; \$40,000 to SCAP
- Projects identified by the Board throughout the year from presentations to the Board, or through Board members
- Submissions received from residents and community groups

For the new round, the LTCCP and Christchurch Community Outcomes, also need to be included.

The above process, while indicating priorities, meant that the Board had to eliminate over half the projects in order to meet the available funding. This creates difficulty for both the Board, staff and the community groups.

REVIEW OF PROCESS FOR 2004/05 ALLOCATIONS

At this meeting the Board is asked to decide on a process for allocating its Project Fund and give direction to staff to enable the appropriate information to be provided at the meetings where the Board decides its allocations (scheduled for 3 and 19 February 2004). Final allocation of the Board's Project Fund is required by 20 February 2004. Such a process would avoid the difficulties faced each year with a list of projects which far exceed the amount of funding available.

Options to consider include:

- Target activities and/or groups to support - (e.g. Community Development projects; City Streets; Parks projects; projects targeted at Youth; Children; Older Persons; Recreation/Leisure; Families; Environment), and nominate a percent of funding to each
- Target the Board's Outcomes – funding a number of projects to meet each specific outcome
- Target policies; Christchurch Community Outcomes; Research

INTRODUCTION TO NEW PROJECTS/GROUPS

The following are new projects/groups identified:

- Focus on youth
- Hope Centre Salvation Army, operating through No. 17 House
- Project Esther
- Leisure – proposed community events schedule
- Additional for new Rowley Resource Centre (if not able to be obtained from metropolitan or operational).

PRESENTATIONS

The following representatives will address the Board:

- Duane Major on behalf of the Youth Organisation collective fund bid.
- Rob Wayne on behalf of the Hope Centre (Salvation Army) operating through No. 17 House.
- Daphne Marsden on behalf of Project Esther
- Graeme Reid on behalf of the Carolyn Reid Charitable Trust.
- Gail Brislane and Maani Sterling on behalf of Noko Te Ao.

Representatives from each of the groups detailed in the attachments will be in attendance to answer any questions Board members may have.

ATTACHMENTS

Youth Organisation Collective Funding Bid
Leisure Events Schedule
Board Outcomes and Objectives
2003/04 Project Fund Allocation list
Annual Plan Flowchart
Relevant Council Policies

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board adopt a process for allocating its 2004/05 Project Fund and give clear direction to staff on information needed to assist this process.

Chairman's Comment:

I suggest that the Board adopt the option of targeting and prioritising Council policies (e.g. children, youth, elderly, social well-being) in order to set our priorities for funding.

The emphasis should be on the Board giving a clear direction/lead to staff on the areas we want to prioritise.

A suggestion from last year's Project Fund meeting of establishing percentages for allocation of funding could also be considered.