

COUNCIL 13. 9. 2012

**COMMUNITY, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
21. 8. 2012**

**A meeting of the Community, Recreation and Culture Committee
was held in Committee Room 2
on Tuesday 21 August 2012 at 2.30pm.**

PRESENT: Councillor Yani Johanson (Chairperson),
Councillors Peter Beck, Helen Broughton, Tim Carter, Barry Corbett, Jimmy Chen,
Jamie Gough, and Glenn Livingstone.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Broughton left at 3.45pm and was absent for clauses 2.3, 4.2 and 4.3.
Councillor Carter left at 4.08pm and was absent for Clause 2.
Councillor Corbett left at 4.08pm and was absent for Clause 2.

The Committee reports that:

PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

1. COMMUNITY BOARD RESOURCES FOR EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941 8607
Officer responsible:	Community Support Manager
Author:	Carolyn Gallagher, Unit Manager Community Support

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report provides a response to the following Council resolution of 26 June 2012:
 - (a) *That the Council get an urgent report back on the provision of support for community boards as per the Community Board Chairpersons' deputation to the Council and submission to the annual plan.*
 - (b) *That the Council include an additional \$300,000 for the 2012/13 year to support earthquake response at community board level.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. A "Community Board Communications Adviser" to be contracted for the 2012/13 year to supply content for seven ward based web pages. Working with the Community Board Advisers and Community Boards, this Communications Adviser would supply ongoing, current information on these web pages to include the latest news on Council activities, including earthquake recovery, in each Ward, for example the current status of the Facilities Rebuild Project, the latest Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Recovery Team (SCIRT) repairs, Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) updates etc, agendas for the local Community Boards, contact details for the local Community Board, Council and Community Board activities, projects and events.
3. Community Earthquake Coordinators to be contracted for the 2012/13 year to report on progress of community projects or initiatives in relation to earthquake recovery, presenting findings to senior management, community boards, council and other council units as directed

by the team leader and also to participate in community support and council wide projects as appropriate.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

4. Yes. The Council has already resolved to make provision for \$300,000 in the 2012/13 Annual Plan for the purpose of supporting earthquake response at community board level.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

5. Yes. There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

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?

6. Yes, specifically Democracy and Governance – City Governance and Decision-making, with reference to staff support and advice to elected members. Community Support, Yes - see page 172 in the LTCCP.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

7. Strengthening Communities Strategy 2007 Goal 1, 2, 3 and 4.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

8. There have been ongoing discussions between staff and the Community Board Chairpersons over the past few months on the issue of local recovery and resources for the Boards' role in that recovery. The specific recommendations of this report are to be discussed at a Community Board Chairpersons and Staff Forum held on 27 July, and as this report will be completed prior to that Forum the Chairpersons' feedback will be reported separately to the Council.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council agree to the following expenditure from the \$300,000 set aside in the 2012/13 Annual Plan to support earthquake response at Community Board level:

- (a) \$75,000 for the employment of a Community Board Communications Adviser to 30 June 2013.
- (b) \$225,000 for the employment of Community Earthquake Coordinators to 30 June 2013.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That the Council agree to the following expenditure from the \$300,000 set aside in the 2012/3 Annual Plan to support earthquake response at Community Board level:

- (a) \$300,000 for the employment of Earthquake Recovery Community Advocates, for a minimum of a 12 month period.
- (b) Noting that the impact of the earthquake has been much worse in some wards than others, that the advocates be allocated to Community Boards on the following basis:

- 1 full time employee – Burwood-Pegasus
- 1 full time employee – Hagley-Ferrymead
- 1 full time employee - Spreydon-Heathcote / Lyttelton-Mt Herbert
- 1 full time employee - Riccarton-Wigram / Shirley-Papanui / Fendalton-Waimari

- (c) That a higher priority be given to community board resolutions and reports, and requests the Chief Executive Officer to implement a reporting structure that gives effect to this recommendation.
- (d) That the Position Descriptions be adopted following feedback from Community Boards Chairpersons.
- (e) That communications resource to provide support to Community Boards be considered as part of the Communications Audit Review response.
- (f) Ensure that written reports on Local earthquake recovery coordination (LERC) meetings are given to Community Boards and that from time to time Elected Members be invited to attend.

(Note: Councillor Gough requested that his vote against (b) and (e) be recorded)

BACKGROUND

9. At the Council meeting of 15 March 2012 the Community Board Chairpersons presented a report on the issue "Achieving Best Practice for Christchurch's Community Boards to Develop Community Wellbeing Coordination in Post Earthquake Recovery". The Board Chairpersons recommended that the Council adopt the Christchurch Community Boards' Plan 2012 as follows:
- i) Urgently obtain local Service Centre facilities, including Community Board meeting rooms accessible to the community where none exist at present*
 - ii) Community Boards be resourced to develop Ward Community wellbeing coordination in post earthquake recovery; assessing local needs, implementing recovery from Ward Profiles, focusing on Ward facilities and strengthening social wellbeing in a community centred recovery*
 - iii) Empower the work of the Boards by providing Ward Community Board Earthquake Recovery Coordinators and increase responsibility to roles aligned to this initiative at Service Centres so Boards can be proactive to lead public participation in shaping the recovery in local areas*
 - iv) The Ward Community Board Earthquake Recovery Coordinators could be partially funded through a partnership with CERA*
 - v) The emphasis of staff at service centre level should be on effective implementation of locally centred decision-making reflecting s52 of the Local Government Act."*
10. Seven of the eight Community Boards supported the above recommendation. After discussing the report the Council resolved that "Community Board Chairpersons and the Mayor/Deputy Mayor urgently meet with the General Manager Community Services and the General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services to discuss a way forward and report back to the Council at the 5 April 2012 Council Meeting".
11. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Managers met with the Community Board Chairpersons on 23 March and 20 April 2012. The Board Chairpersons were asked to identify their priorities for earthquake recovery in their wards so that staff could assess whether there were any gaps in support provided to the Boards and the latter's local communities around recovery issues. Over 100 priorities were raised by the Board Chairpersons in response to that request, and staff

have responded to the Boards on most of those issues to indicate whether or how they are being addressed, however there were some issues that did not relate directly to earthquake recovery. These responses have been provided either directly to the Board Chairpersons (in April) or via the responses to the Boards' Annual Plan submissions (in June). There remains a small number of issues that staff are still working through, which have been placed on the monthly resolutions tracking table.

12. At the time of the Draft Annual Plan hearings, staff had not yet reported back to the Council on its resolution outlined in paragraph 13, as discussions were still continuing with Board Chairpersons on identifying their specific priorities and whether additional resources were needed or whether staff could assist within the current recovery framework and resources. Some initiatives have been underway over the past few months to partially address the Board Chairpersons' concerns; specifically in the areas of local recovery coordination, and communications. More details are provided below.
13. **Attachment 1** of this report contains the submission of the Community Board Chairpersons on the Draft Annual Plan. Key themes raised by this submission, and that of many of the Board recovery priorities that the Chairpersons have previously provided to staff, are addressed below.

Request for Additional Resources for Ward Coordination

14. The Chairpersons have called for the "development of more detailed Community Board strategies and coordination of action in their communities and at street level for post-earthquake recovery, redesign and redevelopment". The Chairpersons have requested a "decentralised structure with ward based action", and funding of "ward based dedicated earthquake recovery coordinators", for community led recovery.
15. Currently there are centralised recovery frameworks in place for key Council or CERA initiatives such as the Council Facilities Rebuild Plan, the SCIRT work programme, and CERA's Community Resilience Programme (implemented through the CERA Engagement Strategy and Framework). Council's resources – staff and finance – are currently committed to working within these frameworks, which ensures prioritisation of resources on a city wide basis. This approach is not "top down"; rather local communities including Community Boards have and will continue to have, multiple opportunities for to input their views and priorities into future plans. It is acknowledged that gaps are emerging as frameworks are coming into place.
16. Currently there are a number of locally based staff at Service Centres that work with the Community Boards to advise and support them on their advocacy and decision-making roles.
17. CERA has recently appointed local Relationship Managers whose role is to:
 - help build and support community capacity, resilience, confidence and leadership so local communities can play a key role in recovery
 - encourage widespread participation by neighbourhoods and communities' in planning, leading and implementing their own recovery
 - ensure effective coordination of psychosocial support to vulnerable people.
18. Local earthquake recovery coordination meetings (LERC) have been set up by CCC staff. The purpose of these monthly meetings is to share information, coordinate and feed information back to the Community Boards and CCC/CERA on matters relating to earthquake recovery coordination in each ward. The meetings provide opportunities to identify potential projects or activities for collaboration/follow-up that the Boards are interested in, alert staff and Boards to issues, and provide updates. These meetings have started and Board Advisers are reporting back to Boards on issues discussed or actioned. A key intention is for these meetings to identify any gaps in recovery efforts that are not being addressed.
19. The Strengthening Communities Advisory staff currently have a range of activities underway in wards that are focused on building community resilience and recovery. Engaging in the

community is a high priority and to this end the Community Support Unit have documented and mapped local profiles in 54 zones across Christchurch board areas, in addition sector based profiles have been produced such as older adults, disabilities, multicultural, children and youth, safety and arts. The profiles measure various demographics, social networks, pre and post earthquake issues and social capital. They are a resource to prioritise key information about local Christchurch communities and a framework to measure wellbeing, social capital and resilience at a local level and a tool to inform decision makers. The profiles build a detailed picture of what Christchurch communities experienced post quake and determine what needs to be done.

20. Staff are also currently working on a plan to bring a series of Community Conversations to a number of locations across the city. These conversations will enable the community and community boards to highlight risks and opportunities and give leaders within these communities a focus on recovery efforts. It is intended that the Community Conversation will supply information to be integrated into Community Ward Profiles.
21. After reviewing all of the priorities for recovery expressed by the Community Board Chairpersons, and taking into account the work that is currently underway by Council staff. Staff perceive there are key areas that require further consideration on whether additional resources are needed:
 - (a) More targeted information/communications at a Ward level on the Council's recovery activities:
 - A key theme running through the Board Chairpersons' recovery priorities is one of communication; the need for more timely, up to date information on recovery activities at a Ward level. There is a considerable amount of information to elected members that is available from CERA, the Council and other agencies involved in recovery. Much of it is received by email or on the Council's agenda papers and it can be difficult to keep track of developments, particularly those that have an impact at a Ward level.
 - Staff have recently refreshed the content of the Elected Members Intranet to ensure it includes up to date information on earthquake recovery and other key Council activities. Staff have also refined how Boards can provide regular local updates for the public to be published on the Council's website, on the relevant Community Board page.
 - What has not yet been actioned due to resource constraints is pulling together all of the recovery information on a Ward specific basis. A significant amount of time would be required for staff to pull this information together. It is therefore proposed that resources for that purpose be funded by the \$300,000 set aside in the Annual Plan 2012/13, as follows:
 - (i) "Community Board Communications Adviser" to be contracted for the 2012/13 year to supply content for seven ward based web pages, at a cost of \$75,000
 - (ii) Working with the Community Board Advisers and Community Boards, this Communications Adviser would supply ongoing, current information on these web pages to include the latest news on Council activities, including earthquake recovery, in each Ward, for example the current status of the Facilities Rebuild Project, the latest SCIRT repairs, CERA updates etc, agendas for the local Community Boards, contact details for the local Community Board, Council and Community Board activities, projects and events.
 - Employing this additional communications resource as outlined above will be a positive step in terms of addressing some of the findings of the Communications

Audit that relate to accessibility and usefulness of information for the public.

- (b) A lack of coordinated information in relation to the local earthquake recovery to community boards and elected members:
- Local earthquake recovery coordination meetings (LERC) have recently been set up by the Council's staff. The purpose of these monthly meetings is to share information, coordinate and feed information back to the Community Boards and the Council/CERA on matters relating to earthquake recovery coordination in each ward. The meetings provide opportunities to identify potential projects or activities for collaboration/follow-up that the Boards are interested in, alert staff and Boards to issues, and provide updates. These meetings are limited by the scope of who is invited.
 - An option to further improve communication could be the employment of Community Earthquake Co-ordinators attached to the Community Support Unit to cover all Boards to facilitate a clearer information flow. While it is important for the success of ongoing coordination that these staff are co-located it is envisaged that most of their time would be focused at ward level. It is therefore proposed that resources for that purpose be funded by the \$300,000 set aside in the Annual Plan 2012/13:
 - Employing Community Earthquake Co-ordinators will make possible the ability to give monthly written and verbal updates to the board on progress and plans from external agencies including MOE, SCIRT, NGO sector, CERA, EQC, Insurance and also extra resource to collate internal projects.
 - Dedicated staff to collate this information will mean faster responses to Board requests that relate to Earthquake recovery, including a single point of responsibility for following up on Board resolutions that relate to the recovery.

2. COMMUNICATIONS AUDIT REVIEW

This matter was considered at the Council meeting on 23 August 2012 and will be further considered at a meeting of the Committee on 4 September 2012.

PART B - REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD - ADDINGTON COMMUNITY HOUSE INCORPORATED - MANUKA COTTAGE

The Committee considered a report from the Chairperson of the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board relating to a deputation from Addington Community House Incorporated regarding the matter of a replacement building for the operation of Manuka Cottage, given its loss of premises due to earthquake related insurance issues. The Committee also heard a deputation in relation to this matter (refer clause 4.2).

The Committee **decided** to defer consideration of this item to the Committee meeting on 4 September 2012, pending a report from staff.

4. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

4.1 PHIL CLEARWATER – CHAIRPERSON OF THE SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD

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The Committee received a deputation from Phil Clearwater, Chairperson of the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board, regarding Clause 1– Community Board Resources for Earthquake Recovery.

The Committee's recommendation to the Council in relation to this matter is detailed at clause 1 of these minutes.

4.2 PHIL CLEARWATER – CHAIRPERSON OF THE SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD

The Committee received a deputation from Phil Clearwater, Chairperson of the Spreydon Heathcote Community Board, regarding Clause 3 - Report from the Chairperson of the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board - Addington Community House Incorporated - Manuka Cottage.

The Committee's consideration of this matter is detailed at clause 3 of these minutes.

4.3 EVAN SMITH

The Committee received a deputation from Evan Smith regarding the River Festival.

The Committee **decided** to request that staff provide a report to the Committee, at its meeting on 4 September, on how staff can support this event.

The meeting concluded at 4.20pm.

CONSIDERED THIS 13TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2012

MAYOR