

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF METROPOLITAN FUNDING SUBCOMMITTEE AND CREATIVE COMMUNITIES FUNDING SUBCOMMITTEE

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend that the Council establish a Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee and a Creative Communities Funding Subcommittee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. At its meeting of 9 December 2004 the Council considered a report on the appointment of Committees and Subcommittees. The report included recommending the establishment of a Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee and a Creative Communities Funding Subcommittee. Unfortunately these two recommendations were deleted from the final resolution and resulted in these two committees not being ratified.
3. An amendment to remove the reference to the Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee and the Creative Communities Subcommittee in the original report was made on the basis that these committees had already been formalised under the new Council when in fact they had not.
4. This report serves to enable the Council to formalise the Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee and the Creative Communities Funding Subcommittee with the attached terms of reference and delegations.

The Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee

5. The report proposes the establishment of a Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee for the consideration of funding applications to the Christchurch City Council which are administered through the Community and Recreation Unit.
6. The Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee was established in 1999 with membership previously being confirmed at the beginning of each new Council term. The Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee's role was to consider funding applications from citywide community groups to the various Council funding schemes. It also considered and advised on major applications which came to the Council outside the timing of the structured funding rounds.
7. There are approximately six major metropolitan funding schemes from which applications are considered at various times throughout the year at set times or on an as-received basis. The larger schemes have set closing dates and will involve up to 150 applications per round which may take up to two full days to be considered. A full list of the schemes and respective timings is attached in Appendix A.
8. As well as the metropolitan funding schemes, each local Community Board has funding available for projects in their local community. This split into project funding and discretionary funding and is assessed at set times throughout the year for project funding or as needed for discretionary funding. The distribution of this funding is by way of a decision by the respective community board and would not involve the Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee.
9. The membership makeup has historically consisted of between four and six Councillors with the opportunity to co-opt a number of community representatives. This was done on a one-to-one basis of community members to elected members in order to provide some balance. The option to co-opt community members has only previously been exercised when assessing funding for the Community Development Scheme and Creative Communities Funding Scheme.
10. The makeup of the elected member component of the committee was addressed in the December 2003 funding review with the resolution that the committee in future be made up of the Chairs of each of the Standing Committees. With the current Council not having Standing Committees the composition of the Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee needs to be reconsidered if the Subcommittee is formed.

11. Given the significant volume of work involved in assessing the hundreds of applications to the various schemes throughout the year, this would place a heavy workload on the full Council meeting schedule. It is suggested that no more than six Councillors have membership of the proposed Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee. It follows that as the majority of applications will fit under the Strong Communities Portfolio it is proposed that the Committee be made up of the four city councillors from the Strong Communities Portfolio (Councillors David Cox, Anna Crighton, Norm Withers and Graham Condon) and one each from the Environmental Diversity and the Place for the Future – Liveable City Portfolio groupings.
12. Applications themselves and reports to Committee often contain sensitive financial and commercial information and need to be considered with the public excluded in order to protect this information and the applicant groups.
13. Should it be decided not to establish the Metropolitan Funding Subcommittee but to have full Council assess all community funding, then potentially the meetings could be attended by up to 12 elected members and (12 community members for two schemes). This would not be an efficient or effective method of assessment.

The Creative Communities Funding Subcommittee

14. This report proposes the establishment of a Creative Communities Funding Subcommittee for the consideration of funding applications to the Creative Communities Funding Scheme administered by the Christchurch City Council through the Community and Recreation Unit.
15. Christchurch City Council has an agreement with Creative New Zealand to administer the Creative Communities Funding Scheme and to establish a Creative Communities Subcommittee Assessment Panel.
16. There are two rounds of Creative Communities funding each year, and approximately \$200,000 is allocated to arts organisations and individuals. Funding rounds close at the end of March and September and the Subcommittee would be required to meet in April and October to consider applications.
17. The membership of the Subcommittee must conform to Creative New Zealand guidelines and should reflect the area's demographic (especially cultural and ethnic) diversity. The Subcommittee may not be comprised of more than 50% elected councillors. It must have local iwi or hapu representation and local arts council representation. The remaining members will be community representatives familiar with the range and diversity of local arts and community activities.
18. It is proposed that the Creative Communities Funding Subcommittee be made up of the four city councillors nominated in the previous report of 9 December 2004 – Councillors Sally Buck, David Cox, Anna Crighton and Carole Evans. Such a membership would be in line with the recommendation from the Creative Communities Assessment Panel meeting on Thursday 21 October 2004.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

19. Where Councillors are appointed to committees, meeting fees will not apply. Where the committees include external members these people supply their time voluntarily.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council:

- (a) Appoint terms of reference and delegations, shown in Schedule B attached, to the Subcommittees of the Council listed in Schedule A attached to this report.
- (b) Delegate power to the Subcommittees to appoint their own chairperson.