

2. APPLICATION TO DISCRETIONARY RESPONSE FUND FOR THE LITTLE RIVER VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Support 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 for funding of \$700 from the Little River Volunteer Fire Brigade to the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board from its Discretionary Response Fund.
2. The request is for \$700 towards the cost of training a defensive driving instructor for the Emergency Services Cadets and other young people living in the Akaroa/Wairewa area.
3. There is currently a balance of \$744 remaining in the Boards Discretionary Response Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4. The Little River Volunteer Fire Brigade is an integral part of their community providing emergency services including fire fighting, first response to accident and medical emergencies and civil defence services.
5. This innovative project to run an Emergency Services Cadet Scheme, initiated and developed locally, has been driven by volunteer members of this service and is widely supported by the community. The Community Development Adviser has had regular and ongoing liaison with the group's senior officer since the programme was first mooted. This is a New Zealand first.
6. The programme is being run as a pilot scheme in Little River and has the support of the New Zealand Fire Service. In conjunction with the New Zealand Fire Service and Red Cross trainers, some NCEA and NZQA unit standards are being delivered as part of the programme. The scheme runs on a weekly basis with some weekend activities and is for participants aged 10 to 16 years. Once a month they train alongside the Volunteer Fire Brigade.
7. Funding has been requested to assist with the training of a defensive driving instructor who can implement this programme both for the Emergency Cadets and for other residents living in the wider Akaroa/Wairewa area, particularly targeting younger people.
8. Rural driving differs significantly from urban driving as police statistics will show. Access to a local programme provider will enable more young drivers to take the opportunity to not only enhance their knowledge but also their skills in managing rural conditions and roads.
9. Currently programmes have to be accessed in Christchurch which means fewer people take up the option of attending a course. To bring the programme out to our area increases the total cost of the programme (approximately \$300/participant currently). Additional tutor and travel costs are added to participant fees further limiting accessibility. Cost to attend a programme in Christchurch is \$190.
10. Funding is not available through LTNZ to train programme providers. This may change in the future if defensive driving becomes a core component of driver licensing.
11. A local defensive driving programme could lend itself to further driving instruction by working alongside local, professional drivers who could provide practical driving skill tuition to complement the written programme content.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. This is the organisation's second application to the Board's Discretionary Response Fund.

Funding History

2009/10	\$5,400	Programme Costs Emergency Service cadets (SCF)
2008/09	\$3,000	Uniforms for Cadets (DRF)

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

13. Yes page 184

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

14. No legal considerations were identified.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

15. Aligns with LTCCP and Activity Management Plans pages 172 and 176.

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

16. Yes Strengthening Communities page 172 (2009-19 LTCCP).

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

17. This application meets the following Council Community Grants Funding Outcomes:

- Support, develop and promote the capacity and sustainability of community, recreation, sports, arts, heritage and environment groups.
- Foster collaborative responses to areas of identified need.
- Enhance community and neighbourhood safety.

It also helps to meet the following Board Objectives:

- Promoting the participation of Banks Peninsula residents in recreation and cultural events/programmes.
- Recognising the need to retain and enhance core community services to Banks Peninsula Communities.

Do the recommendations align with the council's strategies?

18. Strengthening Communities Strategy.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

19. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board agree to grant \$700 from its 2009/10 Discretionary Response Fund to the Little River Volunteer Fire Brigade towards the cost of training a defensive driving instructor.