

8. APPLICATION TO SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT SCHEME – CAITLIN HEWITT

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Services Group DDI 941-8607
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager, Community Support Unit
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present a request to the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board for funding of \$500 for Caitlin Hewitt from the Youth Achievement Fund. There is \$3,450 remaining in the fund.
2. The request is for \$500 towards the costs of exchange travel to the Christchurch Sister City School of Twynham in Christchurch, Dorset, England. As the selected candidate from sister school Linwood College, Caitlin will spend six months learning and assisting at the school as part of the exchange programme of the two schools.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. Caitlin Hewitt is a 17 year old final year student at Linwood College who resides in the Beckenham suburb of the Spreydon/Heathcote ward. She has been selected as the winning candidate to take part in a gap year exchange that involves her travelling to Dorset to live, and to learn and assist at Linwood College's Sister Twynham School for six months. Caitlin leaves on 11 January 2010, returning July 2010. This visit will be immediately reciprocated by a student from Twynham returning with Caitlin to spend six months living in Christchurch, New Zealand and assisting at Linwood College.
4. Christchurch, New Zealand and Christchurch, Dorset England have shared a formally recognised Sister City relationship since 1975 when the agreement between the two cities was signed. The activities mutually undertaken and supported by the two Sister Cities include: tourism and cultural visits; educational and student exchanges; and links between museums, horticultural societies and nature groups. Linwood College and Twynham School have had an active relationship since 1998. This year the schools have initiated an exchange programme whereby senior students can experience a prolonged visit to their sister school and city to experience and learn about a different culture and education system at the end of their secondary studies.
5. This is the first time the applicant has approached the Community Board for funding support. Caitlin has also applied to the Christchurch Dorset Sister Cities Committee for \$2,000 towards the cost of her travel.
6. Caitlin is currently completing Year 13 at Linwood College, sitting University Entrance/NCEA Level 3. She is a Student Leader (prefect) , and according to Headmaster Rob Burrough "has been fully involved in the life of the school." Caitlin has held leading roles in drama productions, played in the school netball team, and has been a peer support leader. She is described as honest, reliable, and hard working, and her ability to form excellent relationships with both students and adults has been highlighted by her school. Her post school ambitions include exploring prospects for future career work in the areas of event management, tourism, or possibly broadcasting. At the moment Caitlin has a casual part time job working for Hallensteins in the weekends.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. Caitlin and her family are currently fund raising for the exchange, aiming to raise up to \$4,400 towards the costs of travel and living in Dorset for six months. Caitlin will stay with the local exchange family and will receive £50 per week towards living expenses.

FUND SOURCES	Target Amount	Status
Sister Cities Committee	\$2,000	pending
Brian Hopkins Hypnotist ticket commissions	\$900	pending 6/12
Home Christmas baking sales	\$500	pending
Savings from part time work	\$500	pending
Amount request from Community Board	\$500	
Total Cost	\$4,400	

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

8. Yes.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

9. There are no legal issues.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

10. Aligns with LTCCP and Community Grants Activity Management Plans.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

11. Yes.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

12. The application links to the following Council Community Grants Funding Outcomes:

- A city of inclusive and diverse communities - by allowing a young student with leadership capabilities to experience and learn of the culture of another country.
- A city of life long learning - by facilitating learning through a sister city and sister school in depth experience.

The application is targeted at the Council's key Youth customer through the Youth Achievement Scheme aimed at individuals living positively in their community to acknowledge achievements and potential excellence.

The application relates to the following Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board objectives:

- Improve social well-being in Spreydon/Heathcote - support initiatives and advocate for training for Spreydon/Heathcote people.
- A culturally inclusive Spreydon/Heathcote community – support events that recognise and foster cultural diversity in Spreydon/Heathcote.

DO THE RECOMMENDATIONS ALIGN WITH COUNCIL

13. Recommendations align with:

- Strengthening Communities Strategy – to celebrate and promote Christchurch's identity, cultures, and diversity; to increase involvement in life-long learning.
- Christchurch City Council Youth Strategy Outcomes – young people are cherished and their diversity is recognised, acknowledged and celebrated; and also aligns with the role of the Council to achieve this outcome – to resource, provide and support services for young people in partnership with other agencies where appropriate.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

14. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board allocate \$500 from its 2009/10 Youth Achievement Fund to Caitlin Hewitt to assist her undertake a six month gap year exchange with Twynham School in Christchurch Dorset England.

CHAIRPERSONS' RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.