



Lyall Bay Surf Club - funding support

The Proposal

The Lyall Bay Surf Life Saving Club (the club) has requested funding support from Council of \$200,000 to go towards the building of a new surf clubhouse. This funding bid was supported by an individual submitter who advocated Council contribute \$500,000.

The club currently operates out of two buildings on Lyall Bay beach—one owned by the Council and the other - the easternmost building - by the club. The building owned by the club is 52 years old, is in a poor state of repair and is no longer adequate for the club's lifesaving and membership requirements.

The club wants to build a new purpose built clubhouse (on the site where their current clubhouse sits) which can more easily accommodate their surf life saving gear and growing membership, and discontinue use of the Council owned building.

The plans for the proposed new clubhouse were submitted to Council earlier this year for resource consent. All information is currenty being assessed by Council planners and a decision as to whether the consent is publicly notified is pending.

Proposal Costs

	Operating expenses \$000									
Project Component	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
Funding grant	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

This proposal would be funded by an increase in the general rate.

Discussion

The club will celebrate its Centenary in October 2010 as the first club in New Zealand to have a patrol on the beach, and has been an effective community organisation providing surf life saving services to the Wellington community over that time.

While it is acknowledged that the club is a valuable community organisation providing an excellent service, in the current economic environment Council's focus for new funding over the next three years is on those projects that have commenced, sustain Wellington's points of difference or where it is considered strategically important to invest. In recognition of this, there has been a general deferral of non urgent capital upgrades for the next three years as well as some service level reductions, and any new funding bids are reviewed in terms of this general approach and the need to take a balanced approach to investment in the city while containing rates increases. Consequently, officers do not consider providing financial assistance to the club for the construction of a new building as a priority. Officers will continue to work with the club through the design elements and the resource consent process but it is recommended that the club pursue sponsors to secure the funding necessary for the building of the new clubhouse. Officers also note the funding request to Council would form approximately 10% of the expected project cost and significant funding would still need to be found from elsewhere before the project could be viable.

Officer recommendation

It is recommended that the funding bid be declined.

Contact officer:

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