
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

1. Purpose of Report

This report updates the Grants Subcommittee on progress in implementing the new sports development fund and proposes criteria and priorities for allocating sports development grants.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the criteria for Sports Development Grants listed under 4.1 in this report.*
3. *Approve the statements listed under 4.2 in this report to be used in public advice on grants.*

3. Background

The Sports Development Grant Fund is a new initiative approved as part of the 2007/08 Annual Plan. The fund was proposed to fill a gap in criteria used by traditional funding sources and addresses a key challenge identified at the inaugural meeting of the Sports Forum, namely the difficulty that clubs have in securing robust advice when considering stronger strategic management.

The fund provides for \$100,000 of grants to be made available annually to sports clubs so they can receive professional advice and support for enhancing their strategic management. This may involve feasibility studies, research and assistance for programme development, club growth and expansion, asset management (not maintenance) and club diversification. The fund will assist in building capacity and capability within the sports clubs and complements the Council's activities in increasing participation in sport and recreation.

4. Discussion

The new initiative proposal stated that grants would be approved by the grants subcommittee and managed by the Grants business unit. The Grants

Subcommittee terms of reference allow the subcommittee to set criteria for grants in general.

Officers from the City Services and Events directorate and the Grants team have developed criteria, assessment guidelines and a process for the scheme. The proposed guidelines have been developed in line with the original proposal, taking into account other similar grant schemes around the country, funding currently available through the Council's Social grants pool, and feedback from participants at sports forums regarding their needs.

Officers recommend that grant applications be considered at the same time as the Council's general grant rounds, with the first round closing at the end of November 2007. The assessment guidelines will be reviewed at the end of this financial year, after two grant rounds have taken place.

4.1 *Extra criteria specific to the scheme*

Officers recommend that the eleven generic grants criteria apply to this fund, with three additional criteria:

12. Projects should enhance the strategic management of sports and recreation organisations
13. Applicant groups should be not for profit and have a non-exclusive membership
14. Priority will be given to proposals that promote youth participation in sport and recreation

4.2 *Project Funding Guidelines*

Officers recommend that the following information be made available to applicants by being included in the application guide published on the website, and in grant seminar notes:

Organisations should:

- be not for profit, legally constituted sports or recreation organisations
- have a constitutionally 'open' membership
- be operating in the Wellington rate paying area
- be affiliated to a SPARC recognised national body

What types of projects are eligible?

The main purpose of the grants will be to help fund professional advice and support for enhancing the strategic management of clubs. Here are some examples of projects that would fit the purpose of the grants:

Club development:

- Assisting with the development and/or implementation of a strategic plan
 - strategic
 - operational
 - business
 - risk management
 - volunteer management

- marketing
- Training for club administrators to improve organisational management, e.g. accounts mentoring
- Professional fees that cannot be funded from other sources, e.g. consultants, engineering, accounting, architects, legal etc

Recreation planning:

- Projects to strengthen school/club links
- Projects to identify facility or programme needs for the city in a particular sporting code
- Investigating opportunities for sharing resources or facilities

Costs / projects that *won't* normally be funded by Wellington City Council grants:

- catering
- costs associated with resource consent processes
- fundraisers and projects which seek to raise funds or which provide training for fundraisers
- personal travel and accommodation
- prize money
- purchase and maintenance of vehicles, land or buildings
- ongoing salary or administration costs (e.g. rent, insurance, utilities)
- retrospective funding for projects that have already been completed
- scholarships
- services or projects considered to be the responsibility of central government or some other funding body
- social functions

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Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

This proposal supports Social and Recreation strategic outcomes 6.3: More actively engaged and 6.5: Healthier. It also supports the three year strategic priority that “We will increase our efforts to promote participation in sport and recreation, particularly for youth.”

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

Social and Recreational grants come under C678.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

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

4) Decision-Making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

New initiative approved in the Annual Plan.

b) Consultation with Maori

The WCC Treaty Relations Office will be 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 scheme has been created to assist community initiatives in line with Council policy.