

7. BELFAST NETWORK FENCING

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Services Group, Stephen McArthur, DDI 941-8534
Officer responsible:	Manager, Community Support Unit, Catherine McDonald, DDI 941-8879
Author:	Community Development Adviser, Bruce Meder, DDI 941-5408

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek funding for the Belfast Community Network to enable them to erect a fence at their premises.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Belfast Community Network run a number of events and programmes from their premises on Main North Road, Belfast. Included amongst these programmes is a playgroup attended by up to 45 children. Indeed, because of the size of the groups now there is the possibility that it be split into two groups. An after-school group also operates daily from these premises.
3. The need to consider the safety of the children on this busy thoroughfare has necessitated the Network looking into erecting a fence.
4. Board members will be aware that the Network premises will not be ongoing because of the planned development in that part of Belfast. However, as the Network state in their application; "safety for our users who attend our facility is paramount".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The cost of fencing is \$2,000 and the Network is seeking a grant for the full amount of this cost.
6. Over the past year the Community Board has allocated the following grants to the Belfast Community Network:
 - (a) \$8,000 Project Funding towards Co-ordinator salary.
 - (b) \$2,000 from Community Development Scheme for office overheads.
 - (c) The Board has recently allocated \$15,000 to the Network from 07/08 Project Funding towards the Co-ordinator salary.
7. The latest audited accounts of the Network (to 31 March 2006) show a deficit of \$1,600 for the year and net assets of almost \$18,000 (of which almost \$14,500 are fixed assets).
8. Although the latest audited accounts are not yet available, indications are that to the end-of-year (31 March 2007) the deficit will be in the order of \$21,000.
9. The Network has supplied two quotes for this project, one of \$2,105 and the other of \$2,000.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?

10. Yes

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

11. There are no legal implications.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

12. This project is in line with the following Community Outcomes of the LTCCP:
 - (a) A Safe City, by helping to ensure the safety of users (especially children).
 - (b) A City for Recreation, by enabling an outdoor area to be utilised for recreational activities by the children.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

14. This project is in line with the following Community Board objectives:

- (a) The Board advocates to make the Shirley / Papanui Ward a safer place for all residents.
- (b) Encourage participation of all people by promoting and supporting community based recreation programmes.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

16. N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Shirley/Papanui Community Board:

- (a) Allocate a grant of \$1,500 to the Belfast Community Network towards the costs of fencing from its 2006/2007 discretionary fund.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted to allocate \$1,500 to the Belfast Community Network for fencing but that the funding come from the 2007/8 SCAP funding.