
SOCIAL AND RECREATION AND SCHOOL POOLS PARTNERSHIP FUNDS- APRIL 2014

1. Purpose of Report

To provide recommendations for the distribution of the Council's Social and Recreation and School Pools Partnership Funds.

2. Executive Summary

The Council provides grants to assist community groups to undertake projects that meet community needs. Grants are also a mechanism for achieving the Council's objectives and strategic priorities, especially those priorities that rely on community organisations carrying out specific activities.

In June 2013 four new grant funds were established, each reporting to their respective Council committees; the Our Living City Fund, the Business Improvement District Development Fund, the Arts and Culture Fund, and the Social and Recreation Fund.

The School Pools Partnership Fund was established in 2010/11 to increase the total available pool capacity and aquatic programme opportunities throughout the city by supporting capital programmes in schools. \$2,000,000 was allocated to the fund.

3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Community, Sport and Recreation Committee :

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Agree to fund applicants to the Social and Recreation Fund as listed in Appendix 4.*
- 3. Agree to fund applicants to the School Pools Partnership Fund as listed in Appendix 5.*

4. Background

The changes Council made to the Social and Recreation Fund in 2012 was about updating focus areas to ensure they contribute to strategic direction and reflected key social policies, such as the Positive Ageing Policy, Accessible Wellington Action Plan and Te Mahana. Other criteria changes also included scope to support social entrepreneurialism and prioritising neighbourhood activity.

The criteria and focus areas (priorities) for the Social and Recreation Fund is included as Appendix 1.

The Council also enters into three year contracts when it has an interest in ensuring particular activities occur that contribute to Council's strategies or policies. For example, community centres are seen as an important part of community infrastructure and their activities are important in building strong communities.

The Strategy and Policy Committee agreed to a re-configured grants framework (April 2005) in which organisations whose activities directly contribute to Council's strategic or policy goals would be funded through a *detailed* contractual arrangement with three-yearly reviews of the funding.

Three year funding support is of particular benefit for community organisations working towards building strong communities through strengthening capacity in Wellington's Social, Environmental and Cultural sectors. There are some organisations that are critical to Wellington, contribute to Wellington's sense of place and are part of the city's infrastructure. These are organisations that are sustainable in the long term but need some financial support and some certainty. Examples in addition to Community Centres include Wellington Community Law, Kaibosh, The Sustainability Trust or the Wellington Free Ambulance.

The School Pools Partnership Fund was established in 2010/11 with \$2,000,000 to allocate over three years, in 2012/13 this was re-phased with equal amounts being allocated over the four consecutive years. The criteria for this fund are included as Appendix 2.

5. Discussion

The Social and Recreation Fund provides grants to community organisations for projects that meet the criteria for the fund (Appendix 1). This is the third of the three funding rounds for 2013-14.

The next round for the Social and Recreation fund will close on 20 August 2014 with applications considered by the Community, Sport and Recreation Committee in September 2014.

The original information provided through online application has been made available to members of the Committee.

5.1 Social and Recreation Fund

There are 33 applications to the Social and Recreation Fund requesting a total of \$298,626.

5.2 Social and Recreation Fund- Contract Funding

Organisations funded by the Council through three year contracts need to meet the fund criteria and also show that:

- The organisation is well-established and with some Council funding is sustainable in the long-term.
- The organisation is generally regarded as a feature of Wellington's infrastructure or unique sense of place.
- The Council does not wish to influence its day to day activities but has a strong interest in the outcomes of the organisation.
- A partner relationship is beneficial.

There are eight applications seeking support for contract funding, seven of these organisations currently have ongoing contract funding to 30 June 2014. One application is for a new funding contract.

5.3 The School Pools Partnership Fund

The School Pools Partnership Fund aims to improve access to and uptake of learn-to-swim, aquatic education, sport and enjoyment by increasing the total available pool capacity and aquatic programme opportunities throughout the city.

This is the fourth year of funding, with \$500,000 available to distribute this year. Six applications have been received for this 2013/14 round which closed on 16 April 2014. Applicants are requesting a total of \$1, 083,534. A list of past allocations through this fund is included as Appendix 3.

6 Application Assessment

Officer's recommendations (Appendix 4 and 5) are based on evidence of need, alignment with the Council's strategic goals, the fund criteria (Appendix 1 and 2) and the likely effectiveness of funding the project. Officers also take into account the management of previous funding (through accountability reports).

The assessment process may include consultation with; the applicant, persons or organisations referred to in the application, Council officers, and persons operating or knowledgeable about similar services to that of the applicant. Applicants are given five working days where possible to respond to a request for more information, so some recommendations may be subject to change depending on responses received after this report has been written.

To ensure funds are used appropriately, conditions may be suggested in certain circumstances should funding be approved. This is usually in cases where applicants need to use funds for a specific aspect of their budget or they are awaiting confirmation of sufficient funds from other sources to proceed with their project.

6.1 Contract applications assessment

In addition to the contract funding applications organisations completed a self-assessed health check as part of the application process. Officers have reviewed the supporting documentation provided by the applicants. Before recommending an organisation for contract funding, Officers satisfied themselves that each organisation scored a rating of at least '3' in each assessment area.

For the organisations delivering to young people we undertook a review of existing contract arrangements. The review assessed the extent to which the organisations were meeting their specified outcomes, and how well these outcomes contribute to Council's strategic or policy goals. The review also identified gaps in provision, efficiency and take up issues, opportunities for collaboration and partnerships, and potential for sharing services, including with other organisations, in order to better meet Council's strategic goals.

The review proposed some key guiding principles for Council to use in its assessment of applications for contract funding.

- 1) Council ceases to contribute funding to services that are the responsibility of central government agencies, or are mainly funded by central government agencies.
- 2) Council introduces more specificity within contracts about the target group or groups for youth services and shifts the focus from more general operational support to contracts for specified services and projects.
- 3) Council ensures that youth services contracts and grants include professional and best practice standards
- 4) Council maintains a commitment to support innovative projects and new providers by funding one off projects through the Social and Recreation, Arts and Culture and other funds.

In negotiating detailed contract funding outcomes Officers will take into account priorities identified;

- a balance between support for programmes in the CBD and suburbs
- the ability to support a range of types of activity (for example through local organisations like community centres and other not for profit groups)
- work with vulnerable young people
- support for activity which complements Councils own activity through facilities (libraries, recreation, parks) and those of other Council controlled entities.

6.2 Recommendations

The recommendations (Appendix 4) give each applicant's organisation name, a brief project description, the total project cost, amount requested and general comments from Council Officers.

7. Conclusion

The Community, Sport and Recreation Committee is asked to consider the applications received for the Social and Recreation Fund, Social and Recreation Fund- Contract funding and the School Pools Partnership Fund and decide whether or not it is appropriate to fund applicant organisations, and at what level.

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Jenny Rains, Manager, Community Services
Julian Todd, Recreation Facilities Manager

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1) Strategic fit / Strategic outcome

Wellington City Council Grants support communities to deliver on Council's strategic outcomes.

2) LTP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

The Long Term Plan makes provision for community grants in several places - 2.1.6 - Community environmental initiatives, 3.1.4 - Grants and creative workforce, 4.1.4 – (Arts and) Cultural grants, and 5.2.4 - Grants (Social and Recreation). Both the Social and Recreation Fund and School Pools Partnership Fund are under C678.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Any grants application that could have implications for Maori are referred to WCC Treaty Relations Office for recommendations. For each of these grant funds there are specific criteria and questions relating to Maori, for the Our Living City Fund applicants are asked to describe how their project relates to concepts around the guardianship with mana whenua as kaitiaki of the natural environment.

4) Decision-making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General consultation

Council Officers engage and consult widely with a range of groups and organisations before funding applications are made and throughout the assessment process.

b) Consultation with Maori *N/a*

6) Legal implications

N/a

7) Consistency with existing policy

Council funds have been created to assist community initiatives in line with Council strategy.

Appendix 1- Social and Recreation Fund Criteria

The Social and Recreation Fund supports projects that contribute to our strategic direction and include scope to support social entrepreneurialism, prioritising neighbourhood activity, and supporting the strategic planning of sports codes.

Local residents and progressive associations can also be supported through this fund.

Fund objectives

To foster strong, sustainable communities and support building capacity in the community.

Criteria

Your project makes a positive contribution to achieving the Council's Strategic outcomes:

Towards 2040: Smart Capital strategy

- People Centred City: Contributes to healthy, vibrant, affordable and resilient communities, with a strong sense of identity and 'place' expressed through urban form, openness and accessibility.
- Connected City: Supports a city with easy physical and virtual access to regional, national and global networks.
- Eco-City: Allows the city to proactively respond to environmental challenges and seize opportunities to grow the green economy.
- Dynamic Central City: Supports a central city of creativity, exploration and innovation, helping Wellington to offer the lifestyle, entertainment and amenity of a much bigger city.

Long Term Plan 2012-22 priorities:

- An inclusive place where talent wants to live
- A resilient city
- A well managed city
- Annual Plan priorities for the relevant year.

The project is Wellington-based and mainly benefits the people of Wellington (exceptions may be made for projects based elsewhere in the region, but which significantly benefit Wellington City residents).

The applicant is a legally constituted community group or organisation

The applicant provides evidence of sound financial management, good employment practice, clear and detailed planning, clear performance measures, and reporting processes.

The applicant outlines how physical accessibility has been built into project development.

The applicant outlines how pricing has been set to ensure access by a wide range of people or by the intended users.

The project should show evidence of community support, collaboration, and building partnerships with other organisations (e.g. social media interest, letters of support from other organisations/leaders).

The applicant must show that the project discernibly improves community wellbeing and adds value to the range of similar types of services in the community.

Māori are often over-represented in many determinants of social deprivation. Outline whether and how the specific needs of Māori have been incorporated into the planning of your project.

Emergent and innovative community projects can be supported through this fund. Applicants that apply under this category will need to demonstrate the transformative nature of the project.

Focus Areas

Build capability and capacity within the community

Priority will be given to projects that:

- strengthen the local community, address local issues, strengthen and contribute to social wellbeing
- Support volunteers and foster skill development and training for the community.

Promote personal and community safety

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Support community activity that enhances Wellington as an International Safe Community
- Support projects that enhance community safety and/or personal safety.

Physically active communities encouraging health and wellbeing

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Target communities of interest, including youth and seniors.
- Support the strategic planning of sports codes

Youth

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Involve young people in the development and delivery of the project
- Help young people gain a better understanding of community, an increased sense of belonging as active citizens and positive contributors to society
- Promote volunteer opportunities for young people.

Community Preparedness

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Strengthen local neighbourhood connectedness in an ongoing manner
- Increase community resilience and emergency preparedness locally

Criteria for Residents and Progressive Association applicants:

The organisation must:

- be registered with Wellington City Council Community Services as a residents/progressive association, contact our Senior Advisor Funding and Relationships on 803 8525
- have a committee
- meet at least twice a year and keep minutes of these meetings
- have an active membership of 10 or more, excluding the committee
- keep accurate and detailed accounts
- agree to make their accounts and minutes available to Wellington City Council on request.

When submitting an application Residents and Progressive Associations should give a summary of their current membership, meeting pattern (e.g. monthly) and provide a copy of minutes from recent meetings.

Appendix 2

Criteria School Pools Partnership Fund

- (a) The School Pools Partnership Fund aims to improve access to and uptake of learn-to-swim, aquatic education, aquatic sport and casual aquatic enjoyment by the local communities of Wellington City by increasing the total available pool capacity and aquatic programme opportunities throughout the city.
- (b) The project must demonstrate how it helps resolve current and forecast demand for learn-to-swim and aquatic education within Wellington City boundaries.
- (c) The project must be strategically located to both facilitate easy access for participant schools, (a 15-20 minute walk time from neighbouring schools is appropriate) and ensure that appropriate catchments are created across the city.
- (d) The applicant must facilitate use of the pool facility by other schools during the school day.
- (e) The applicant must make the pool facility available for wider community use outside of the school day/term. *
- (f) The project must have written support from the School Board of Trustees and school management.
- (g) Any trust or management arrangement for the project must be legally constituted and have adequate skills in planning, governance and management.
- (h) The project must have a Formal Use and Licence to Occupy Agreement in place with the Ministry of Education.
- (i) The project must have an appropriate business and asset management plan in place which ensures that no additional operational or capital funding will be sought from Wellington City Council.
- (j) Projects will only be able to be funded once through the Pools Partnership Fund.
- (k) The applicant must agree to provide an annual report to Wellington City Council about the pool's operation, maintenance, and achievements. This report will need to be provided throughout the indicated life of the asset, as defined prior to construction, and will include statements on schools programmes, community access, and operation of the asset.

* Consider that wider community use referred to in (e) above includes:

Use by groups, clubs and associations separate from the school, trust, or management arrangement of the facility which are based within Wellington City (Tawa but not the Hutt Valley or Porirua) and whose membership is made up of predominantly Wellington City residents.

Appendix 3

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL SCHOOL POOLS
PARTNERSHIP

October 2012 Round – Grants Sub-Committee date 10 December 2012		
Organisation name	Support for	Amount granted
Rewa Rewa School Board Of Trustees	Upgrade of the school pool facilities so it is available all year round for use of total wider community.	\$300,000.00
Swimming Trust of Wellington, The	Redevelop Wellington East Girls College pool to create a full 25mtr + 3 lane 12mtr training pool, indoor and heated.	\$200,000.00
Totals:		\$500,000.00

October 2011 Round – Grants Sub-Committee date 21 November 2011		
Organisation name	Support for	Amount granted
Berhampore School	Project to enclose Berhampore School pool so it can be used 4 terms per year.	\$50,000
Swimming Trust of Wellington, The	Redevelopment of Wellington East Girls College pool.	\$450,000
Totals:		\$500,000

March 2011 Round – Grants Sub-Committee date 5 May 2011		
Organisation name	Support for	Amount granted
Berhampore School	The pool at Berhampore School	\$69,000
Khandallah School	Upgrading of the school pool	\$420,000
Tawa School	Replace four garage doors that no longer open.	\$3,260
Totals:		\$492,260