

6. CROSS-CULTURAL PILOT TRAINING SEMINAR – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to request funding support from the Spreydon/Heathcote Strengthening Communities Action Plan (SCAP) Committee to run a pilot cross-cultural training seminar.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The proposed cross-cultural training seminars are a new initiative being explored by the SCAP Committee. The aim of the seminars is to improve communication skills and explore peoples' awareness in the intercultural area.
3. There has been no funding previously allocated towards this project.
4. This initiative is to pilot and evaluate a seminar with the trainer KiwiHost Canterbury. If the pilot is successful, the intention of the SCAP Committee is to offer seminars to the wider community at no cost to participants.
5. The pilot seminar would be attended by staff and members of the community to provide interaction and feedback for the purposes of evaluating the trainer and seminar content.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. There are no legal considerations.
7. The cost of engaging KiwiHost Canterbury to develop and facilitate a pilot seminar, based on 20 participants, is \$480 plus GST. The total funding request of \$750 includes costs of catering, promotion and evaluation of the pilot seminar.

BACKGROUND ON THE PILOT SEMINAR

8. The SCAP Committee resolved to proceed with a pilot Across Cultures workshop at the November 2005 meeting, after a presentation from KiwiHost Canterbury earlier in 2005.
9. An outcome from the workshop or seminars would be to engender an attitude shift in how people are treated and interact with others focusing in the intercultural area. The pilot would be undertaken in order to evaluate the programme's worth and, if successful, used by a cross section of participants in the future, including health and education sectors in the Spreydon/Heathcote area.
10. The cross-cultural seminars address the SCAP aim 'to improve people's sense of belonging to, and being part of the community by facilitating the building of social capital', with the priority of cultural awareness issues.
11. This training also aligns with Council Policies and Community Board objectives and contributes to the Community Outcomes of 'A City of Inclusive and Diverse Communities, A City of Lifelong Learning and A Prosperous Community'.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Spreydon/Heathcote Strengthening Communities Action Plan (SCAP) Committee allocate \$750 from its 2005/06 fund to run a pilot Cross-Cultural Seminar.