

3. APPLICATION TO THE LYTTTELTON/Mt HERBERT 2009/10 DISCRETIONARY RESPONSE FUND – ROYAL NEW ZEALAND PLUNKET SOCIETY FERRYMEAD BRANCH INC LYTTTELTON SUB-BRANCH TOY LIBRARY

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 \$600 from the Royal New Zealand Plunket Society Ferrymead Branch Inc Lyttelton Sub-Branch Toy Library to the Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board from its Discretionary Response Fund.
2. The request is for \$600 towards the cost of members attending the National Volunteer Training Weekend in July 2010.
3. There is currently a balance of \$4,374 remaining in the Board's Discretionary Response Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4. The Royal New Zealand Plunket Society is a child centred but family focussed organisation that provides an holistic service of care and support to New Zealand families. The Lyttelton Plunket group has been operating since 1921 and has had a strong presence in Lyttelton during that time. It is situated at 8 Sumner Road in central Lyttelton.
5. Activities provided by this group include twice weekly playgroup sessions for parents and children to get together for support, fortnightly toy library sessions where toys and puzzles are borrowed by local families and quarterly parenting courses which provide information and networking for parents of new babies. The committee also links local families (with children under five years) with the Plunket Nurse who provides home visits and clinic appointments. The Lyttelton Toy library operates as part of the Lyttelton Plunket group.
6. The Lyttelton Plunket is requesting funding for three committee members (two of whom are new members) and the Toy Librarian to attend the Toy Library Federation of New Zealand Volunteer Training Weekend to be held at Lincoln in July 2010.
7. The biennial conference covers training in buying and accessing funding, committee member responsibilities, and explores new and better ways of running toy libraries. It also provides the opportunity to meet and network with people from other toy libraries around New Zealand and attendees are able to purchase new toys. As the weekend conference is held locally, the only significant costs incurred will be registration for each of the volunteers attending. The group has indicated that it is committed to having a presence at the training weekend, and that the numbers attending will depend on the amount of funding secured to cover registration.
8. The Lyttelton Toy Library was established over ten years ago and has served the preschool community providing a wide variety of safe toys, big and small, for a modest yearly membership fee. Research has shown that through play preschool children develop thinking, problem solving strategies, language, learn literacy and numeracy and develop creativity For this age group play is often more instructive than formal learning (see Targourska (2008) Every Child Magazine Vol 14 No.2). While there are toy libraries in Diamond Harbour, Heathcote and Sumner, this toy library is the only one serving the local Lyttelton population with 80 member families (approximately 50 regular users).
9. Local Plunket groups provide community connectedness which has proven benefit enhancing health and wellbeing for the family members, and early education skills for parents who are children's first educators. It is while serving on local Plunket committees that community volunteers may develop committee skills which when used in either voluntary or remunerated capacities are beneficial to our community and community organisations. As Plunket groups cater for children under five years, there is significant and short timeframe turnover of parents. This necessitates regular and frequent up-skilling of those parents currently associated with the organisation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.

LYTTELTON TOY LIBRARY – CONFERENCE COSTS		
CONFERENCE COSTS		Cost (GST incl)
Registration fees for conference (3x \$200)		\$ 600.00
Total Cost		\$ 600.00
Amount Requested from Community Board		\$ 600.00

11. The Lyttelton Toy Library has not applied elsewhere for funding for this project. The attendees will volunteer their time for the duration of the weekend and all travel costs to and from the venue. As they are not staying at the venue, this will entail daily travel to Lincoln.

12.

LYTTELTON PLUNKET – PREVIOUS CCC GRANTS			Cost
2008/09	Discretionary Response	Lyttelton Plunket rooms electrical upgrade.	\$3,000
2008/09	Small Projects	Database installation	\$2,000
2008	Reserve Discretionary	Installation of soft-fall around play-fort	\$3,237.98
2007/08	Community Development	Toy library Conference	\$1,532

13. Funds currently held by the group are for on-going costs to support the Plunket Nurse and the regular parenting courses/activities, remuneration for the toy librarian and cleaner and purchase of equipment. In addition, the Lyttelton Plunket group continues to upgrade their rooms and outside space to better cater for the needs and safety of their families. Their next project is insulation of the rooms for which quotes are currently being sought.

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

14. Yes. The Board's discretionary funding is part of the Community Grants listed under Community Support on Page 176 and Grants on Page 184 of the 2009-19 LTCCP.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

15. There are no legal issues to be considered.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

16. 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?

17. Yes Strengthening Communities page 176 (2009-19 LTCCP).

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

18. 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 environmental groups
- Reduce or overcome barriers to participation

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

19. Strengthening Communities Strategy

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

20. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board agrees to grant \$600 from its 2009/10 Discretionary Response fund to the Lyttelton Toy Library as a contribution towards the cost of day registration fees for members attending the National Volunteer Training Weekend.