

6. LOTTERY GRANTS BOARD FUNDING

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The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with information regarding the Lottery Grants Board allocation of funding for 2002/03 financial year.

INTRODUCTION

The Lottery Community Facilities Committee has been discontinued since 30 June this year. The final Community Facilities Committee regional distribution meeting will be held in late October or early November 2002 and the final national distribution meeting in mid to late November 2002.

The allocation of funds to the Lottery Grants Board from the Lotteries Commission decreased by \$18.5 million over the last year (and by nearly \$40 million since 1999). Facing that decrease the Board decided to allocate the available funding "to best achieve the strategic goals of the Lottery Grants Board." The Board decided that less impact would be made to communities if the ongoing cost of social services organisations continued to be supported by Lottery grants, rather than funding of one-off project costs.

BACKGROUND

The New Zealand Lottery Grants Board was set up by Parliament to benefit the community by distributing the profits made by the Lotteries Commission from state lotteries such as Lotto, Lotto Strike, Instant Kiwi, Telebingo and Daily Keno.

The Lottery Grants Board does this through a system of distribution agencies and committees. These cover a wide range of community affairs, including charitable, cultural, recreational and research activities.

Lottery Community Facilities, one of these committees, made grants to non-profit-making community groups, local or regional authorities and iwi, to help with the costs of building projects, other capital works and feasibility studies for:

- community facilities (eg church-centred, school based, RSA clubs. Voluntary welfare organisation facilities, ECE centres, community halls, libraries, community centres)
- arts facilities (eg theatres and art and craft centres).
- recreational or sporting facilities (eg swimming pools, parks, outdoor education facilities, gyms, sports clubrooms, stadiums and pavilions, athletic tracks, adventure playgrounds)

The type of capital works funded included:

- the purchase or construction of buildings, alterations, extensions or renovations to existing buildings
- items necessary for the full functioning of the facility, eg electrical, lighting and plumbing items, sprinkler systems, floor coverings, furnishings, whiteware, crockery and mattresses (these are eligible only when included as part of a more major capital works projects)
- professional fees, including architectural, legal and quantity surveying costs involved in developing a project
- fencing costs and landscaping costs.
- carparks and roading within the project site
- land being purchased as part of the capital works
- feasibility studies

Applications for grants were considered through five regional subcommittees (applications under \$30,000) and a national committee (applications for feasibility studies and for other applications over \$30,000)

Other Lottery distribution committees will continue. The Environment and Heritage committee and the Marae Heritage and Facilities committee will continue to provide funding for specific facilities. These include numerous aspects of heritage conservation and the development or conservation of marae.

Lottery Youth will continue to consider applications where at least 75% of the project's client base are young people (in the age range 0-25 years). Lottery Youth will continue to fund projects that have a developmental or preventative focus. Lottery Welfare will continue to consider requests from groups offering a welfare or support service to the whole family including any young people. Lottery Welfare will also continue to consider requests from groups providing welfare services to young people. Lottery Seniors will continue to fund organisations where 50% or more of the client base is over the age of 60 years. Lottery Welfare considers the remainder. The Lottery General committee will continue to fund projects of national, regional or local significance, and outdoor safety, education/training and search and rescue programmes which are outside the scope of other distribution committees.

IMPLICATIONS

The reduction in funding available to funding of community initiatives will have impacts on the Christchurch community and on the Council. Many community and Council projects will not be viable or will be delayed. Council and other local funders should expect an increase in applications for funding. Documents identifying recent local funding from Lottery Community Facilities will be tabled at the meeting.

Staff

Recommendation: That the impact of the Lottery Grants Board decision be considered in the funding review.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.