
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL GENERAL GRANTS

1. Purpose of Report

This report;

1. Provides recommendations for the distribution of the Council's General Grants pools
2. Provides recommendations for the distribution of Council's Sports Development Grants

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Grants Subcommittee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Agree to fund the applicants as listed in Appendix Two.*

3. Background

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. The general grants scheme provides funding for projects from community organisations that meet general and specific criteria (Appendix one).

4. Discussion

This is the second grant round for the 2010-2011 financial year. The total pool available for allocation through the general contestable grant rounds in 2010/11 (including the Sports Development Grants) is \$869,532.

The annual amount in each pool is:

- o \$318,014 for the Cultural Pool
 - o \$50,000 for the Economic pool
 - o \$80,000 for the Environmental Pool
 - o \$371,518 for the Social Pool.
- and
- o \$50,000 for Sports Development Grants

Allocations- October 2010 round

Table one shows the total funds available in 2010/11 and recommended amount available for allocation in each pool for the October 2010 round.

Table One

| Pool | Available for allocation 2010-11 | Available for allocation October 2010 |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Cultural | \$318,014 | \$148,014 |
| Economic | \$50,000 | \$23,538 |
| Environmental | \$80,000 | \$17,076 |
| Social | \$371,518 | \$110,541 |
| Sports Development | \$50,000 | \$35,000 |

The number of applications received in each round has been increasing over the last two years and this trend is continued in the current round. This increase is particularly noticeable in the number of applications for funding through the cultural pool, there are 63 applications requesting a total of \$711,104. This increase is primarily due to the focus on projects for the Rugby World Cup.

Across all four pools there were 135 applications in this round which closed on 31 October 2010, compared to 110 applications in the July 2010 round. We also continue to see pressure on the social pool, with 35 applications received within the social pool, requesting a total of \$306,092.

Earlier this year Officers recommended an increase in the funding available for this round to promote opportunities for community groups and arts organisations to programmes and activities for the Rugby World Cup's 'Festival of Carnivale' (9 September to 9 October). This month long festival will reflect Wellington's diverse cultures as well as the cultures of visiting teams, it will showcase a sophisticated range of creative and cultural products from grass-roots performance through to work that is of an international touring standard.

Nine different countries will be represented by their rugby teams in Wellington over the course of the festival – South Africa, Wales, Fiji, USA, Australia, France, Tonga, Canada and New Zealand. Councils priority for this round is to ensure that creative and cultural content from each of the nations are reflected and celebrated during the Festival programme.

The Sports Development Grant fund of \$50,000 (annually) is aimed at sports and recreation organisations in Wellington so they can receive professional advice and support for enhancing their strategic management. Typically this is around either club development (strategic or business planning, marketing planning, accounts mentoring) or recreation planning (strengthening school and/or club links or sharing resources and facilities).

Sports Development Fund applications include an additional application from Wellington Rugby League which is attached as Appendix three.

The current recommended allocations within the four pools (defined by focus areas) are expressed as a percentage of the total application. (Table Two).

The grant pools continue to show some variance from the target percentages. These focus area percentages are intended as a guide and do allow for flexibility to respond to emerging issues however the discrepancies reflect the profile of applications and are driven by demand. Officers recommend that these focus areas are reviewed during the first year of the new triennium, in time for the July 2011 grant round.

Table Two shows some ongoing patterns of differences between the recommended target (%) for each focus area (c) and previous (d) and current recommendations (e).

Table Two

| (a) Pool | (b) Focus Area | (c) Recommended Target | (d) July 2010 | (e) Recommendati ons October 2010 |
|----------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Cultural | Maori art | 12% | 9% | 18% |
| | Grassroots organisations (particularly those with a focus on youth) | 30% | 19% | 9% |
| | For specific projects, exhibitions or other groups | 13% | 56% | 25% |
| | Significant community festivals and events | 45% | 16% | 48% |
| Economic | Initiatives that may benefit Wellington economically including feasibility studies and/or preliminary research around a concept. Contribute to sense of place. | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Environmental | Promotion of water and energy efficiency and conservation, energy security and the use of renewable energy resources | 25% | 0% | 0% |
| | Improved stream protection | 25% | 11% | 48% |
| | Strengthened partnerships with stakeholders and to increase community projects that support participation and environmental education | 50% | 47% | 52% |
| | Biodiversity and Waste minimisation | 0% | 42% | 0% |
| Social | Capacity and capability building by community organisations | 60% | 46% | 74% |
| | Programmes that support youth | 13% | 24% | 24% |
| | Promoting participation in sports and recreation | 13% | 2% | 2% |
| | Safety programmes | 13% | 27% | 0% |

Organisations continue to access government funding through the Community Response Fund, COGS and Lottery but the general trend, particularly in the social sector is of smaller grant allocations.

4.1 Application Assessment

Officer's recommendations (Appendix two) are based on evidence of need, alignment with the Council's strategic goals, the grants criteria (Appendix one) and effectiveness of funding these projects.

Officers also take into account, management of previous funding (through reports) and information from City Communities, City Arts, Treaty Relations, Strategy and Policy, City Events, Rugby World Cup and other business units.

The assessment process can include consultation with all or some of the following; 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 ten 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.

The original information provided by applicants has been forwarded to Subcommittee members in a separate book. In general, applicants have been grouped into the pool they have chosen on their application form. Some applications show a strategic fit to more than one pool. Flexibility will be required in deciding which pool to fund from as a number of applications clearly fit the strategic aims of more than one pool.

The recommendation sheet (Appendix two) gives each applicant's organisation name, which funding pool they have applied to, a brief project description, the total project cost, amount requested and general comments from the Grants Team

Tags to ensure funds are used appropriately 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.

The level of funding recommended takes into account:

- the amount needed for the activity to proceed
- an amount in line with past precedents
- an amount in line with suggested funding alternatives
- an amount that reflects the level of fit with general and strategic criteria

If members of the Subcommittee require more information on applications prior to the grants meeting, they can contact the Grants Team, who will do their best to get this ready in time for the meeting.

The Grants Team collects statistical information to provide an overview of spending after the allocations have been made, to help give an indication of the type of projects most funded and the age groups that receive most benefit.

4.2 Rugby World Cup Applications

Applications to the cultural pool were assessed as described in 4.1 (above), in addition consideration was given to applications that provided activities and performances that:

- Would be inclusive to locals, visitors, all ages, ethnicities (rugby fans or not)
- Celebrate the national game and leverage the associated opportunities to showcase arts, creativity and culture
- Leave visitors and ratepayers with a memorable experience
- Provide a safe and welcoming environment
- Showcase Wellington as the cultural capital and to place Wellington on the world stage.

Projects fitted into two principal areas for programming:

- The Rugby Village, located in Odins Plaza, next to the Wharewaka. An open air, fenced, licensed village with a capacity of 3000 people and a large covered stage and a screen. All the games of the Rugby World Cup tournament will be screened and the village will serve as a central welcoming and meeting point to gather information about Wellington. It is expected that Rugby Village will hum with activity throughout the festival. The Rugby Village stage will showcase the best entertainment (music and dance) from the Pacific Rim and from our international Embassy partners.
- Civic Village includes the Town Hall and Civic Square and will be an unlicensed family friendly area featuring a comprehensive programme of cultural and community performances, interactive games, food and market stalls.

5. Conclusion

The Subcommittee is asked to consider the applications received for the General Grants Pool and Sports Development Grants and decide whether or not it is appropriate to fund the applicants, and at what level.

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Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

WCC General grants are allocated to support outcomes from the Cultural, Social, Economic and Environmental strategic areas.

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

The Cultural grants come under project C661, the Environmental grants under project C652, the Social & Recreational grants under C678 and the Economic grants under project C647.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Any grants application that could have implications for Maori are referred to WCC Treaty Relations Office for recommendations. The Treaty Relations Office is sent the full list of applicants and projects for comments.

4) Decision-Making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

The Grants Team sends the full list of applicants and projects for comment to appropriate Council officers prior to presentation to the Subcommittee. Applicants and persons or organisations referred to in the applications and others may be spoken to for comments where appropriate.

b) Consultation with Maori

The WCC Treaty Relations Office is sent the full list of applicants and projects for comment prior to presentation to committee.

6) Legal Implications

N/A

7) Consistency with existing policy

The grant pools have been created to assist community initiatives in line with Council strategy.

Appendix 1: Grants Criteria

Generic Grants Criteria:

1. Project makes a positive contribution to achieving the Council's Strategic Outcomes and Points of Difference as listed in the Council's current Annual Plan.
2. Project is Wellington based and primarily benefits the people of Wellington (exceptions may be made for projects based elsewhere in the region but which significantly benefit residents of Wellington City).
3. Applicant is a legally constituted community group or organisation, not an individual or individuals.
4. Applicant group provides evidence of (or, if a new group, systems for): sound financial management, good employment practice (where applicable), clear and detailed planning, clear performance measures, demonstrated ability to report back on past funding as appropriate.
5. Projects will not be funded for the same purpose more than once in any financial year.
6. Failure to report adequately on past Council funding can result in a group being considered ineligible for future funding.
7. Project is physically and financially accessible either by a wide range of persons or by the intended users.
8. Project shows evidence of community support, collaboration and building partnerships with other organisations (e.g. letters of support from other organisations/leaders).
9. Applicant must demonstrate that the project expands the capacity, range or level of similar types of services in the community and that there was user input into identifying the need for the project.
10. The principal intent of the project is not for private or commercial pecuniary gain, though it may be that such gains occur as a side effect of the project.
11. Application demonstrates an awareness of the Treaty of Waitangi, in particular when involving Mana whenua and Taura Here.

Specific criteria relating to Cultural Grants:

All projects must be community based and aimed at attracting or involving a minimum of 1,000 people and meet at least one of the following:

- Project encourages or increases youth participation in the arts
- Project preserves and enhances Wellington's role as Arts and Cultural Capital of New Zealand
- Project acknowledges community diversity and civic pride
- Project attracts visitors to Wellington and has a positive economic benefit for the city
- Project is a specific project for an exhibition or event
- Project demonstrates an emphasis on traditional or contemporary Maori cultural influences
- Applicant group is based in a geographic community (such as a suburb) or a community of interest (such as an ethnicity) and proposes a festival or event that reflects a community need

Specific criteria relating to Economic Grants:

- Projects should benefit the wider community rather than individuals or particular sectors
- Applicants should not be government agencies or limited liability companies

Specific criteria relating to Environmental Grants:

- Project has positive impacts upon Council's Strategic Outcomes in relation to the environment (e.g. bio-diversity, eco-systems, landscape and natural heritage, waste minimisation, water conservation, fuel use/alternative transportation, eco-design etc.)
- Project enhances, restores or protects the environment within Wellington City.
- Project promotes environmental sustainability or understanding of environmental values.

Specific criteria relating to Social grants:*Building Capability & Capacity:*

- Project encourages growth of communities and participation in community life.
- Preference for projects that assist the development of economically or socially disadvantaged groups in the community.

Sport and Recreation:

- Priority will be given to:
 - Programmes targeting youth – 13 to 20 year age group
 - Spending that supports active participation by youth by providing essential items for the activity
 - Projects that encourage volunteer involvement to support active participation by youth
 - Projects that historically would have been eligible for Hillary Commission funding and have unsuccessfully sought funding from other sources

Safety:

- Projects that lead to a safer community environment.
- Projects that promote personal safety.
- Projects that help reduce crime in Wellington.

Youth:

- Programme targets youth in the 10-25 year age group.
- Programme emphasises youth involvement in planning, and learning to make constructive use of leisure time.
- Programme is unable to get sufficient funding from other sources.
- Project is aimed at keeping youth/rangatahi safe.
- Project encourages youth/rangatahi to develop their full potential as individuals and members of the community.
- Project encourages youth/rangatahi to participate in community networks and/or in the decision making and development of their city.

Specific criteria relating to Residents Associations:

- The applicant organisation is registered with the Wellington City Council as a Residents Association.

- The applicant organisation has a committee.
- The applicant organisation has an active membership of 10 or more, excluding the committee and the membership list is available for public inspection.
- The applicant organisation meets at least twice a year and keeps minutes of such meetings.
- The applicant organisation keeps accurate and detailed accounts.
- The applicant organisation agrees to make their accounts and minutes available to the Wellington City Council on request.

Specific criteria relating to Sports Development Grants

- Projects should enhance the strategic management of sports and recreation organisations
- Priority will be given to proposals that promote youth participation in sport and recreation

Appendix 2: Recommendations

Appendix 3 : Sports Development Grant Fund Additional Application