

9. FENDALTON/WAIMAIRI COMMUNITY BOARD STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES FUNDING 2010/11 – BOARD BIDS

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services Group 941.8607
Officer responsible:	Acting Unit Manager Community Support Unit
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is for the Board to agree to the projects that will be put forward on behalf of the Board to the Strengthening Communities Fund for 2010/11.
2. The Board decision-making meeting is scheduled for the 15 July 2010.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. At the Council meeting of 10 December 2009 the Council resolved to amend the Strengthening Communities Grants Funding Programme Operational Procedures for the Strengthening Communities Fund, Small Grants Fund and Discretionary Response Fund Local, effective for the 2010/11 Funding round, by adding the following:

“That the Council officers be instructed that as a matter of future policy they are not to apply for funding from this source for Council projects.”

4. In previous years, Units’ have made applications to the Strengthening Communities Fund for local projects including community events and various recognition awards. Following the decision by the Council, applications to the fund for these types of projects will now need to come from the Elected Members.
5. Attached to this report is a table that outlines potential projects that the Board may wish to consider putting forward for consideration for the 2010/11 Strengthening Communities Fund (**Attachment 1**). These projects have been agreed as part of Unit work programmes. Also attached is a list of local Board projects which received funding from the two previous years funding rounds (**Attachment 2**).
6. Subsequent to the Board identifying which projects it would like to put forward as applications, staff will assess each project and include these on the decision matrix along with the other applications received for Strengthening Communities Fund.
7. The Fendalton/Waimairi Board Funding Seminar on 15 June 2010 will give Members the opportunity to go through all applications received from the community and Elected Member bids, in order to clarify any issues or seek further information about any of the projects. This seminar is public excluded.
8. If an Elected Member would like to put forward other local projects for consideration as part of the Strengthening Communities Fund, the Elected Member will need to complete an Elected Member Bid Application Form. This application will then be assessed by staff and considered at the Strengthening Communities Fund workshop and decision meetings, alongside all other applications. Staff will be available to assist Elected Members in completing the application form, if required.
9. At the Council meeting of 10 December 2009 the Council further resolved to amend the Strengthening Communities Grants Funding Programme Operational Procedures with the following:

“Amend the Strengthening Communities Strategy and the criteria for the Strengthening Communities Fund – Local to allow Community Boards to create a Youth Development Fund to allocate funding for Youth Development Grants.”

“Amend the Strengthening Communities Strategy and the criteria by removing the “cap” of up to \$10,000 for the Youth Development Fund.”
10. In previous years Boards’ have been able to establish a Youth Development Fund (YDF) of up to \$10,000 from their Discretionary Response Fund.

11. Most Boards fully spent their allocation with some Boards further topping it up during the year dependant on demands on the fund.
12. From 2010 Boards can choose to establish a YDF from their Strengthening Communities Fund and the option still remains to also use their Discretionary Response Fund for this purpose.
13. Boards desiring to have a YDF for 2010 from the Strengthening Communities Fund should include this as a Board bid following the process outlined above.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

14. Yes, see LTCCP pages 176 and 177 regarding community grants schemes including Board funding.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

15. Yes. Community Board funding decisions are made under delegated authority from the Council.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?

16. Yes. Strengthening Communities Funding and Community Board Funding, see LTCCP pages 176 and 177 regarding community grants schemes including Board funding.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

17. The funding allocation process carried out by Christchurch community boards is covered in the Council's Strengthening Communities Strategy.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

18. Not required

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board give consideration to the projects detailed in Attachment 1 – Projects to Consider 2010/11, approve a list of projects to be submitted as applications to the 2010/11 Strengthening Communities Fund and consider whether it wishes to put forward any other local project(s) for consideration.

BACKGROUND

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

19. The Council adopted the Strengthening Communities Strategy on 12 July 2007. The Strengthening Communities Grants Funding Programme comprises four funding schemes:
 - (a) Strengthening Communities Fund
 - (b) Small Projects Fund
 - (c) Discretionary Response Fund
 - (d) Community Organisations Loan Scheme

20. The following funding outcomes have been used to evaluate and assess applications to the Strengthening Communities Fund:
 - 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
 - Increase community engagement in local decision making
 - Enhance community and neighbourhood safety
 - Provide community based programmes which enhance basic life skills
 - Reduce or overcome barriers to participation
 - Foster collaborative responses to areas of identified need

21. The following funding priorities have been taken into consideration when assessing applications:
 - Older Adults
 - Children and Youth
 - People with Disabilities
 - Ethnic and Culturally Diverse Groups
 - Disadvantaged and/or Socially Excluded
 - Capacity of Community Organisations
 - Civic Engagement

22. The following criteria must be met by all applicants:
 - A community based not-for-profit community, recreation, sporting, arts, social service, environment or heritage organisation.
 - All groups applying for more than \$2000 must be incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 or the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 or be a legal entity registered for charitable purposes.
 - Be based in the Christchurch City Council area with funded programmes or services being provided primarily for Christchurch City Council residents.
 - Must have provided accountability reports for all previous Council funding and have no unresolved or outstanding accountability issues including outstanding debt to the Council.
 - Must have had the funding application approved at a properly convened committee meeting and in writing.
 - Must provide evidence of the need for the project.
 - Have appropriate financial management, accounting, monitoring and reporting practices.

- Have sound governance and appropriate operational capability and capacity to deliver to the level as agreed.
- Be able to commit to collaboration and partnering, where appropriate.
- Groups receiving Council funding at a metropolitan level may only apply for local funding if the project is specifically local and no portion of it has been funded at the metropolitan level.
- Community Boards may decide in conjunction with Council Units to deliver activities to their local communities.

TIMELINE AND PROCESS

23. Community Boards have delegated authority from the Council to make final decisions on the Strengthening Communities Funding for their respective wards. The Board's decisions will be actioned immediately following the decision meeting. All groups will then be informed of the decisions and funding agreements will be negotiated where relevant. All funding approved is for the period of September to August each year, therefore grants will be paid out in early September 2010.