

9. JUNIOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941- 8534
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Community Support
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to provide information relating to an application for funding from Neighbourhood Support Canterbury for the implementation of Junior Neighbourhood Support projects from the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board's 2006/07 discretionary funds.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Neighbourhood Support Canterbury is requesting that the Board consider funding \$5,000 to support the co-ordination of Junior Neighbourhood Support Programmes across Christchurch City. The application has nominated that any funding granted will support the Programme in two schools (St. Anne's and Phillipstown) in the Hagley Ferrymead 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 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 officers in all six community board areas for funding from 2006/07 Community Board Discretionary funding. Shirley/Papanui and Burwood/Pegasus Community Boards funded the project at this time with the remaining four Community Boards 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. Initial funding from the Shirley/Papanui Community Board was to support an initial pilot of the project. Evaluation of this pilot has not yet been received by Council staff.
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 grant for Christchurch Neighbourhood Support's annual Co-ordinator salary and office administration costs and declined the request for Junior Neighbourhood support.
8. The variance in this application to previous applications received is the nomination of funds for the instigation of the programme in designated schools in the area. Previous applications have requested a similar financial amount from each Community Board to support the project co-ordinator salary and project expenses.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. The total cost of the project is \$33,000.00 and \$5,000 is being requested from the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board.
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. 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 expected programme expenditure for the Junior Neighbourhood Support project is \$33,000.

Of this \$18,000 is for the Co-ordinator salary, \$5,000 resources, \$5,000 mileage and \$5,000 for presentations/awards/prizes.
12. There are no legal implications for the Board in relation to this application.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.

BACKGROUND ON JUNIOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

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 Junior Neighbourhood Support 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 Committee.
17. Discussions held with the Principal of one of the schools nominated indicated some initial contact from Junior Neighbourhood Support, however, there appears to be some uncertainty to the schools obligations and input and some lack of clarity on actual programme content.
18. Support for this initiative links with the following LTCCP Outcomes:
 - A learning city.
 - A city of inclusive and diverse communities.
 - A city of healthy and active people.
 - A safe city.