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Corporate Plan Output: Recreation Programmes and Promotions	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of plans for the withdrawal of the Kidsfun children's after school programme from Bishopdale Primary School at the end of Term 4, 1999. This programme is currently funded by the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION - BISHOPDALE KIDSFUN PROGRAMME

The need for an after school programme of some description at Bishopdale Primary School was highlighted in 1997, both from the school and the local community. As a result, Bishopdale Kidsfun was established at Bishopdale Primary School in Term 1 of 1998, on Tuesday afternoons.

This initial programme was run as a 'pilot' for one term, with the programme being evaluated at the conclusion of this period. It was resolved to continue with the Kidsfun programme after this evaluation.

WHAT IS KIDSFUN?

Kidsfun is a Leisure Unit programme that provides a safe, fun, free recreation programme at selected venues, one afternoon per week, during the school term for children 5-12 years of age.

The programme was set up around the city at a time when there was demand for more after school activities for children but there were few after school programmes in existence to cater for this need. Budget restrictions meant that programmes could only run one afternoon per week, which did little to meet the needs of working parents.

A team of staff was specifically trained in leadership, first aid, working with children and cultural awareness to deliver the Kidsfun programme in nine different venues throughout the city.

FUNDING

The Bishopdale Kidsfun pilot programme was funded from the Fendalton Service Centre budget. Ongoing funding for the 1997/98 financial year was sourced from the then Leisure and Community Services Unit (pre CLAS Review).

The Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board has been supportive in providing ongoing funding for this programme, with \$8,000 provided for the programme this current financial year.

Citywide, Kidsfun programmes rely on community board funding. Having said this, the trend citywide has been for a reduced level of funding to be available from the Project Fund and Discretionary Fund allocations, as demand on these funds has increased.

When the Bishopdale programme is withdrawn at the end of Term 4, a total of \$5072 of the \$8,000 provided by the Board will have been expended, leaving a sum of \$2,928.

PROGRESS REPORT

Bishopdale Kidsfun has enjoyed good support from the school and local community over the last 18 months and has met a need in the community over this time. As with Kidsfun citywide, the presence of Kidsfun in this community has highlighted the need to establish a more comprehensive out of school programme (more than one afternoon per week). As a result of this need, the Advocacy Team is presently working on establishing an after school programme for three days per week at Bishopdale Primary School. (Note that the after school programme area is the responsibility of the Community Relations Unit, while the Leisure Unit manages holiday and general children's recreation programme delivery).

With the development of an after school programme, the successful introduction of the Te Ropu Tamahine Programme, and the YMCA running activities on Friday afternoon at the school, the time is right to withdraw Kidsfun from Bishopdale Primary School.

PROCESS FOR WITHDRAWING KIDSFUN

It is important that when the Kidsfun programme is withdrawn there is appropriate notice given to parents and children and other alternatives to offer them for after school care and recreation. Contact has already been made with the School Principal and the following communication will be undertaken:

- Letter to parents/caregivers of children registered as attending the Kidsfun programme
- Notice in school newsletter
- Flier handed to children
- Information Pack to be supplied to children in the last week. This will include information on recreation opportunities available in the local community e.g. sports clubs, activity groups, art/craft classes running. Information will also be provided to parents/caregivers on new after school programmes in the local community.

CONCLUSION

Kidsfun has served an important role in the Bishopdale community. With the recent development of three additional after school programmes for children, the time is right for the Recreation and Arts Team to withdraw Kidsfun, and to channel its resources and energies into other areas of need, particularly the provision of holiday programmes and recreation activities for the 10-14 year age group.

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Board approve the withdrawal of the Bishopdale Kidsfun programme at the end of Term 4, 1999.
 2. That remaining Board funding presently allocated for the Bishopdale Kidsfun programme (\$2,928) be reallocated to the establishment of the after school programme at Bishopdale Primary School.
 3. That when considering Project and Discretionary Funding projects for the 2000/2001 financial year the Board consider allocating a sum of \$8,000 for holiday programmes for the 10 -14 year age group in the Fendalton/Waimairi area.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the foregoing recommendations be adopted.