

6. ARANUI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISER

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| General Manager responsible: | General Manager Community and Recreation |
| Officer responsible: | Community and Recreation Manager |
| Author: | Matalega Lolotai, Aranui Community Development Adviser, DDI 941-5321 |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Board an overview report on the projects and initiatives which were undertaken by Matalega Lolotai during her 12 month position as Aranui Community Development Adviser.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. In July 2004 Matalega Lolotai was employed for a 12 month period as Aranui Community Development Adviser. The purpose of this position was three-fold, firstly to identify and respond to the needs of the Aranui community in relation to Aranui Community Renewal aims and objectives, secondly to support the Aranui Community Trust and the Aranui Community Co-ordinator, and finally to participate in planning and implementation of the Aranui Community Renewal initiative.
3. In 2001 the Christchurch City Council created a four-year fixed term position of Aranui Community Development Adviser to work with the Aranui community as part of a tri-party arrangement with the community and Housing New Zealand. This project is known as Aranui Community Renewal. Between 2001 and 2003 the focus of the Community Development Adviser position was on developing the community arm of this partnership in the form of the Aranui Community Trust Incorporated Society (ACTIS). In 2004 the Community Development Adviser was able to extend this focus to wider community issues and needs. The Aranui Community Development Adviser position is due to end on 27 July 2005.
4. Significant projects which were undertaken during this period included:
 - The Aranui Community Directory
 - The Aranui Community Facility Survey
 - The After School Research Survey
 - The Older Persons Information Directory.

In addition, the Community Development Adviser has provided support and advice to a range of groups in the Aranui Community.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5. There are no financial or legal considerations relating to this report.

BACKGROUND

6. Aranui is a community in the eastern suburbs of Christchurch. It is a young community with a declining population, higher than average numbers of Maori and Pacific Island people and people are often living in cramped conditions. There are generally low levels of academic achievement, lower than average incomes and high dependence on income support.
7. An Aranui community facility survey was conducted in October 2004, which involved the Aranui Community Development Adviser delivering two surveys, one to individuals and one to community groups in the Aranui area. The surveys aimed to identify the Aranui community's present and future needs for and use of community facilities, focusing on the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre and to determine community and user satisfaction levels. The information obtained is available in the "Aranui Community Facility Survey", March 2005.
8. The Aranui Community Directory was a key project that was based on information derived through social research and community needs analyses. The directory which was developed in March 2005, contains information on community organisations, sports and recreation groups, educational institutions and community facilities available in the Aranui area. This was a partnership project between Christchurch City Council and ACTIS. The Christchurch City Council and ACTIS are committed to serving the Aranui Community and to responding to local needs and concerns.

9. The Out of School Programmes Research was completed in May 2005 and aimed to identify the Aranui community needs for afterschool and holiday programmes. The research came about through information obtained from the Community Needs Analysis Towards Aranui Community Renewal 2001, Nga Whakaaro o Nga Maori o Aranui Hui November 2004, Positively Pacific Fono 2004, Aranui Community Trust Incorporated (ACTIS) and the Christchurch City Council. In addition, a Needs Survey was carried out with the families of the Aranui, Wainoni and St James Primary Schools in November 2004. This information is available in "Out of School Programme Research in Aranui", February 2005.
10. A study of older adults living in Aranui was undertaken in April 2005 to ascertain the demand and needs of older adults in Aranui. There was an identified demand for "Aranui Older Adult Community Information" from older adult service providers and older adults living in Aranui. As a result, the Aranui Older Adults Community Information Directory is currently underway. The directory will be useful for everyone who wishes to access information on community organisations, recreation groups and support services.
11. The Aranui Community Development Adviser has provided general assistance and support for the Aranui community including the following:
 - Initiation of the translation of the Community Development Fund application form into the Samoan language. The Council's Community Development Scheme Fund is established to provide small grant funding for not-for-profit community, cultural and social service groups whose aims and objectives strongly reflect community development principles and practices and that work towards positive social change. It is envisaged that this translated application form will be available to groups city wide once the translation is completed.
 - Assisting the Aranui Community Trust (ACTIS) through its aims to increase the health and well-being of all people of Aranui through community education, action and advocacy, to empower and enhance the capacity, self determination and pride in Aranui. Other more general community support has included involvement in initiatives such as Positively Pacific Fono, Affirm, and Nga Whakaaro o Nga Maori o Aranui Hui.
 - Assistance was also provided in relation to the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre Management Committee including attending their regular monthly meetings.
 - Hosting two networking forums in Aranui over the past twelve months. The aim of the forums were to provide community organisations and groups and local central government agencies based in the Burwood/Pegasus area with an opportunity to network, share local stories and information about current and proposed programmes and services. These forums were well attended and generated valuable discussion.
 - Assisting in facilitating the promotion of fire safety in Aranui, and supporting the Otautahi Maori Wardens Association in their desire to become warranted and registered. This group offers children, youth and families the opportunity to live in a safe, friendly community, make new friends and learn from fantastic role models.
12. The Burwood/Pegasus Community Development Advisor will continue to support and encourage good developmental processes and practices with ACTIS. She will also assist Aranui community groups and service providers when necessary.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board receive this report for their information.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.