

14. 8. 2008

**REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
AKAROA/WAIREWA COMMUNITY BOARD
17 JULY 2008**

PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

1. AKAROA/WAIREWA STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES FUNDING 2008/09



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

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval of the final allocations for the Akaroa/Wairewa Strengthening Communities Funding for 2008/09.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Council adopted the Strengthening Communities Strategy on 12 July 2007. The Strategy incorporated the Community Group Grants Review which provided the framework, principles and funding outcomes for the new Strengthening Communities Grants Funding Programme. This programme replaces the Project and Discretionary Funding process as previously used by the community boards.
3. The Strengthening Communities Grants Funding Programme comprises four new funding schemes, which supersede all previous community group grant schemes, sub-schemes and categories. The new schemes are:
 - (a) Strengthening Communities Fund
 - (b) Small Projects Fund
 - (c) Discretionary Response Fund
 - (d) Community Organisations Loan Scheme
4. The new funding schemes enable the Council and its community boards to support and provide leverage opportunities for not-for-profit, community focused groups seeking funding in support of their community endeavours. Detail of the outcomes, priorities and criteria of the new scheme are included in the background section of this report.
5. This report deals specifically with the Board's allocations for the Strengthening Communities Fund for Akaroa/Wairewa. The total available for the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board to allocate in 2008/09 is \$35,000.

The Decision Matrix

6. Detailed information on each applicant's project was presented in a Decision Matrix. The matrix names the organisation applying for funding and clearly describes the individual project applied for, including up to four project goals that will be delivered via the project. Details of alignment with Council strategies and Board objectives is provided as well as historical background to projects and applicants where applicable. The matrix also includes staff recommendations for funding.
7. Under the Strengthening Communities Funding Scheme, organisations were asked to make applications for 'project-based' costs, in order to show where ratepayers money was being spent and what outcomes were being achieved. As such, organisations may have made more than one application in order to fund separate projects and deliver a range of services.
8. A draft matrix was presented to the Board at a seminar meeting, where no decisions were made, on 19 June 2008. This enabled the Board and staff to discuss the projects, clarify any issues and seek further information if necessary.
9. The final matrix attached to this report includes six applications for funding with a total amount requested of \$47,608 and a total amount recommended by staff of \$35,000. Three projects were declined due to not meeting the funding criteria.

1 Cont'd

Key Local Organisations

10. Each Board may nominate Key Local Organisations (KLOs) in its area that are put forward to the Metropolitan Funding Committee for consideration for metropolitan funding.
11. The Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board has no nominated KLOs for 2008/09.

Timeline and Process

12. Following the Board decisions at its meeting on 17 July 2008, the agreed allocations will be forwarded to the Council for final approval in August 2008. 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 2008.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. The Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board has \$35,000 to allocate in its Strengthening Communities Funding for the 2008/09 year. The Board may approve one, two or three year funding for particular organisations if it wishes. The Board also has \$8,000 to allocate through the Small Projects Fund process and \$15,000 available in its Discretionary Response Fund, both of which are dealt with separately to this process and report. There is an additional \$20,000 Reserves Discretionary Funding that is also separately allocated, usually in consultation with the Reserve Management Committees and the Greenspace Consultation Leader

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

14. Yes.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

15. Yes. Community Board funding decisions are forwarded to Council for final approval.

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.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

17. Yes, Page 59 of the LTCCP, Strategic Direction, Strong Communities; and the Strengthening Communities Strategy.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

18. No external consultation needs to be undertaken, although staff have discussed funding applications with those groups that have submitted the applications.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council give consideration to the projects detailed in the table below and approve allocations for Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board Strengthening Communities Funding for 2008/09.

1 Cont'd

BOARD RECOMMENDATION

That the Council approve the allocations recommended by the Board for the 2008/09 Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board Strengthening Communities Funding, as detailed in the table below:

Recipient	Amount	Project	Board Comments
Akaroa Community Arts Council	6,345.00	Tutor Fees 1,725 Digital Camera 400 Monthly Art Spot 1,055 Poetry Day 620 Easter Event 145 Workshops 1,200 Portable Hanging Rails 600 Instant shelters 600	
Akaroa Resource Collective Trust	20,000.00	Contribution to Akaroa Heartland Centre Co-ordinators salary	
Akaroa-Wairewa Community Board	2,685.00	ANZAC Day Commemorative Services in Akaroa & Little River.	
Banks Peninsula Search & Rescue Inc	1,675.00	Administrative costs and reimbursement of volunteers travel costs to training, searches and group meetings	
Community Services Unit, Community Engagement	3,000.00	Community Service Awards - 1,000 Neighbourhood Week - 2,000	
SeniorNet Akaroa	1,295.00	Copying of manuals 746 Tables for laptops 120 6 Student Chairs 240 Filing Cabinet 189	
TOTAL	\$35,000.00		

BACKGROUND

19. The following funding outcomes have been used to evaluate and assess applications to the Strengthening Communities Fund:

- Support, develop & promote the capacity & sustainability of community recreation, sports, arts, heritage & environment groups;
- Increase participation in & awareness of community, recreation, sports, arts, heritage & environment groups, programmes & local events;
- Increase community engagement in local decision making;
- Enhance community & neighbourhood safety;
- Provide community based programmes which enhance basic life skills;
- Reduce or overcome barriers to participation; and
- Foster collaborative responses to areas of identified need.

20. The following priorities have been taken into consideration when assessing applications:

- Older Adults;
- Children & Youth;
- People with Disabilities;
- Ethnic & Culturally Diverse Groups;
- Disadvantaged and / or Socially Excluded;
- Capacity of Community Organisations; and
- Civic Engagement.

21. Each community board's objectives were also taken into consideration when assessing applications.
22. Core criteria for applicants to the Strengthening Communities fund are:
 - Not-for-profit, community-focused groups/organisations;
 - Legal status;
 - Based in the Christchurch City Council area and programmes primarily for residents;
 - No unresolved previous accountability requirements and no overdue debts to the Council;
 - Must provide evidence of the project need;
 - Must have appropriate financial management, accounting, monitoring & reporting practices;
 - Applications must show evidence of authorised approval to seek funding from the Council; and
 - Must have sound governance, operational capacity & capability to deliver.
23. Boards have the option to give one, two or three year funding terms to applicants that demonstrate competency and have a track record in operating and delivering projects according to the above criteria.
24. In making recommendations, and so as to ensure the consistency of recommendations with regard to all applications, staff held inter-unit collaboration meetings. At the meetings, individual applications were discussed and critically assessed. The meetings included staff members from Community Development, Community Engagement, Recreation and Sports, Greenspace and Democracy Services.
25. All applications appearing on the Decision Matrix have been assigned a Priority Rating. The current Priorities Ratings are as follows:
 1. Meets all eligibility and criteria and contributes **significantly** to Funding Outcomes and Priorities.
 2. Meets all eligibility and criteria and contributes to Funding Outcomes and Priorities.
 3. Meets all eligibility and criteria and has **minimum** contribution to Funding Outcomes and Priorities.
26. Details of the total number of applications, including those that were ineligible, for the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board grants are as follows:

Total number of applications:	9
Total amount requested:	\$57,184
Number of ineligible applications:	3

Reasons why applications were ineligible:

 - Residents Association - project did not meet the criteria. Referred to Reserves Discretionary Funding
 - Town Crier salary - did not meet the criteria. Alternative funding sought through Council's Marketing Unit
 - Promotions Group – not a legal entity

**STEWART MILLER
CHAIRPERSON**