

## 12. AMBROSIA EMPOWERMENT TRUST

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941-8534
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Community Development Manager
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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of the organisational changes at Ambrosia Empowerment Trust and confirm allocation of 2006/07 Board Project funding.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. After an organisational review at Ambrosia Empowerment Trust an existing staff member has left and with the agreement of Ambrosia Empowerment Trust, taken the A-Z Budgeting trade name and has continued this budgeting service. This service is now based at the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre. Ambrosia Empowerment Trust still also offers a budgeting service under the new name of Ambrosia Budgeting.
3. The Board allocated \$20,000 to Ambrosia Empowerment Trust from the 2006/07 Project funding round. Funding was allocated as a contribution towards the wages of one staff member, supervision and volunteer expenses. Due to the restructure at Ambrosia the original outcomes of the project have changed. Staff would like to allocate funding to Ambrosia Empowerment Trust and change the original outcomes.
4. The establishment of Ambrosia Budgeting represents the third budgeting service within the Aranui area. All three services offered are complementary and deliver a slightly different service to their clients. Ambrosia Budgeting provides a more in-depth Total Money Management service, Supergrans' focus is on basic budgeting skills to help themselves and A-Z budgeting provides a crisis budgeting service. It is also recognised that there is a strong need in the community for this type of service and this is reflected by the four week waiting list at Supergrans alone to access budgeting support.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5. The allocated amount of \$20,000 would need to be reallocated if the Board felt that it should not be paid to Ambrosia Empowerment Trust.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Board:

- (a) Allocate the \$20,000 to Ambrosia Empowerment Trust, specifically Ambrosia Budgeting as agreed on 8 May.
- (b) That the Community Development Adviser works with Ambrosia Empowerment Trust to establish updated outcomes for the project.

## BACKGROUND

6. Ambrosia Empowerment Trust has been operating in the Aranui community for four years. It provides services to the community such as a Community Café, parenting groups, support workers, food bank and the budgeting service A-Z Budgeting.
7. At its 8 May 2006/07 Project funding allocation meeting the Board allocated \$20,000 to Ambrosia Empowerment Trust. Funding was allocated as a contribution towards the wages of one staff member, supervision and volunteer expenses. This money has not yet been allocated to Ambrosia.
8. The expected outcomes of the project are the delivery of Budgeting for Change Courses, to enable people to understand and take control of their own budgets and how to achieve this. Also the delivery of Budget Advisers Course, to train people to become budget advisers so that they can help the ever increasing amount of people in the community needing help.
9. In September 2006 Ambrosia Empowerment Trust underwent an organisational review and as a result some staff members have left. One of those staff members, with the agreement of Ambrosia Empowerment Trust, took the A-Z Budgeting trade name and has continued this budgeting service. This service is now based at the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre.
10. Ambrosia Empowerment Trust still also offers a budgeting service under the new name of Ambrosia Budgeting. They employ one budget adviser and have a team of four volunteers providing budget advice. All other services remain the same.
11. Ambrosia Budgeting is still able to deliver on the outcome of delivering Budgeting for Change Courses. As the person trained by the National Budgeting Federation to deliver the Budget Advisers Course has now moved to A-Z Budgeting the second outcome to deliver Budget Advisers Course can no longer be delivered. If funding is to be given to Ambrosia it is recommended that staff meet with the group to establish new outcomes for the Board's funding. Staff are confident appropriate outcomes can be negotiated with Ambrosia Budgeting, specifically numbers of clients worked with, record of volunteer hours and referrals from other Ambrosia services.
12. The establishment of Ambrosia Budgeting represents the third budgeting service within the Aranui area. All three services offered are complimentary and deliver a slightly different service to their clients. Ambrosia Budgeting provides a more in-depth Total Money Management service, Supergrans' focus is on basic budgeting skills to help themselves and A-Z budgeting provides a crisis budgeting service. It is also recognised that there is a strong need in the community for this type of service and this is reflected by the four week waiting list at Supergrans alone to access budgeting support.
13. All budget service providers in the area receive funding from other funding organisations to support their work in the Aranui community. As all three budgeting services provide many other wrap around services, it is difficult to establish exactly what percentage is for budgeting advice, but as an indication funding is also received from Lotteries Commission, The Community Trust, Jones Foundation, Eureka Trust, Scottwood Trust, COGS and Fletcher Trust.