

1. APOLOGIES

2. METROPOLITAN STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES FUND 2011/12

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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 2011/12.
2. The Metropolitan Funding Committee decision-making meeting is scheduled for 29 July 2011.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. This report provides information to Councillors on the applications received for the Strengthening Communities Fund.
4. The total pool available for allocation in 2011/12, as outlined in the Long Term Community Council Plan (LTCCP), is \$4,781,539. Applications totalling \$5,211,646 were received.
5. Attached as **Attachment 1** is a decision matrix, which outlines the projects that funding is being sought for. The matrix has been improved following Council feedback in 2010. 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. 17 Key Local Projects (KLPs) have been recommended by Community Boards. KLPs are local projects that are funded from the Metropolitan funding pool.
7. There are also existing commitments that the Metropolitan Funding Committee must continue. These are:
 - OSCAR Network - \$40,000 (until 30 June 2012)
 - Major Organisations Fund - \$1,843,413 (year 3 of a 3 year commitment)
 - Early Learning Centre Fund – \$316,450 to be taken from Metropolitan SCF for 2011/12
8. Currently, \$2,199,863 of the available \$4,781,539 has already been committed, leaving \$2,581,676 to be allocated. Current staff recommendations total \$2,608,800.

BACKGROUND**Strengthening Communities Strategy**

9. 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
10. For information on the Strengthening Communities Strategy's Outcomes and Priorities and criteria please see **Attachment 2**.

The Decision Matrix

11. Information on the projects is presented in a Decision Matrix, see **Attachment 1**. 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.

12. 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.

13. Information based on the Results Based Accountability system is included on the decision matrix. 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

14. The Decision Matrix includes 16 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
Aranui Community Trust (ACTIS)	\$40,000	Burwood Pegasus
Belfast Community Network Inc	\$30,000	Shirley Papanui
Community Development Network Trust	\$50,000	Riccarton Wigram
Family and Community Division	\$35,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Project Employment and Environmental Enhancement Programme	\$35,000	Burwood Pegasus
Rowley Resource Centre Inc.	\$59,200	Spreydon Heathcote
SEEDS (RUR Trust)	\$14,300	Riccarton Wigram
Shirley Community Trust	\$50,000	Shirley Papanui
Shoreline Youth Trust	\$20,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Spreydon Youth Community Trust	\$35,000	Spreydon Heathcote
Te Ora Hou	\$30,000	Shirley Papanui
Te Whare O Otarepo – Waltham Cottage	\$15,000	Spreydon Heathcote
Te Whare Roimata Trust	\$52,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Te Whare Roimata Trust	\$27,500	Hagley Ferrymead
Te Whare Roimata Trust	\$27,000	Hagley Ferrymead
Westminster Sports Inc.	\$10,000	Shirley Papanui

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15. 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

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

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

- OSCAR Network - \$40,000 (until 30th June 2012)
- Grants for ten Early Learning Centres (ELCs) totalling \$316,450.

18. 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 Symphony Trust	\$397,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
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	\$199,413
Total	\$2,214,418	\$1,817,000	\$1,817,000	\$1,843,413

19. Following the Council workshop on 21 June, staff have contacted the major organisations which were known to have operational difficulties following the earthquakes. They are all either operating outreach programmes or re-employing existing staff in other ways. In summary, \$2,199,863 of the available \$4,781,539 has already been committed, leaving \$2,581,676 to be allocated. Current staff recommendations total \$2,608,800.

- (a) Staff recommend that consideration be given to extending funding for the "Top 10" organisations for 2012/13 to give funding certainty.

Ineligible Applications

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

Name of Applicant	Amount Requested	Reason for Ineligibility
Age Concern Canterbury	\$12,500	Project outside of funding period
Canterbury Women's Club Inc	\$100,000	Capital costs

21. At the workshop on 21 June, Councillors indicated to staff that they would like some further information on Early Learning Centres, and major environmentally-based projects. Staff will provide this in the information paper.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

22. Yes. See LTCCP pages 176 and 177 regarding community grants schemes including Board funding.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

23. Yes. 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?

24. 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?

25. 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?

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

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

27. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Metropolitan Funding Committee:

- (a) Give consideration to the projects detailed in the attached decision matrix.
- (b) Approve allocations from the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund for 2011/12.
- (c) Staff recommend that consideration be given to extending funding for the "Top 10" organisations for 2012/13 to give funding certainty.