

3. HORNBY YOUTH WORKER PROJECT – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible:	Stephen McArthur
Officer responsible:	Lesley Symington
Author:	Denise Galloway, DDI 941-6536

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to request approval from the Community Board, via the Community Services Committee, to provide funding of \$20,000 from its Youth Initiatives Fund (2004/05) for recreation programmes delivered by the Hornby Youth Worker Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. In 2002 a research paper was undertaken relating to the Hornby Youth Worker project. The research recommended that in order to ensure sustainability and continuity of the project's service, that Board funding be allocated in two-yearly cycles.
3. In response to this recommendation, funding totalling \$40,000 (two years' worth of funding) was allocated for the project from the 2003/04 Board Budget.
4. The two year cycle is about to commence again in the 2005/06 financial year, for which \$20,000 has been allocated from Board project funding (to be released in July 2005).
5. As a further \$20,000 is available from the current financial year (Youth Initiative fund), allocation of the available \$20,000 would effectively complete the two year allocation for this project (i.e. there would be no need to allocate a further \$20,000 to meet contractual commitments for the 2005/06 financial year).

BACKGROUND ON HORNBY YOUTH WORKER PROJECT

6. The Hornby Youth Worker Project commenced in August 1998. The project arose from an outcome of research undertaken by the Health Research Service on the needs of youth in the Riccarton/Wigram wards. This report noted that Broomfield/Hei Hei and Islington had a high transient younger population with fewer recreation options and significant barriers to participation in existing options.
7. The Community Development Network Trust was contracted by the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board to provide a youth worker and relevant recreation programmes to address the above need. The Trust was responsible for appointing, supporting, and supervising the youth worker. The prime objective of the project was to facilitate and promote positive opportunities for young people in the Hornby area.
8. The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board initially provided funding for the salary as well as the programmes. The salary of the youth worker is now provided by the Community and Recreation Unit budget. The Community Board has continued the strong partnership by providing funds for the programmes (camps, activities, events) run by the Youth Worker as well as some funding in 2004 towards the position of a female assistant youth worker for an eighteen month duration.
9. In 2002 the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board contracted an independent researcher to evaluate the Hornby Youth Worker Project. The evaluation highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of the project and gave clear evidence that the project needed to continue. One of the recommendations from the evaluation was "that the Community Board consider a two-year funding commitment to allow for the planning and continuity of the programmes associated with the Hornby Youth Worker Project". The Community Board agreed with the recommendation and was able to provide funding for two years. This covered the 2002/03 and the 2003/04 financial years and was paid from the 2002/03 budget.

10. The Hornby Youth Worker, Lael Schwartreger provides a six monthly and annual report for the Riccarton/Wigram Community Services Committee. Attached is a summary of the goals, objectives, performance indicators and results. The programmes continue to be well attended and the youth workers are developing different ways of building positive relationships with the young people in Hornby. The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board has agreed to allocate \$20,000 from 2005/06 Board project funding, which would cover the cost of programmes for one year. There is an opportunity to contribute the additional \$20,000 from the Youth Initiatives Fund (2004/05) to complete this commitment.

OPTIONS

11. The Community Services Committee could choose to:
 - (a) Grant \$20,000 to the Hornby Youth Worker Project from 2004/05 Youth Initiative Fund, subject to a satisfactory report from the group in May 2005; this would enable the Youth Worker to plan (for two consecutive years) relevant programmes, activities and initiatives.
 - (b) Grant a proportion of the amount requested.
 - (c) Decline the request and fund the programme from 2005/06 Board Projects Funds.

PREFERRED OPTION

12. The preferred option is to grant \$20,000 from the current Community Board Youth Initiatives Fund (2004/05) which would greatly assist the planning of programmes and initiatives. The Youth Initiatives Fund currently has \$35,000 available.

CONCLUSION

13. In conclusion, the Hornby Youth Worker Project is a highly successful project which has developed significantly over the last eight years. The Riccarton/Wigram Board has in the past responded to the recommendations made by the evaluation (2002) to make two year funding (for programmes) available. This has addressed the need highlighted in the 2002 evaluation and enabled the Hornby Youth Worker to develop programmes and activities for youth in the Hornby area.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Community Board allocate \$20,000 to the Hornby Youth Worker Project from 2004/05 Youth Initiatives Fund to enable the Youth Worker to plan (for two consecutive years) relevant programmes, activities and initiatives.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Officer's recommendation be adopted.