

2. METROPOLITAN STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES FUND 2010/11

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is for the Metropolitan Funding Committee to allocate the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund for 2010/11.
2. The Metropolitan Funding Committee decision-making meeting is scheduled for 5 July (and 6 July if necessary) 2010.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. This report provides information to Councillors on the applications received for the Strengthening Communities Fund and includes updated information following Councillors' discussions at the Metropolitan Funding Committee Workshop on 8 June 2010.
4. The total pool available for allocation in 2010/11, as outlined in the Long Term Community Council Plan (LTCCP), is \$4,781,539. Applications totalling \$6,395,852 were received.
5. Attached as **Attachment 3** (separately circulated) is a decision matrix, which outlines the projects that funding is being sought for. Following staff collaboration meetings, staff have ranked all projects as either Priority 1, 2, 3 or 4 and have made recommendations as to funding.
6. The Metropolitan Funding Committee Workshop on 8 June 2010 gave Councillors the opportunity to go through the applications received in order to clarify any issues or questions about applications.
7. Following discussions at the workshop, Councillors made a number of requests for higher level discussions across a number of different sectors; environment, mental health, coastal services and the Mayor's Welfare Fund Charitable Trust.
8. Additionally, at the workshop Councillors from the local Community Board (Burwood/Pegasus) asked if application from E Tipu E Rea could be considered by the Metropolitan Committee in the same way that other Early Learning Centres (ELC) based in Council owned properties have been. This issue was not resolved.
9. In previous years, the Council has made grants to Early Learning Centres based in Council facilities for the cost of their rent. These grants were facilitated through a line item. This process changed this year. Line item funding ceased, resulting in ELCs based in Council owned buildings having the option to apply for a contestable grant. The E Tipu E Rea ELC is not based in a Council owned facility, however has received a grant in previous years from a line item that has now ceased.
10. The Council will need to consider this issue and whether to consider the application from E Tipu E Rea at the decision-making meeting. If the Council decide not to consider the application, it will be considered by the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board at their Strengthening Communities Fund meeting.
11. Three Key Local Projects (KLPs) have been recommended by Community Boards. KLPs are local projects that are funded from the Metropolitan funding pool.
12. There are also existing commitments that the Metropolitan Funding Committee must continue. These are:
 - 14 KLPs from 2008/09 - \$476,930 (year 3 of a 3 year commitment)
 - OSCAR Network - \$40,000 (until 30th June 2012)
 - Spreydon Youth Community Trust - \$80,000 (year 3 of a 3 year commitment)
 - Sumner Lifeboat Institution Inc - \$20,000 (year 3 of a 3 year commitment)
 - Major Organisations Fund - \$1,817,000 (year 2 of a 3 year commitment)
 - Early Learning Centre Fund – \$286,418 to be taken from Metropolitan SCF for 2010/11
 - Maintenance grants to Early Learning Centres that operate from Council facilities but do not receive a grant from Council for their lease costs - \$7,100

13. Currently, \$2,727,448 of the available \$4,781,539 has already been committed, leaving \$2,054,091 to be allocated. Current staff recommendations total \$2,051,033.

BACKGROUND

Strengthening Communities Strategy

14. The Council adopted the Strengthening Communities Strategy on 12 July 2007. The Strengthening Communities Grants Funding Programme comprises four funding schemes:
- (a) Strengthening Communities Fund
 - (b) Small Projects Fund
 - (c) Discretionary Response Fund
 - (d) Community Organisations Loan Scheme
15. For detailed information on the Strengthening Communities Strategy's Outcomes and Priorities please see **Attachment 1**. The specific criteria for the Strengthening Communities Fund is also attached, as **Attachment 2**.

The Decision Matrix

16. Information on the projects is presented in a Decision Matrix, see **Attachment 3**. All applications appearing on the Decision Matrix have been assigned a Priority Rating. The Priority Ratings are:
- Priority 1** Meets all eligibility criteria and contributes significantly to Funding Outcomes and Priorities. Highly recommended for funding.
- Priority 2** Meets all eligibility criteria and contributes to Funding Outcomes and Priorities. Recommended for funding.
- Priority 3** Meets all eligibility criteria and contributes to Funding Outcomes and Priorities but to a lesser extent than Priority 2 applications. Not recommended for funding.
- Priority 4** Meets all eligibility criteria and has minimum contribution to Funding Outcomes and Priorities; or Insufficient information provided by applicant (in application and after request from Advisor); or Other funding sources more appropriate. Not recommended for funding.
17. Staff have used the following criteria to determine whether an application is a Priority One:
- Impact the project has on the city
 - Reach of the project
 - Depth of the project
 - Political sensitivity
 - Value for Money
 - Best Practice
 - Innovation
 - Strong alignment to Council Outcomes and Priorities
 - Noteworthy leverage or partnership/match funding from other organisations or government departments.
18. New information based on the Results Based Accountability system has been added to the decision matrix this year. On the Strengthening Communities Fund application form, groups have been asked for Measures of Success for the Project, and Measures of Benefit for the Participants. This information will then tie into the accountability reports that groups are required to complete if they are successful in obtaining a grant. The information that is presented on the matrix has been supplied directly by the group in response to these questions. Staff will work with the groups over the coming year to develop and improve their understanding of what is required.

Key Local Projects

19. The Decision Matrix includes three applications nominated by Community Boards as Key Local Projects (KLPs). These are:

Name of Group	Amount Recommended	Community Board
Akaroa Resource Collective Trust	\$30,800	Akaroa Wairewa
Project Employment and Environmental Enhancement Programme	\$35,000	Burwood Pegasus
Project Lyttelton Incorporated	\$13,520	Lyttelton Mt Herbert

20. The process for considering KLPs is as follows:

- Community Boards nominate and prioritise KLPs and make a recommendation to the Metropolitan Funding Committee
- The Metropolitan Funding Committee makes decisions on Board recommended KLPs
- Successful KLPs are allocated funding from the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund
- Unsuccessful KLPs are returned to the Community Board for consideration under the local Strengthening Communities Fund.

Existing Commitments

21. There are a number of existing commitments from the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund that must be continued.

22. In 2008/09, 14 KLPs received funding for three years. These groups are:

Name of Group	Amount Funded	Community Board
Aranui Community Trust	\$31,000	Burwood Pegasus
Cross Over Trust	\$47,000	Spreydon Heathcote
Rowley Resource Centre	\$30,000	Spreydon Heathcote
Spreydon Youth Community Trust	\$27,000	Spreydon Heathcote
Shirley Community Trust	\$22,880	Shirley Papanui
St Albans Residents' Association	\$40,000	Shirley Papanui
Papanui Youth Development Trust	\$27,000	Shirley Papanui
Shoreline Youth Trust	\$16,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Te Whare Roimata Trust - (Older Persons)	\$27,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Te Whare Roimata Trust - (Bromley Community Development)	\$27,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Te Whare Roimata Trust - (Community Gardens)	\$27,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Te Whare Roimata Trust - (Linwood Community Arts)	\$52,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Te Puawaitanga ki Otautahi Trust (Community Development Worker)	\$51,800	Riccarton Wigram
Te Puawaitanga ki Otautahi Trust (Community Facilities Coordinator)	\$51,250	Riccarton Wigram

These groups do not appear on the decision matrix.

23. Additional pre-existing commitments that the Metropolitan Funding Committee must continue are:

- OSCAR Network - \$40,000 (until 30th June 2012)
- Spreydon Youth Community Trust - \$80,000 (year 3 of a 3 year commitment)
- Sumner Lifeboat Institution Inc - \$20,000 (year 3 of a 3 year commitment)

24. Also, in December 2009, Council resolved to extend funding for ten major organisations for another two years at the 2009/10 level.

Name of Group	2009/10		2010/11	2011/12
	Amount requested	Amount allocated	Amount allocated	Amount allocated
Christchurch	\$397,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

Symphony Trust				
Orana Park Wildlife Trust	\$250,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000
Christ Church Cathedral	\$300,000	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$240,000
Christchurch Community House	\$214,000	\$214,000	\$214,000	\$214,000
Ferrymead Park Ltd	\$200,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
The Court Theatre	\$140,000	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$135,000
Science Alive	\$125,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Showbiz	\$165,500	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000
Mayor's Welfare Fund	\$220,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
Surf Life Saving Canterbury Inc	\$202,918	\$173,000	\$173,000	\$173,000
Total	\$2,214,418	\$1,817,000	\$1,817,000	\$1,817,000

25. Applications from ten Early Learning Centres (ELCs) were considered by Council on 27 May. Grants totalling \$316,450 were approved for the 2010/11 year. Council resolved that \$286,418 be drawn from the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund and the remaining \$35,032 be funded from the forecasted 2009/10 operating surplus. Additionally, \$7,100 has been committed for ongoing maintenance of ELCs that operate from Council facilities but do not receive a grant for lease costs.
26. In summary, \$2,727,448 of the available \$4,781,539 has already been committed, leaving \$2,054,091 to be allocated. Current staff recommendations total \$2,051,033.

Ineligible Applications

27. In total, two ineligible applications were received. They are as follows:

Name of Applicant	Amount Requested	Reason for Ineligibility
Te Runanga O Nga Maata Waka <i>Maori Wardens Project</i>	\$30,000	Late application
Nga Hau E Wha National Marae Incorporated <i>Marae Growth and Development</i>	\$60,000	Late application

Workshop Follow-up

28. A workshop was held on 8 June 2010 for Councillors to have the opportunity to go through the applications received to clarify any issues or questions about applications. Additional information, as requested by Council, has been added to the matrix where appropriate.
29. At the workshop, Councillors indicated to staff that they would like to see higher level discussions across a number of different sectors; environment, mental health, coastal services and the Mayor's Welfare Fund Charitable Trust. Recommendations around these issues are detailed below.
30. Councillors requested an opportunity to meet with the District Health Board (DHB) to hear how the DHB funds projects in the mental health sector. In particular, Councillors would like to discuss areas where DHB-funded providers are applying to Council.

It is recommended that the Metropolitan Funding Committee: *Request staff to arrange a workshop between Councillors and senior officials from the District Health Board.*

31. A number of applications, specifically those from Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, Port Hills Trust Board (Cashmere Park), Port Hills Park Trust Board (Mt Vernon) and Orton Bradley Park, raised wider issues around ongoing funding of environmentally focussed projects and whether it is

appropriate to fund these groups through the Strengthening Communities Fund or through a line item in the future.

It is recommended that the Metropolitan Funding Committee: *Request staff to consider options for the future funding of major environmentally-based projects. Including whether these project should be considered as line items.*

32. Councillors requested that staff arrange a workshop to provide an overview of coastal services organisations, namely the Coastguard Southern Region and Surf Life Saving, including the Council support that these groups might require.

It is recommended that the Metropolitan Funding Committee: *Request staff to arrange a workshop between Councillors and appropriate coastal services agencies.*

33. Councillors discussed the possibility of changing the name of the Mayor's Welfare Fund and also asked if the current arrangement was the best model for the ongoing distribution of the Philpott bequest.

It is recommended that the Metropolitan Funding Committee: *Request staff to arrange a workshop to present options for Councillors to consider, including options for the future distribution of the Philpott bequest.*

34. Also at the workshop, Councillors from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board have asked that the application from E Tipu E Rea Early Childhood Centre (ELC) be considered by the Metropolitan Committee in the same way that other ELCs have been.

35. In previous years, Council has made grants to Early Learning Centres based in Council facilities for the cost of their rent. These grants were facilitated through a line item. This process changed this year. Line item funding ceased, resulting in ELCs based in Council-owned buildings having the option to apply for a contestable grant in order to cover their lease costs.

36. The E Tipu E Rea ELC is not based in a Council owned facility, however, has received a grant in previous years from a line item that has now ceased.

37. The Metropolitan Funding Committee will need to discuss whether it wishes to consider funding this application from the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

38. Yes, see LTCCP pages 176 and 177 regarding community grants schemes including Board funding.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

39. The Metropolitan Funding Committee has the delegated authority from the Council to make the final decisions on these applications.

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

40. Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

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

41. Yes. Strengthening Communities Funding and Community Board Funding, see LTCCP pages 176 and 177 regarding community grants schemes including Board funding

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

42. Yes. The funding allocation process is covered in the Council's Strengthening Communities Strategy.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

43. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Metropolitan Funding Committee:

- (a) Request staff to arrange a workshop between Councillors and senior officials from the District Health Board regarding the mental health sector.
- (b) Request staff to consider options for the future funding of major environmentally-based projects, including whether these project should be considered as line items.
- (c) Request staff to arrange a workshop between Councillors and appropriate coastal services agencies, specifically Surf Life Saving and Coastguard Southern Region.
- (d) Request staff to arrange a workshop to present options for Councillors to consider regarding the Mayor's Welfare Fund, including options for the future distribution of the Philpott bequest.
- (e) Discuss the request from Councillors from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board that the application from E Tipu E Rea be considered by the Metropolitan Committee.
- (f) Give consideration to the projects detailed in the attached decision matrix and approve allocations from the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund for 2010/11.