

10. APPLICATION TO THE DISCRETIONARY RESPONSE FUND FOR THE AKAROA TRINITY GARDEN GROUP

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Support Unit DDI 941-8607
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Community Support Unit
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present a request for funding from the Akaroa Trinity Community Gardens to the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board Discretionary Response Fund.
2. The Akaroa Trinity Community Garden is an informal group and as such can only apply for funding assistance to a maximum of \$2,000. This application has therefore been made on their behalf by the Akaroa Resource Collective Trust as an organisation with legal entity.
3. The request is for \$3,744 towards the cost of salary for a coordinator for the Community garden.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4. The Community Garden group concept was driven by the community following extensive discussion, investigation and collaboration of local people including the Area school and the Trinity Church committee, on whose land the garden is sited. The garden has evolved and grown over the previous twelve months and is now well established.
5. Although small, the garden is providing organically grown vegetables and herbs for all who give their time, no matter how minimal the participation. Surplus vegetables provide nutritious food for those in need in the community.
6. The group has developed a relationship with other Community garden groups in Christchurch and would like to further these relationships, sharing information and ideas.
7. Providing a salary for a coordinator would enable someone to be available on-site at specified times as a point of contact for the community, enable the group to advance their aims of growing and harvesting of heritage seeds from heritage vegetables, providing workshops, encouraging greater community participation, and furthering development of the gardens.
8. In addition, the Co-ordinator will facilitate greater collaboration with other local community groups in distributing the vegetables through the community to those who will most benefit as well as helping local people to connect with others who are participating in the gardens activities.
9. The group intends seeking funding for a permanent part-time position but requires time to identify funding options and make the appropriate applications. Currently potential funding agencies are not seeking applications until later in 2010.
10. The request is to provide funding for eight hours per week for twenty six weeks as a stop-gap measure.
11. The appointed person will be able to work out of an office at the Akaroa Heartland Centre. The community garden is on land adjacent to this building and the group currently uses the Centre for its meetings, tea room and toilet facility for people working in the garden.
12. The Community Board provided funding of \$705 from the 2009/10 Small Project Fund for the group to purchase tools and \$2,000 from the 2008/09 Discretionary Response Fund as a contribution to establishing a rain water collection system.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. The total cost of this project is \$3,744. There is currently a balance of \$5,544 in the Board's Discretionary Response Fund (including the \$2,000 for Youth Development).
14. There are no financial risks associated with the delivery of this project.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

15. Yes, page 184.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

16. Under the Community Board delegations, the Board has "*absolute discretion over the implementation of the discretionary funding allocation of \$14,124 (subject to being consistent with any policies or standards adopted by the Council)*".

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

17. Yes, as above.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

18. Aligns with LTCCP, Activity Management Plans and Community Board Funding – Pages 172 and 176.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

19. Yes, Strengthening Communities (p.172 2009-19 LTCCP) and Community Grants (p.184 2009-19 LTCCP)

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

20. This application meets the following Council Community Grants Funding Outcomes:

- Support, develop and promote the capacity and sustainability of community, recreation, sports, arts, heritage and environment groups.
- Increase participation in and awareness of community, recreation, sports, arts, heritage and environment groups, programmes and local events.
- Reduce or overcome barriers to participation.
- Foster collaborative responses to areas of identified need.

It also helps meet the following Community Board objectives:

- Promote the participation of Banks Peninsula Residents in recreation and cultural events/programmes.

DO THE RECOMMENDATIONS ALIGN WITH THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIES?

21. Strengthening Communities Strategy 2007 and the Community Growing Together: Community Gardens Policy.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

22. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board agree to grant \$2,800 from its 2009/10 Discretionary Response Fund to the Akaroa Resource Collective Trust for the Akaroa Trinity Community Garden group as a contribution towards the cost of salary for a coordinator.