

**19. HOON HAY YOUTH CENTRE FUNDING
REALLOCATION PROPOSAL**

RR 10246

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The purpose of this report is to request the Board reconsider the purpose for which \$10,000 was allocated to the Hoon Hay Youth Centre in March of 1996.

BACKGROUND

The Board resolved to make a grant of “\$10,000 from its 1995/96 Discretionary Funds for both the increased rental and outside development costs, subject to confirmation from the shopping complex owner that these arrangements are acceptable and are incorporated within a suitable Deed of Occupancy.”

The outside development proposal included a half basketball court out the front with landscaping and seating, together with redesign of the carpark exit. Due to difficulties experienced in obtaining neighbour consents and the fact that the Council would be paying for improving private land, the proposal did not progress any further. To date this money has been unspent.

CURRENT PROPOSAL

In light of the recent Hoon Hay Youth Centre review the Hoon Hay Management Committee request using the money for the following (see attached letter):

- To lease a vacant shop next to the hairdresser in the McCarthy Street Shopping Centre.
- Subsidising the present low wages of the Learning Centre Supervisor.
- Upgrading the Centre’s furnishings.

Lease of a Vacant Shop

Recommendations with regard to building/facilities/equipment included a short term recommendation “that an enclosed office space is developed within the facility”. This would meet the following needs identified in the Review:

- The need for a private area for confidential meetings/counselling.
- The need for additional office space necessary for the Hoon Hay Youth Centre to observe Occupational Health and Safety standards for accommodating staff.

This space would also allow for the development of clinic type programmes with visits from health professionals, employment advisors and legal support services which was also recommended in the Review.

Subsidising Learning Centre Supervisor Wages

A key recommendation regarding programming/services included that resources be put into staffing the Learning Centre. Qualified teachers and tutors were considered essential. The Review concluded that there was a feeling amongst youth and parents involved in the Centre, that services run from the Centre were invaluable, but they have not been run in a continuous fashion. Low wages and the difficulty of securing ongoing funding have had a negative impact on the provision of the Learning Centre in the past. More detailed information regarding wages will be tabled under the Public Excluded section of the agenda.

Upgrading Centre Furnishings

One of the main issues identified in the research by people consulted was “the poor condition of the existing facilities and equipment”, hence the request to use a portion of the grant on upgrading the furniture.

BUDGET

The following budget totals \$11,250 which is inclusive of GST.

Lease	\$2,000 p.a
Insurance/power	\$500 p.a
Furnishings	\$2,000
Wage subsidy	\$6,750
Total	\$11,250

Recommendation: That the Board support Hoon Hay Youth Centre allocating \$11,250 to the following projects:

- (i) Leasing a vacant shop next to the hairdresser in the McCarthy Street Shopping Centre.
- (ii) Subsidising the present low wages of the Learning Centre Supervisor.
- (iii) Upgrading the Centre furnishings.