
REPORT 2
(1215/52/03/IM)

CONTRACT FUNDING- CHANGEMAKERS REFUGEE FORUM

1. Purpose of Report

To seek the Grants Subcommittee's approval for funds to be allocated through a three year funding agreement to the Changemakers Refugee Forum.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Grants Subcommittee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Agree that from the 2011/12 financial year Changemakers Refugee Forum be offered a three year funding contract.*

3. Background

Grants are included in the Annual Plan to provide an appropriate mechanism for the Council to respond to community groups to undertake projects that:

- Meet a need identified by the community;
- Align with council's strategic goals and community outcomes, and;
- Rely to some extent on participation and engagement by community organisations.

Organisations and projects are funded through contracts and contestable grants pools. The contestable pools provide grants that are discretionary, short term and project based in nature. 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 overarching theme of the Social Strategy).

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 year reviews of the funding.

These contracts are of benefit to community organisations working towards building strong communities through strengthening capacity in Wellington's social and cultural sectors. Many of these organisations also contribute to our sense of place and are part of the city's infrastructure. These organisations are sustainable in the long term but need some financial support and certainty.

Organisations funded by Council through contracts need to meet the general grants criteria and the following criteria about entering a medium-term arrangement:

- 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 social or cultural infrastructure or unique sense of place.
- The Council does not wish to influence day to day activities but has a strong interest in the outcomes of the organisation
- A partner relationship is mutually beneficial
- Activities that directly contribute to Council's strategic or policy goals.

3.1 *Changemakers Refugee Forum*

Changemakers Refugee Forum is a key refugee advocacy group in the region it is based and works with the agencies that make up the Multicultural Service Centre on Webb Street in Te Aro.

In 2009 Council approved a three year funding contract (July 2009 to June 2012) of \$17,000 per year for The Changemakers Refugee Forum. However the organisation underwent changes in their governance and struggled to secure sustainable funding.

The review process placed the organisation on a one year funding agreement. This allowed the Changemakers Forum to reshape their organisation, strengthen their governance and secure more sustainable funding.

A new manager has been appointed and funding secured to support a number of programmes. Their report to Council on activities during 2010/11 outlined a range of programmes and activities as well as the implementation of a new membership policy ensuring representation from across all refugee communities.

4. Discussion

Officers used a health check and the contract funding criteria to assess the merits of this application.

4.1 *Health Check*

The organisation completed a self-assessed health check as part of the application process for three year contract funding. Officers ratified this self-assessment by reviewing the supporting documentation provided by the applicants and through asking questions at a meeting with staff from the

organisation prior to the application being submitted, where officers satisfied themselves that the organisation scored a rating of at least '4' in each assessment area. A copy of the Health Check is included in Appendix three.

4.2 Contract Funding Criteria

In November 2005, Council reviewed and made changes to the grants framework. One of those changes was to establish the provision to fund organisations on the basis of a contract. A list of current three year contracts is attached as Appendix three.

4.3 Application Assessment

Officers assessed whether the applicant qualified for contract funding using the criteria. (Appendix two)

Meeting strategic priorities

The Changemakers Refugee Forum were asked to specify the activities that they would deliver with Council funding over the period of the three year contract. These activities were assessed against the Council's priorities, the organisation contribute to social and recreational strategy outcomes 'more actively engaged' and 'better connected'.

Other criteria

The Changemakers Refugee Forum were asked to demonstrate how they do or will work in partnership with other organisations and the Council, how they evaluate their activities and their commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi. The organisation is a key partner in the Multicultural Services Centre and partner with a range of organisations.

The Changemakers Refugee Forum is a regional organisation with 75% of its work focused in Wellington city. There are numerous organisations delivering services and support to refugees in Wellington, many of whom Council supports either through project grants, contracts and/or accommodation assistance. The Changemakers Refugee Forum provide a platform for a pan-refugee voice and advocacy which has potential to improve delivery across many refugee services.

Officers recommend that the Changemakers Forum be granted \$17,000 a year through a three year contract (1 July 2011 –30 June 2014).

5. Conclusion

The Subcommittee is asked to consider the applications received for a three year contract from the Changemakers Refugee Forum and decide whether or not it is appropriate to fund the organisation and at what level.

Contact Officer: *Mark Farrar, Grants Team Leader*

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

APPENDIX 1

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.

Cultural Grants Focus Areas

The focus areas and associated criteria recognise the importance of sense of place, diversity, partnerships with arts organisations, festival groups and youth participation in arts and cultural activities.

Focus areas	Specific criteria
Grassroots organisations (particularly those with a focus on youth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourage or increases youth participation in the arts▪ Acknowledge community diversity and civic pride
For specific projects, exhibitions or other groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Preserve and enhance Wellington's role as arts and cultural capital of New Zealand▪ Attract visitors to Wellington and has a positive economic benefit for the city▪ Be a specific project for an exhibition or event
Maori art	Demonstrate an emphasis on traditional or contemporary Maori cultural influences
Significant community festivals and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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

APPENDIX 1

Environmental Grants

Focus areas reflect the current priorities which include delivering on the Climate Change Action Plan and promoting opportunities for initiatives that promote the city's natural environment.

Focus areas	Specific criteria
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourage composting of organic waste▪ Facilitate and support recycling, composting and waste reduction
Energy and climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Support reduced energy consumption and/or promotion of renewable energy▪ Encourage change in travel behaviour▪ Improve energy efficiency and conservation
Biodiversity and stream protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Restore and protect natural biodiversity▪ Increase awareness of biodiversity stream protection▪ Support clean ups that have a direct impact on biodiversity value
Water	Encourage reduced water consumption, increased water efficiency / resilience

Economic Grants

Focus areas support the development projects of economic benefit to Wellington. The projects must benefit the wider community (local or city wide) not individuals or businesses. Applicants should not be government agencies

Focus areas	Specific criteria
Retain core economic activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Support local economic development activity and capacity building▪ Feature strong partnerships with tertiary education institutions▪ Attract and retain skilled migrants▪ Strengthen the city's status as a centre of creativity, ideas and innovation
Growth of local emerging business and local economic activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Promote new ideas, businesses, products or partnerships –including creative/digital, clean technologies, innovative design and tourism

APPENDIX 1

Social Grants

The focus areas recognise the importance of strong, sustainable communities and the need for building capacity in the community

Focus area	Specific criteria
Capability and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourage growth of communities and participation in community life▪ Strengthen the local community, address local issues, strengthen and contribute to social wellbeing▪ Encourage and support volunteers and foster skill development and training for the community
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Build a safe community and/or environment▪ Promote personal safety
Physically active	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourage and support health and wellbeing▪ Target communities of interest, including youth and seniors
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Involve young people in the development and delivery of the project▪ Encourage constructive use of leisure time▪ 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

APPENDIX 2

Application from Changemakers Refugee Forum

APPENDIX 3

Appendix 3: List of current funding contracts

Organisation Name	Annual Funding
Catacombs	\$17,000
Community Accounts Mentoring Service	\$27,000
Life Flight Trust	\$42,000
Multicultural Service Centre	\$11,000
Vincent's Art Workshop	\$23,000
Volunteer Wellington	\$32,000
Wellington Citizens Advice Bureau Inc	\$195,000
Wellington City Mission	\$12,000
Wellington City Mission- Mayoral Relief Fund	\$20,000
Wellington Community Law	\$32,000
Wellington Council of Social Services	\$32,000
Wellington Free Ambulance	\$64,847
Wellington Night Shelter Trust	\$35,000
Wellington Womens Refuge	\$20,000
Age Concern Wellington Inc	\$10,000
Challenge 2000	\$40,000
English Language Partners Wellington Incorporated	\$12,000
Mokai Kainga Maori Centre Charitable Trust	\$42,500
Wellington Activity Centre	\$35,000
Wellington Boys and Girls Institute Inc	\$90,000
ZEAL Education Trust	\$80,000
20/20 Communications Trust	\$35,000
Sustainability Trust	\$45,000
Enviroschools Foundation	\$20,000

APPENDIX 3

Community centres

Organisation Name	Annual Funding
Aro Valley Community Centre	\$40,821
Brooklyn Community Association	\$38,464
Brooklyn Community Resource Centre	\$25,380
Hataitai Collective & Community House	\$37,000
Johnsonville Community Centre	\$45,000
Karori Community Centre	\$45,000
Khandallah- Cornerstone Resource Centre	\$35,579
Kilbirnie/Lyall Bay Community Centre	\$45,000
New Crossways Community Trust	\$36,308
Newtown Community & Cultural Centre (\$45,000)	\$173,041
Newtown Playground Hall (\$31,041)	
Smart Newtown (\$97,000)	
Northland Memorial Community Centre	\$31,871
Strathmore Park Community Base Inc (including Miramar Community Centre)	\$87,572
Thistle Hall	\$45,000

Cultural wellbeing

Organisation Name	Annual Funding
Arts Access Aotearoa	\$12,000
BATS Theatre	\$33,000
Circa Theatre	\$33,000
Downstage Theatre	\$33,000
NBR New Zealand Opera	\$48,500

APPENDIX 3

Randell Cottage Writers Trust	\$8,628
Royal New Zealand Ballet	\$17,500
Taki Rua Productions	\$33,000
Vector Wellington Orchestra	\$71,500
Creative Capital Arts Trust	\$85,000
Katherine Mansfield Birthplace Society	\$68,000
Newtown Festival	\$40,000

Homelessness strategy

<i>Organisation Name</i>	<i>Annual Funding</i>
Downtown Community Ministry- Project Margin	\$130,000