

## 19. UNSPENT FUNDS FROM 2009-10 METROPOLITAN SMALL GRANTS FUND



<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Community Services, DDI: 941 8607
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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is for the Council to consider the apportionment of the unallocated amount of \$53,182 remaining in the 2009-10 Metropolitan Small Grants Fund.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Metropolitan Small Grants Fund Subcommittee met on 4 August 2009 to allocate the Metropolitan Small Grants Fund for 2009-10. The total pool available for allocation was \$376,640.
3. Applications requesting \$822,582 were received for the Small Grants Fund. The Metropolitan Small Grants Fund Subcommittee allocated a total of \$323,458 in grants. This left an unallocated balance of \$53,182 in the Small Grants Fund.
4. Of the unallocated balance of \$53,182, staff are requesting that the amount of \$1,094 be allocated to cover an overspend in the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund.
5. The overspend relates to a timing matter. The Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund decision meeting took place prior to the Council determining the final budget cuts to individual grant schemes, following implementation of the LTCCP decision to reduce rates discretionary grants by \$750,000.
6. On 20 July, 2009, the amount of \$4,765,590 was allocated through the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund. On 23 July 2009 the Council resolved its final cuts and a reduction of 5.84 per cent was applied to the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund. The reduction of 5.84 percent changed the amount available for allocation from the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund from \$5,060,000 to \$4,764,496. As a result, there was an overspend of \$1,094 for the Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund.
7. Staff recommend that the \$1,094 overspend is met by allocation of an equivalent amount from the unallocated monies remaining in the Metropolitan Small Grants Fund. The transfer of \$1,094 would leave a final unallocated amount of \$52,088 in Metropolitan Small Grants Fund.
8. Staff propose the following three options for the \$52,088 remaining:

#### Option One

9. To transfer the remaining \$52,088 from the Metropolitan Small Grants Fund to the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund.
10. The Discretionary Response Fund opens each year on 1 July and closes on 30 June the following year, or when all funds are expended. For 2009-10, the total pool available for allocation for the Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund is \$160,072. At the time of writing, 17 requests, totalling \$308,619, have been received and five grants, totalling \$45,040, have been made. The transfer of the remaining \$52,088 would increase the total available in the Fund from \$115,032 to \$167,120.
11. The purpose of this Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund is to assist community groups where the project and funding request falls outside other Council funding criteria and/or closing dates. The Fund is also for emergency funding for unforeseen situations. Applications requesting over \$15,000 require consideration by the Metropolitan Funding Committee. Staff have delegated authority to consider applications for \$15,000 or less.

### **Option Two**

12. Do nothing. The \$52,088 would remain unallocated in the Metropolitan Small Grants Fund and could be taken as a one-off saving.

### **Option Three**

13. Hold a second round later in the year of the Metropolitan Small Grants Fund.
14. Staff do not recommend this option as they believe that the time taken to advertise the second round and assess applications will not be cost effective.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommend **Option One** be adopted, with the remaining \$52,088 being transferred from the Metropolitan Small Grants Fund to the 2009/10 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

15. The Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund will be increased from \$160,072 to \$212,160.

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

16. Yes.

### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

17. None.

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

18. Not applicable.

### **ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

19. Yes, Community Support.

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

20. Yes, Community Grants.

### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

21. Strengthening Communities Strategy.

### **Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?**

22. Yes, Strengthening Communities Strategy.

### **CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

23. Not applicable.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

24. It is recommended that the Council transfer \$1,094 from the 2009/10 Metropolitan Small Grants Fund to the 2009/10 Metropolitan Strengthening Communities Fund.
25. It is recommended that the remaining unspent funds of \$52,088 in the 2009/10 Metropolitan Small Grants Fund be transferred to the 2009/10 Metropolitan Discretionary Response Fund.