

13. LEISURE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROJECT FUND ALLOCATION PROCESS PROPOSAL

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The purpose of this report is to supplement the information provided to the Community Affairs Committee's 21 August meeting and to seek the Board's endorsement on a process for allocation of the following Board Project Funds:

Leisure Unit:

- Holiday Programmes - \$20,000
- Youth Recreation - \$15,000
- Older Adults Recreation - \$5,000
- Local Community Gathering Events - \$12,000

Community Relations Unit:

- Youth Worker Salaries - \$10,000
- Out of School Programmes - \$34,000

Through adopting this proposed process the benefits would include:

1. Avoiding time delays implicit in the upcoming local body elections and ensuring early distribution of Board Project Funds to community groups.
2. Rolling together requests for information regarding funding needs for this financial year and the 2002/03 financial year, therefore providing more detailed and timely information to assist the Board with its 2002/03 Project Fund allocations.

Decisions around allocations will be made by appropriate staff in accordance with the framework outlined below, and extensive consultation with local communities. Staff will report back to the Board for information as funds are allocated, as well as regular six-monthly updates and other informal means eg Advocacy Team newsletter, memorandums etc.

The main body of this report is broken down into four sections, with specific policy, research, criteria and priorities for the allocation of funds in each section. Please note that for practical purposes Out of School Programmes and Holiday Programmes have been grouped together, as have Youth Recreation and Youth Worker Salaries.

OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMMES

A total of \$34,000 has been allocated for After School Programmes, and \$20,000 for Holiday programmes from 2001/2002 Board Project Funds. The Board adopted a set of criteria and priorities for the allocation of Out of School Project Funds at its 2 March 1999 meeting. They are as follows:

Objective for the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board Out of School Programme Funding Round:

To provide access to those who might not otherwise have access to Out of School programmes.

Criteria For Applicants:

Eligibility for Funding

You may apply for funding if:

- You provide or intend to provide a supervised out of school hours programme for children aged between 5 to 12 years.
- Your programme is a care and recreation based programme centred around the needs of the family/Whanau.
- You are a community managed not for profit organisation.

- You operate an after-school programme at least three times a week for sessions of two hours or more (excluding Brownies/Cubs, and sports games/practices) **and/or** holiday programmes at least 3 days per week for 6 hours or more per day on a regular basis.
- You are able to account for your organisations' funds (if established), or provide budgets in the case of start up funds.
- You are a legally constituted group eg incorporated society or trust.

Funding Priorities

(In order of priority, 1 = highest priority)

1. Programmes servicing under-resourced communities.
2. Staff training eg. training seminars, professional development workshops.
3. Volunteer training and support including management committee members.
4. Wage subsidy.
5. Programme support eg. equipment, resources.
6. Publicity, information and promotional activities to increase awareness and knowledge of programme.

Activities that will not be funded:

- Debt servicing.
- Staff travel costs for attending conferences.

A portion of Out of School Programme funding will also be set aside to assist groups developing tweenager programmes, that is programmes targeted specifically for 10–13 year olds (holiday and after school). Tweenagers have been identified as having very specific needs ("The Year 7-10 Project – A Mapping And Awareness Ranging Exercise Regarding Children Aged 10-13", 1999, Kimberly Boye Campbell) and there are several programmes locally addressing tweenager needs, namely: **SHARP, Hoon Hay Youth Centre, Pioneer Leisure Centre, Waltham Youth Trust**, and potentially **Sydenham Salvation Army**. In support of providing some seed funding to the Salvation Army is a recommendation from the Sydenham Needs Analysis:

"That the Spreydon-Heathcote Community Board facilitate a process whereby community agencies, local churches and residents consider the needs of youths in the area. An option to consider is for a partnership approach and the creation of an after school facility for secondary school aged children that combines recreational activities as well as an environment that encourages and values education." (Page 7-8, Barrow, Annette, 2000)

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS 2001/2002

The following is an overview of programmes that are likely to be supported through the 2001/02 Holiday Programme and After School Programme Board Project Funds. The Board should understand that a degree of flexibility is required in making these allocations. In each case the amount of funding allocated to each group from 2000/2001 Project Funds is noted, and an approximate funding allocation for 2001/2002 recommended.

Under the current Board out of school programme funding priorities, the following programmes would be Priority 1, for the following reasons:

(a) PAAS (Programmed Activities After School)

| 2000/01 Project Fund Allocation | Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation |
|---|---|
| \$6,000 (\$3,000 after school programmes, \$3,000 holiday programmes) | \$8,000 (\$4,000 after school programme, \$4,000 holiday programme) |

This is a strengthening programme located in a high need area of Sydenham. The Sydenham Needs Analysis broadly indicates a continued need for such programmes locally based, however the difficulty this organisation faces is accessing those children and families in need when they are scattered throughout a number of local schools, including Waltham and

Beckenham. A unique opportunity exists with the impending appointment of the Sydenham Community Development Worker to link Sydenham families into the programme.

(b) **WOOSH (Waltham Out of School Hours)**

| <i>2000/01 Project Fund Allocation</i> | <i>Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation</i> |
|---|---|
| \$14,435 (after school programme) | \$12,000 |

Again, Waltham is a low decile area and this programme is based at Waltham Primary School which is a decile two school, and often has an annual turnover close to 100% (Barrow, Sydenham Needs. page 112).

Many users in the area do not qualify for the OSCAR subsidy, and are not able to afford the low fees for the Programme. Historically WOOSH has used the Spreydon-Heathcote Community Board funding to subsidise the significant number of these families.

(c) **Waltham Youth Trust Holiday Programme and Waltham Cottage Holiday Programme**

| <i>2000/01 Project Fund Allocation</i> | <i>Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation</i> |
|---|---|
| \$1,954 Waltham Youth Trust, \$3,330 Waltham Cottage | \$3,000 Waltham Youth Trust (Tweenagers), \$3,000 Waltham Cottage. |

These organisations are working on partnership delivery to different age groups 5–7 and 8–13 years respectively. The Waltham Cottage holiday programme has been running for a number of years, whilst the Waltham Youth Trust programme is in the early stage of development.

(d) **Addington After School Programme**

| <i>2000/01 Project Fund Allocation</i> | <i>Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation</i> |
|---|---|
| \$2,565 (after school programme) | \$2,000 (after school programme) |

In the past the Board has also supported the Addington programme recognising needs of a lower socio-economic community and Addington Primary School, a decile two school.

(e) **Hoon Hay Youth Centre**

| <i>2000/01 Project Fund Allocation</i> | <i>Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation</i> |
|---|---|
| \$1,200 (Tweenager holiday programme) | \$1,500 (Tweenager holiday programme) |

Serves a low decile community, with the holiday programmes filling an important gap in the local area.

Under current Board funding priorities the following programmes would be supported to a lesser extent (Priority 2–6 of the out of school programme criteria).

(i) **SHARP (Spreydon Holiday and Recreation Programmes)**
– both holiday & after school programmes

| <i>2000/01 Project Fund Allocation</i> | <i>Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation</i> |
|---|--|
| \$4,800 (holiday programmes) | \$10,500 (after school programmes and Tweenagers holiday programmes) |

This programme is based at Spreydon Baptist Church and West Spreydon Primary School (decile six) and meeting high community need. Up to 60 children attend holiday programmes and 20 children the after school programme. A waiting list operates for both programmes.

This is a professionally run programme with the support of local community organisations and schools.

(ii) **BOSCO – (Beckenham Out of School Hours) - After School Programme**

| 2000/01 Project Fund Allocation | Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation |
|--|--|
| No Allocation | \$3,000 (after school programme) |

This programme is based at Beckenham Primary School (decile six) and has been supported very little in the past through the Board's Project Fund. Given the information provided in the Sydenham Needs Analysis and the Board's aim of "providing access to those who might not otherwise have access to Out of School programmes" staff will be ascertaining the need for a limited "subsidy system".

(iii) **Pioneer Leisure Centre – Tweenager Holiday Programmes**

| 2000/01 Project Fund Allocation | Recommended 2001/02 Project Fund Allocation |
|--|--|
| \$4,500 Tweenager holiday programme | \$1,500 Tweenager holiday programme |

Pioneer is one of a small number local providers of holiday programmes for Tweenagers. The facilities at Pioneer make it an ideal base for such programmes. The Board have given Pioneer staff an indication that funding support will no longer be available after the 2001/2002 financial year.

A total of \$34,000 is allocated to After School programmes and \$20,000 to Holiday Programmes. Staff recommend setting aside a small portion of each project fund to address emergency needs. Again, funds will be allocated according to the Board's out of school programme criteria, whereby the first priority is to "programmes servicing under-resourced communities."

In summary, the general funding picture would be as follows:

| AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMES | |
|--|-----------------|
| Priority 1 Addington After School Programme WOOSH PAAS | \$18,000 |
| Priority 2 – 6 SHARP BOSCO | \$7,000 |
| Tweenagers Priority 1 Sydenham Salvation Army | \$4,000 |
| Tweenagers Priority 2 – 6 SHARP | \$3,000 |
| Emergency Response | \$2,000 |
| TOTAL | \$34,000 |

| HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES | |
|--|---------|
| Priority 1 PAAS Waltham Community Cottage | \$7,000 |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Priority 2 – 6 SHARP | \$2,000 |
| Tweenagers Priority 1 Hoon Hay Youth Centre Waltham Youth Trust Sydenham Salvation Army | \$6,500 |
| Tweenagers Priority 2 – 6 Pioneer Leisure Centre SHARP | \$3,000 |
| Emergency Needs | \$1,500 |
| TOTAL | \$20,000 |

YOUTH RECREATION AND YOUTH WORKER SALARIES

Several key Council policies make specific reference to youth needs in Christchurch, in particular the Youth Policy, Recreation and Sport Policy and the Community Policy. A recently compiled summary of city-wide youth research (attached) provides further useful information to prioritise support of local youth recreation projects. Please note that in referring to “youth”, it is the 13–18 age group which is realistically being targeted, even though the Council Youth Policy covers an age range of 13–25 years.

Policy

Local youth research and consultation strongly supports the attached city-wide summary, with the South Christchurch Youth Summit (1998) identifying key issues in the areas of:

1. Entertainment
2. Sport and recreation
3. Health
4. Culture
5. Issues for young women

This information was then developed into a South Christchurch Youth Strategy by local community representatives. As a result of this a local South Christchurch Youth Council was formed, with the goal of empowering young people to address the issues identified themselves.

Further to this consultation process, the Hoon Hay Youth Centre review (Kelly & Phibbs 1999) provides further evidence of the value of targeted youth recreation programmes. People consulted during the course of the research stated the Youth Centre had:

- “help turn young people away from crime”
- “given young people self esteem and pride”
- “contributed to a reduction in vandalism and graffiti in the area”
- “strengthened the sense of community”

In addition to this research, anecdotal evidence from local youth workers has suggested that salary and wage costs are one of the most important and most difficult areas to secure funding for. In the 2000/01 financial year the Board allocated a total of \$17,540 to youth worker salaries, which in turn, has lead to the development of a distinct Youth Worker Salary Project Fund allocation of \$10,000 for 2001/02. A further \$15,000 has been allocated to Youth Recreation for 2001/02.

Criteria and Priorities

Council policies, Board objectives, city-wide trends and local research and consultation indicate that the following would be the priority areas for allocation of Youth Recreation and Youth Worker Salary funds:

- Initiatives which truly contribute to the safety and well-being of young people, their families and communities.

- Initiatives which work to address youth needs in a holistic fashion.
- Initiatives which seek to address issues of powerlessness and disadvantage, particularly in relation to income, ethnicity, gender and geographical location.

It is worth noting that these criteria need to be applied with flexibility, and that the following assessment has been made in broad terms.

Using this criteria, the following local youth groups would be considered high priority for the following reasons:

(a) **Hoon Hay Youth Centre**

This group focus on a community of high social need where the youth population is much greater than the Christchurch average, and where crime and safety issues for young people are very relevant. The Hoon Hay Youth Centre attracts a significant number of Maori and Pacific Island youth, and has targeted its programmes and services in a culturally sensitive manner. The Youth Centre is a significant player in a number of community-wide projects.

(b) **Waltham Youth Trust**

Serves a community of high social need and is developing a range of programmes to meet local youth needs, including a Friday night drop-in centre (Ground Zero), holiday programmes, youth at risk programmes, and specific activities for young women. Waltham Youth Trust fills an important gap in the Waltham community and has developed key relationships with other local community groups. Issues have arisen from local residents concerned particularly with the Ground Zero drop-in centre and the Trust is working hard to address these.

(c) **Cross Over Trust**

Targets youth at risk with a specific South Christchurch focus. Cross Over Trust have a strong holistic focus to their activities and have developed initiatives such as the GAP Links programme for parents/caregivers. This group has been running for approximately 10 years and has well established relationships with other local providers of youth related services.

(d) **Spreydon Youth Community**

Has a focus on "mainstream youth", with a large leadership team (50+) working with a wide cross-section of local young people. Spreydon Youth Community have been running for over 10 years and have strong relationships with other youth organisations, enabling them to "refer" specific cases as needed. They apply a strong community development philosophy to their work, empowering young people to provide solutions to youth issues as much as possible.

Using the same set of criteria, the following local youth groups would be considered a lower priority for the following reasons:

(i) **St Martins Youth Centre**

Operate in a predominantly high socio-economic community, although this is not consistent in the St Martins area, and there is anecdotal evidence to suggest the Youth Centre is attracting a high percentage of "youth at risk". This group is very pro-active in the local community and have initiated a number of programmes and events locally, focussing on the wider holistic needs of youth and their families.

(ii) **St Nicholas Youth Trust**

Have been operating a Friday night drop-in centre at St Nicholas Church for over three years, attracting 20-30 young people each night. The majority of young people attending are in the 10-14 year age group, highlighting the current gap in provision of recreation opportunities for this age group. This group have recently established a good relationship with the Somerfield Residents Association and planning is soon to begin regarding youth issues in the Somerfield area.

LOCAL COMMUNITY GATHERING EVENTS

Whilst not extensively referred to in Council policies, Board objectives, or local research, the value of community events as a vehicle for local communities to “celebrate their successes” is widely recognised. The value to local communities of events such as the Hoon Hay Community Day was the topic of a PhD completed by Canadian research student Jennifer Olsen. This study concluded that the social impacts of an event such as the Hoon Hay Community Day were very positive, almost without exception, and were strongly supported by local residents.

The following schedule of events to be supported from 2001/02 is largely based on existing commitments from previous events funded, and the subsequent community expectations.

| Event | \$ | Note: |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Barrington Fun Day | 3,500 | } already tagged from 24 May 2001 Community Affairs Committee meeting |
| Hoon Hay Community Day | 3,500 | |
| St Martins River Day | 1,000 | |
| Waltham Fun Day | 1,500 | (\$546 already allocated from 2000/02 funds, good likelihood of Creative Communities funding) |
| Sydenham Community Festival | 500 | |
| Addington Twilight Fair | 850 | |
| Christmas Events | 650 | |
| New Events | 500 | |
| | \$12,000 | |

OLDER ADULTS RECREATION

The Council adopted an Older Persons Policy in September 1998 which, coupled with recent research (Recreation and Arts Involvement of Older Adults in Christchurch: A Needs Analysis – Wylie 2000), provides a sound basis for allocation of funds.

In summarising the Council's role in addressing the needs of older adults, Wylie (2000) states *“Those with least access to recreation and arts opportunities are typically poorer in health, have some level of physical disability, do not drive, live along on a low income, and are not engaged in social groups. It is this group which most needs the support of Council in ensuring access to recreation and arts opportunities”*.

From the key recommendations, several “gaps” in provision were identified for Spreydon-Heathcote:

- Investigating the viability of establishing a community arts centre in the Addington area or providing arts activities for older adults through Manuka Cottage.
- Improving library services to older people in the St Martins area.

It is also worth noting from the demographic analysis of Christchurch in this study, that the Barrington area has the highest percentage of people 70 years and over in Christchurch. Spreydon ward also has the highest percentage of low income earners (\$20,000 and under) for both the 55-69 age group and the over 70 age group.

With the above information in mind it is proposed these funds be allocated according to the following criteria:

- Projects which target older adults with the least access to recreation and arts opportunities.
- Projects which enhance access to community arts for older adults in the Addington area.
- Projects which target older adults in the Barrington and Spreydon communities.
- Partnerships with St Martins library with a specific focus on older adults.

It is worth noting that the total to be allocated (\$5,000) means that in reality only one or two projects are likely to be initiated/supported.

Recommendation:

1. That the Board endorse the officer's recommendations regarding out of school programmes, as outline above.
2. That the Board adopt the above processes principles and criteria as a basis for allocating the Board's 2001/02 Holiday Programmes, Youth Recreation, Older Adults Recreation, Local Community Events, Youth Worker Salaries and Out of School Programme Project Funds, in line with the recommendations contained within the report.