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**ORDINARY MEETING**

**OF**

**GRANTS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**Time:** 9:30am  
**Date:** Wednesday, 5 December 2018  
**Venue:** Committee Room 1  
Ground Floor, Council Offices  
101 Wakefield Street  
Wellington

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## **2. General Business**

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### **SOCIAL AND RECREATION FUND - MULTI YEAR CONTRACT FUNDING**

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#### **Purpose**

1. This report asks the Grants Subcommittee to approve a three-year grant funding is awarded to Downtown Community Ministry Wellington Inc (DCM). to deliver a service response that addresses street homelessness in Wellington

#### **Summary**

2. The Council provides grants to assist community groups and organisations to undertake projects and deliver services 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.
3. The implementation of Te Mahana: The Strategy for Ending Homelessness in Wellington, is a priority for the Council.
4. The Council is taking a collaborative approach with central government and NGOs to deliver a collective impact on homelessness that aligns with the Housing First response.
5. The three year funding will augment services that are funded through the Housing First programme to be delivered through the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
6. Contract funding will fund services that will deliver assertive street outreach, tenancy-sustaining services and co-ordinated case collaboration.

#### **Recommendation/s**

That the Grants Subcommittee:

1. Receives the information.
2. Agrees to the allocation of a 3-year contract of \$476,000 per annum to Downtown Community Ministry Wellington Inc (DCM).
3. Recommend to the City Strategy Committee that it approves the allocation of 3 year grant contract funding for Downtown Community Ministry Wellington Inc., that being the allocation of greater than \$100,000.
4. Request officers to investigate partnership opportunities with Ngati Kāhungunu Ki Pōneke Community Services Inc (NKKPCS) that would support the work they deliver in Wellington.

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**Background**

7. Grants are included in the Long-Term Plan to provide an appropriate mechanism for the Council to respond to community groups and organisations that are undertaking projects or delivering services that:
  - a) Meet a need identified by the community.
  - b) Align with Council's strategic goals and outcomes.
  - c) Rely to some extent on participation and engagement by community organisations.
8. The Council enters into multi-year contracts when it has an interest in ensuring particular activities occur that contribute to Council's strategies or policies.
9. Organisations funded by the Council through multi-year contracts need to meet the Social and Recreation Fund criteria and that the organisation is:
  - a) well-established and with some Council funding is sustainable in the long-term and a partner relationship is beneficial
  - b) The Council does not wish to influence its day to day activities but has a strong interest in the outcomes of the organisation and can influence these through results based reporting.
10. Any recommendations over \$100,000 in any one financial year are subject to the approval of the City Strategy Committee
11. The assessment process funding may include consultation with; the applicant, persons or organisations referred to in the application and Council officers. In assessing applications Officers look at alignment with Council policies and priority areas from the specific fund as well as organisational capacity, ability to deliver projects and the financial position of the organisation.
12. Original information provided through online applications has been made available to Councillors.
13. To ensure funds are used appropriately, detailed funding outcomes form part of the contract with six monthly reporting to Council on activity against agreed outcomes.
14. Recommendations are for funding in 2018/19 (pro-rata from 6 December 2018) and in subsequent financial years, subject to funding being available.

**Alignment of multi-year homelessness funding to the Housing First model**

15. Implementation of Te Mahana: The Strategy for Ending Homelessness in Wellington is a priority for the Council. The goal of Te Mahana is that homelessness should be brief, rare and non-recurring.
16. Decisions on this contract funding were delayed to ensure our funding would align and augment the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing First programme for Wellington.

17. Housing First is an initiative involving collaboration between central and local government and NGOs to deliver the collective impact of aligned services to reduce street homelessness. Over the next two years this programme will work with 150 of the Wellington's most vulnerable people, who have been homeless for a long time and/or face multiple and complex issues.
18. Officers engaged with HUD and other key stakeholders both external and internal to Council for input into the service design for street outreach and tenancy support.
19. Officers determined that key activities to fund would be an assertive street outreach model (involving a number of specific activities), alongside tenancy support services and coordinated case collaboration.
20. Organisations were informed of the service priorities so they could address these Council priorities in their applications. Specifically, Council sought to support services that:
  - a) Identify, proactively engage, and collaborate with people sleeping rough and persistently begging to develop individual plans with a view to their permanent housing
  - b) Undertake tenancy-sustaining services for those who have been recently housed or are at severe risk of re-entering chronic homelessness
  - c) Deliver services using an intensive and coordinated case collaboration approach
21. This suite of services would extend and strengthen the HUD Housing First approach by including those who are living on the street and/or begging but do not otherwise fit the Housing First client criteria (e.g. already have housing they aren't using or have been homeless for less than 12 months). Delivering the outreach services will most frequently involve engaging with those who have disengaged with service providers or may have been excluded from services and may have distrust of service providers.

## **Discussion**

22. The outcomes of Te Mahana were initially supported through Te Whakamura Ai Te Ahi, a collaboration between DCM, the Suzanne Aubert Compassion Centre (Soup Kitchen) and Ngati Kāhungunu Ki Pōneke Community Services Inc (NKKPCS). This was funded through a three-year contract (2015-2018). In the last year of the contract the Soup Kitchen withdrew from the collaboration. The remaining two organisations ended their working partnership in Te Whakamura Ai Te Ahi on 5 July 2018.
23. In July and September 2018, Council approved extensions to the funding for NKKPCS and DCM to allow time to develop an approach that was consistent with Housing First in reducing street homelessness. These grants provided funding until 30 November 2018.
24. Applicants (DCM and NKKPCS) were informed of the service priorities in October so they could address those Council priorities in their applications.
25. The priorities were the delivery of assertive street outreach (involving specific activities), tenancy-sustaining services and a co-ordinated case collaboration approach.

26. Officers assessed the applications against the stated service requirements. In particular Officers considered how the organisations planned to approach services requirements. This included:
- a) positive response to the new assertive approach to street outreach and consideration of how these services could be delivered, for example flexibility of services, both in time of day/day of week as well as being able to address emerging issues in specific areas of the city.
  - b) evidence of service collaboration with other agencies to ensure a joined up approach across Wellington and enabling the utilisation of a broad range of services.
  - c) clear explanations of how the organisation would provide support for new tenancies for those who have been homeless and have been housed. We also looked for an overview of how they would work to sustain existing tenancies for those with high and complex needs.
  - d) articulation of the system response necessary to coordinate and respond as Housing First delivery comes online and progresses.
  - e) linkage with mana whenua and responsiveness to the needs of tangata whenua
28. The application received from DCM showed the strongest alignment with the activities Council is seeking to fund.

## Attachments

Nil

Author	Mark Farrar, Team Leader Funding and Relationships
Authoriser	Jenny Rains, Community Services Manager Stephen McArthur, Manager Community Networks Barbara McKerrow, Chief Operating Officer

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## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **Engagement and Consultation**

Officers engaged with Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other key stakeholders both external and internal to Council for input into the service design for street outreach and tenancy support.

### **Treaty of Waitangi considerations**

In assessing applications Officers have consulted with Council Tira Poutama/Iwi Partnerships team and with organisations representing mana whenua.

### **Financial implications**

The Long Term Plan makes provision for community grant funding in several places under 5.2.4 – with the Social and Recreation Fund under project (157.1124).

### **Policy and legislative implications**

Council funds have been created to assist community initiatives in line with Council strategy. Council Officers engage and consult widely with a range of groups and organisations before funding applications are made and throughout the assessment process.

### **Risks / legal**

N/A

### **Climate Change impact and considerations**

N/A

### **Communications Plan**

N/A

### **Health and Safety Impact considered**

Projects seeking support from Council are delivered by organisations and groups who are legal entities and responsible for health and safety of the project, programmes, events, etc.