

8. ST ALBANS PLAY CENTRE – FUNDING APPLICATION

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Stephen McArthur
Officer responsible:	Lesley Symington, Unit Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek funding of \$5,000 from the Board's Discretionary Fund for St Albans Play Centre for upgrading their playground.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. St Albans Play Centre needs to upgrade their playground in response to new Safety Standards which were introduced in 2004. The Play Centre is located in a low socio-economic area and has a high level of community support .
3. The cost of the playground upgrade is approximately \$24,500. The Play Centre is approaching the Community Board requesting a grant of \$5,000 towards the project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Community Board agrees to allocate \$5,000 from its 2005/06 discretionary vote to the St Albans Play Centre towards the costs of upgrading their playground.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the staff recommendation be adopted.
2. That the Board agree to support in writing any other applications for funding required by the St Albans Play Centre.

BACKGROUND ON ST ALBANS PLAY CENTRE

4. St Albans Play Centre has been operating since the late 1940's . They have been at their current facility (Glenmoor School) since 1974.
5. Six 2½ hour sessions are run per week for all children up to school age, and fees are \$1.50 per session, reflecting the low-income nature of the surrounding community (Glenmoor School has a decile ranking of three). Approximately 60 children use the Centre per year.
6. The Play Centre employs one part-time qualified early childhood supervisor and 40 volunteers who deliver approximately 9,000 volunteer hours each year.
7. The Play Centre's playground requires this upgrade because it is now nine years old and no longer complies to with new New Zealand Safety Standards which were introduced in 2004.
8. The Play Centre contributes towards the following Community Board objectives: