

20. COMMUNITY BOARD'S PROJECT PROPOSALS TO COUNCIL - SUMNER/REDCLIFFS CRECHE

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Alan Dunlop, Community Advocate
Corporate Plan Output: Board Project Funds.	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of the necessity to undertake a needs analysis for a satellite community creche for Sumner.

The responses from the Council's Property Unit stated that:

"No needs analysis. Would not be supported by "New Early Childhood Education Strategy Policy" going to the Council".

The reference to the "needs analysis" in this instance is based around building size requirements.

Reference to the "new policy" going to the Council that would exclude this development is not correct. The Early Childhood Education and eligibility and selection criteria are as follows:

"Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for council assistance, ECE services must:

- Operate on a not for profit basis (that is, no member of the group/society makes financial gain from the profits of the service's operation. Any profits are directed back into the ECE service so that users gain the benefits).
- Be recognised by the Ministry of Education
- Demonstrate that there are no other options for assistance and funding (from the Ministry of education, user charges, etc.
- Demonstrate the unsuitability of existing accommodation (if seeking to renovate, or relocate to new premises).

Selection Criteria

Council, through its Community Boards, will assess applications for financial support, using various section criteria. These have been designed with a view to prioritising the needs of the least advantaged, in line with the Early Childhood Education Policy, the Children's Policy, and the Community Development and Social Well-Being Policy. In broad terms, funding requests from ECE services will be assessed, according to the extent to which the following conditions exist in their proposed locations.

- Large population of pre-school children
- Lack of appropriate ECE Services
- Low socio-economic status
- Particular cultural needs not currently being served"

The existing Redcliffs creche currently located on church property while serving a need is not really suitable as the activities of Early Childcare are in several areas of the site.

Members will be aware of the investigations last year into purchasing an adjoining property for the creche which was ultimately unsuccessful.

WHERE TO NEXT

If the Council/Board wishes to pursue the establishment of a new or additional creche to service the Sumner/Redcliffs area it would need to undertake:

- (a) A needs analysis of the Sumner/Redcliffs community for the provision of Early Childhood Education.
- (b) Subject to the outcomes of (a) above undertake a needs analysis in terms of building size, type, style and preferred location.

- Recommendation:**
- 1. That the Council undertake a needs analysis of the Sumner/Redcliffs community for the provision of Early Childhood Education.
 - 2. That subject to the outcomes of (1) above, a needs analysis be undertaken in terms of building size, type, style and preferred location.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion