

4. JUNIOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT PROGRAMME – FUNDING REQUEST

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI: 941- 8534
Officer responsible:	Community Support Manager
Authors:	Erin Eyles and Ingrid de Meyer, Community Development Advisers

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to provide information relating to a funding request from Neighbourhood Support Canterbury for the implementation of a Junior Neighbourhood Support programme from the Spreydon/Heathcote 2006/07 Strengthening Communities Action Plan (SCAP) Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Neighbourhood Support Canterbury is requesting that the SCAP Committee consider funding \$5,000 to support the co-ordination of Junior Neighbourhood Support programmes across Christchurch City. The application has indicated that funding granted will support the programme in two schools (yet to be approached) in the Spreydon/Heathcote area.
3. This project maintains a strong working relationship with Rotary, NZ Police, the NZ Fire Service, ACC, ECan and Civil Defence.
4. Junior Neighbourhood Support works within primary and intermediate schools and aims to promote a sense of pride, safety and community spirit in children. Children are recognised for such actions as helping neighbours, cleaning up local community facilities including graffiti and rubbish, noting dangerous situations that could result in accidents, and being aware of and reporting suspicious activities.
5. Initial applications for funding were received by staff at all other Community Board areas in the city for 2005/06 discretionary funding or 2006/07 project funding. The funding requests were \$5,000 from each Community Board. This request was to employ a Co-ordinator to establish and manage a Junior Neighbourhood Support Programme in each Community Board area. A funding request to the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board did not get received. Shirley/Papanui and Burwood /Pegasus Community Boards funded the project at this time with the remaining Community Board's recommending to 'Decline the application and refer the application to the Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee so that it may be considered as an application for a metropolitan wide service'.
6. Funding from the Shirley/Papanui Community Board was to support an initial Pilot of the project. Evaluation of this Pilot has not yet been completed.
7. The Junior Neighbourhood Support project was considered by the Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee at its annual grant allocation meeting on 28 July 2006. Due to the high number of funding requests, all new applications were given lower priority for funding. The subcommittee continued its \$20,000 annual grant for Christchurch Neighbourhood Support's Co-ordinator salary and office administration costs and declined the request for Junior Neighbourhood Support.
8. The Project was resubmitted to the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board for consideration under discretionary funds on 28 September 2006 and declined. The application was different to previous applications because it specified designated schools in the area, as compared to a general bid to support the project co-ordinator and project expenses city-wide.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. The total cost of the project is \$33,000. An amount of \$5000 is being requested from the Spreydon/Heathcote SCAP Committee, which contributes towards salary costs and some resources to deliver the programme to two schools in this area.
10. Canterbury Neighbourhood Support Inc latest audited accounts (to 30 June 2005) show an annual expenditure of approximately \$71,000 and a surplus of approximately \$28,600. Their balance of funding at the end of June 2005 is approximately \$71,000, however additional information supplied suggests \$55,000 of this is tagged for salaries.

11. City-wide, the expected programme of expenditure for the Junior Neighbourhood Support project is \$33,000. Of this \$18,000 is for the Co-ordinator salary, \$5,000 for resources, \$5,000 for mileage and \$5,000 for presentations/awards/prizes.
12. There are no legal considerations.

BACKGROUND ON JUNIOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT PROGRAMME – FUNDING REQUEST

13. Junior Neighbourhood Support is an initiative under Neighbourhood Support Canterbury, a legally incorporated society since 2001, with the aim of establishing and maintaining Neighbourhood Support groups in Christchurch.
14. The Junior Neighbourhood Support projects objectives are envisioned to:
 - Promote safety awareness in schools and in the community
 - Instil pride in students, their school and their community
 - Instil neighbourhood support values in children
 - Foster a 'fire wise' awareness in children, school, home and community
 - Foster a 'civil defence' awareness in children, school, home and community
 - Reward positive initiatives and behaviour
15. The Junior Neighbourhood Support Project was initially set up in West Auckland through West Auckland Neighbourhood Support and West Harbour Rotary. This programme was named one of the top five international Rotary supported programmes in 2004. It has been adopted in England, Australia, and Fiji, and is being rolled out in other areas around New Zealand.
16. The key tasks and responsibilities of the Junior Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator will include:
 - initiating contact with schools and setting up programmes
 - delivering the programme to the school
 - completing all administrative responsibilities associated with the delivery of the programme
 - liaise with Police, Fire Service and Rotary
 - attend reward presentations
 - report regularly to Canterbury Neighbourhood Support Inc.
17. Process to nominate schools in the Spreydon/Heathcote area has yet to be initiated. Neighbourhood Support are happy to be guided for the best process in the Spreydon/Heathcote area, with a view to implementing the programme in the 2007 school year.
18. This programme relates in part to the following SCAP Aim *"To improve the Spreydon/Heathcote Communities safety from crime to support community-based programmes"*. This initiative is more awareness and value based and endeavours to instil pride in students for their school and community. The programme is seen as a positive reinforcement of current school initiatives.
19. This programme also aligns with the LTCCP Outcomes:
 - A learning city
 - A city of inclusive and diverse communities
 - A city of Healthy and Active people
 - A safe city

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Spreydon/Heathcote SCAP Committee decline this request as the project has a metropolitan/city-wide focus and it has already been considered and declined by the Metropolitan Funding Sub Committee for 2006/07 Council funding.