

15. ST MARTINS YOUTH PROGRAMME

RR 10641

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The purpose of this report is to recommend the Board allocate \$1,500 from its 1999/2000 Discretionary Funds to St Anne's Anglican Church for the provision of a St Martins Youth Programme. This report also seeks to clarify and compliment information presented to the Community Affairs Committee at its meeting on 17 August 1999.

The need for this youth programme stems from the development of a "youth problem" in the past two years, centred around late-night gatherings of young people in Centaurus Park. In May this year a community meeting was called, and over 50 local residents, Police, Council, and St Martins school representatives attended. From this meeting a smaller working committee was formed to look at several initiatives, including some sort of youth programme (other initiatives included a local community watch, how to combat graffiti, and lighting in Centaurus Park).

After consulting with local parents, and other youth groups in South Christchurch, it is now planned to trial a youth drop-in programme during Term 4, focusing on 10-14 year olds, with a paid supervisor to oversee and plan a programme content. Some back-up support may be possible from other local youth programmes, however a pool of "youthful" volunteers will be needed to run the programme successfully. St Anne's Anglican Church have offered their hall as a venue for the programme. Coincidentally, your 7-10 year students at Cashmere Primary have, as part of their "What's the Big Idea" project, expressed a desire for a local disco. Such an event could be organised to "launch" the St Martins Youth Programme.

\$1,500 is requested to trial this programme, made up of the following items:

Supervisor wages (\$75 x 10 evenings)	\$750
Promotion	\$150
Maintenance of hall and sports equipment	\$300
Programme expenses	\$300

Please note that this draft budget differs slightly from that originally submitted at the Community Affairs Committee meeting on 17 August 1999, due to the shortening of the trial programme length, a need for more sports/activities equipment, and transport to outside venues.

This project is an excellent example of community development and links into a number of Board Objectives and Performance Indicators:

- 5 To promote Community Safety from Crime.
- 5.4 Support early intervention programmes in the community.
- 6 To promote a healthy community.

- 6.2 Support local recreation programmes, including out of school programmes.
- 6.4 Identify, liaise with and support community initiatives which seek to enhance the physical and mental well-being of local people of all ages.
- 8 To promote social cohesion in the Spreydon-Heathcote community.
- 8.1 Support neighbourhood strengthening initiatives such as the provision of and participation in community events, and the activities of residents groups and community cottages.
- 8.4 Identify, liaise with and support individuals and groups who serve and build the community.

Recommendation: That the Board allocate \$1,500 from its 1999/2000 Discretionary Fund to St Anne's Anglican Church for the provision of a St Martins Youth Programme.