

4. HOLIDAY PROGRAMME FUNDING

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Board that the Community and Recreation Unit has been successful in receiving \$6,500 from the Ministry of Social Development to support *Linwood Movers*, a Board funded holiday programme. This report also requests the Board to consider reinvesting the \$6,500 into providing further holiday programmes and activities for children from low socio economic areas within Hagley/Ferrymead.

RELEVANT COUNCIL/BOARD POLICY

Council Policy

- The Social Wellbeing and Community Policy
- The Children's Policy
- Recreation and Sport Strategy
- Out of School Care Policy

Board Objectives

- An empowered and enabled community
- An active community

BACKGROUND

Recent research evaluating Out of School programmes for the Council states that 'by targeting more support into Out of School programmes operating in lower school decile communities, the Council contributes directly to achieving social well being and community policy goals of reducing barriers to access services and resources, reducing disparity between communities and reducing multi disadvantage.' A key recommendation is that 'the Council financially continues to support Out of School Programmes until such time as programmes can source adequate ongoing funding from central government' (MacGibbon Dec 2003). This is also supported by the findings in the Leisure, Parks and Waterways Study for Hagley/Ferrymead (Global Leisure, 2003), which identify an increased need to supply more holiday programme activities in disadvantaged communities.

The Council has been a successful advocate to central government for receiving funding to support the provision of Out of School Care and Recreation. That is, the Ministry of Social Development has provided some funding to Out of School Care and Recreation providers and the Community and Recreation Unit is able to return \$6,500 project funds to the Board which funds *Linwood Movers*. However, there are still insufficient funds to meet current demand for holiday programmes in low socio economic areas in both the Hagley/Ferrymead area and the City as a whole.

CURRENT SITUATION

The demand for holiday programmes continues to grow as parents/caregivers return to the workforce or training, and families want to be able to access affordable, quality child care and recreation opportunities. The *Bromley Boredom Busters*, holiday programme funded and delivered by the Community and Recreation Unit, operates at the Bromley Community Centre for one week per school holidays catering for 40 children aged 5 – 12 years. Despite demand for a two week programme, there have been insufficient funds to meet this need. An extra \$5,000 would enable a two week holiday programme to operate over the April and July school holiday periods. The Community and Recreation Unit would then meet the ongoing provision of the extended holiday programme in the next financial year and an application for funding would be made to the Ministry of Social Development in the next funding round.

Another area of identified need is catering for the 11 – 14 year old age group. This age group is often looking for affordable holiday activities beyond what is offered at holiday programmes for 5 – 12 year olds. Adventure based activities and workshops appeal to this age group and it would be beneficial to be able to apply the remaining \$1,500 to support additional holiday activities for 11 – 14 year olds from low socio economic areas in Hagley/Ferrymead.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Board receive \$6,500 due to receipt of Ministry of Social Development funding for the *Linwood Movers* Holiday Programme.
 2. That the Board consider allocating \$5,000 from the received funds to extend the holiday programme for 5 – 12 year olds at Bromley Community Centre.
 3. That the Board consider allocating \$1,500 from the received funds to cater for increased demand for activities appealing to 11 – 14 year olds from low socio economic areas within Hagley/Ferrymead.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the recommendations be adopted.