25. MAYOR'S WELFARE FUND CHARITABLE TRUST - SIX MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2000 TO 30 JUNE 2000

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee on the status of the Fund and information on the number of clients accessing the Fund. This will be the last report to the Strategy and Resources Committee, as future reports will be made to the Community Services Committee.

Comparative figures for the same period last year are shown in brackets.

During the period covered by this report 1,329 (1,466) people approached the Fund for assistance. Of those 734 (885) were granted financial assistance with a further 487 (549) given support, guidance or practical alternatives for solving their immediate problems.

Referrals were made to the following organisations:

Work and Income New Zealand	237	(312)
Welfare Agencies/Landlords etc	250	(237)

The highest demand on the Fund is still in the area of accommodation with 344 (520) clients being assisted with accommodation at a cost of \$63,528 (\$97,709).

Child care costs for children in 'at risk situation' are still being meet by the Fund with \$20,810 (\$28,282) being expensed for the six months ended 30 June 2000.

It is believed that the lower than last year figures are, in the main, a result of the 'once only' assistance policy (within a two year period) and of the information sharing with Work and Income NZ reducing unnecessary referrals.

Furthermore, attached is a copy of the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2000.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.