

4. MAYOR'S WELFARE FUND CHARITABLE TRUST - SIX MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2002 TO 30 JUNE 2002

Officer responsible Community Relations Manager	Author Paul Noble, DDI 941-941-6434
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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 from 1 January 2002 to 30 June 2002 and amend the authorised receipt signatories. Comparative figures for the same period of 2001 are shown in brackets.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

During the period covered by this report 948 (942) people approached the fund for assistance. Of those 556 (567) were granted financial assistance with a further 372 (358) assisted through the Fund Officers advocating on their behalf with vendors and landlords and through referral to appropriate agencies.

The highest demand on the fund was in the following areas:

Rental	\$31,703	(\$35,828)
Electricity	\$14,155	(\$13,891)
Firewood	\$9,260	(\$5,520)
Furniture	\$5,128	(\$4,629)
Medical	\$3,474	(\$2,168)
Telephone	\$2,441	(\$3,512)

Grants from the Child Enrichment Fund for the period were \$22,555 (\$23,315). These payments are made to provide children with the same opportunities as their peers to attend school camps, trips, sporting and cultural events and to subsidise childcare costs for children in 'at risk' situations.

Grants from the Making it Happen Fund for the period were \$2,865 (\$1,296). The Making it Happen Fund is available to individuals where it can be shown that such support will result in ongoing benefits, allowing them to make the most of their talents and abilities and to ensure that rare opportunities are not lost through lack of funding.

Total assistance given over the six months was \$96,753 (\$94,969).

Attached is a copy of the financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2002.

AMENDMENT TO AUTHORISED RECEIPT SIGNATORIES

There is a need to amend the Mayor's Welfare Fund authorised receipt signatories as a result of a staff replacement. Under the conditions of the Income Tax Act 1994, those making a donation require a receipt that meets the following criteria in order to qualify for a tax rebate:

- be officially stamped with the name of the organisation
- show the date the donation/or gift was received
- be signed by a person authorised by the fund to accept donations

Those currently authorised to issue receipts are The Mayor, Elizabeth Siataga, Therese Carey and Paul Noble.

Staff

Recommendation: 1. That all previous authorities in respect of the Mayor's Welfare Fund Charitable Trust to sign receipts be cancelled and any of the following officers of the Council be authorised to sign receipts for donations or gifts:

The Mayor
Brian Pegler
Therese Carey
Paul Noble

2. That the information be received.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.