

27. GRANT FOR WOOLSTON DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

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Corporate Plan Output: Community Services, Advocacy and Funding	

The purpose of this report is to ask the board to consider giving Woolston Development Project a grant to assist with the process of making out of school programmes stronger and more self reliant.

The recommendations in this report are in line with –

Community Board Objectives:

Key statement number 2

- Enhance Social Well- being and strengthen Communities
- Objective – Consider the needs of identified groups, particularly those of the elderly, youth and children and include their contributions in decision-making where possible.
And performance measure 19.
- Provide resources to assist community initiatives.

Social Well Being Policy Priorities:

- Ensure services are co-ordinated and appropriate to community needs.
- Reduce barriers to access of services and resources.

Community Policy Points

- 2.2.3 Develop partnerships with communities and community groups.
- 3. Ensure Council activities are based on community needs and capacities.

Woolston Development Project has been highly effective in setting up the networking and support group for out of school programmes GASP. GASP (Group of After School Programmes) is a gathering of the workers in afterschool programmes in the Hagley Ferrymead ward area, although the group recently voted to include two afterschool groups from outside the ward area - Parklands and Wainoni.

The GASP meetings have been an excellent way of encouraging the sharing of best practice, relieving isolation for workers, assessing the needs of programmes and workers and generally creating a climate of discussion and development.

Woolston Development would like to take a more active role in assisting the out of school programmes to have their needs met and thus increase their independence. It is perceived that this action would occur in areas such as:

- Training – in all aspects of the skills needed for after school care work and management. They will also pay attention to areas that arise in specific programmes e.g. Calming Techniques for violent behaviour etc. From individual help and advice to all day seminars. Also to management groups on funding, auditing etc.
- Pool of Workers -to advance the setting up of a pool of reliever workers when permanent staff fall ill etc.
- Group of After School Programmes - the support and ongoing development of GASP.

Recommendation: That the board allocate \$6,000 from the Community Initiatives Projects Fund (money set aside for use in the Out of School area) as a grant to Woolston Development Project for use in the areas outlined above.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion