
NEW CONTRACT FUNDING

1. Purpose of Report.

To seek the Grants Subcommittee's approval for funds to be allocated through contracts to the Sustainability Trust and Wellington Community Childcare Association

2. Recommendations

Officer's recommend that the Grants Subcommittee:

- 1. Receives the information.*
- 2. Agrees that for the 2007/08 financial year Wellington Community Childcare Association be offered a one year contract.*
- 3. Agrees that The Sustainability Trust be offered a three year contract.*

3. Background

In 2005 the Grants Framework was adopted and Council agreed to fund community organisations through contracts when those organisations:

- make significant contribution to Wellington City and represent core business of the Council
- directly contribute to Council's strategic or policy goals by engaging with, providing services and giving advice for Wellington residents
- work collaboratively with specific community organisations to ensure the delivery of services and programmes that improve social cohesion and infrastructure

As part of the Grants Framework's implementation new factors arose for consideration:

- the need to develop a process to achieve a desirable equilibrium between funding available through the contestable grants process and that delivered through contracts
- an increased strategic focus on the environment (climate change in particular) and the need to be able to consider an environmental organisation for funding through a contract for services without impacting on the ability to deliver grants through the contestable process.

The Grants Subcommittee (March 2008) agreed to ring-fence contract funding at the current level. It was also agreed that there was a need to increase responsiveness to environmental priorities by allowing the ring-fenced contract funding to be allocated across the environmental, social and cultural pools

In line with the framework and the agreed ring fencing of the contract funding, this paper recommends that:

- the Sustainability Trust receive three year a contract for services
- Wellington Community Education Association receive funding through a one year contract for services

4. Discussion

The Council's Environment Strategy has an overarching theme of building more sustainable communities. The priorities include;

1. building capability and capacity within the community to promote social cohesion and sound social infrastructure
2. strengthening our partnerships with stakeholders to increase environmental awareness, community participation, and the achievement of environmental goals
3. increasing our promotion of water and energy efficiency and conservation, energy security, and the use of renewable energy sources, and we will take a more active leadership role in these areas

The Sustainability Trust is ideally placed to assist in delivery of these priorities. The Council wishes to work collaboratively with the Sustainability Trust and will provide support to deliver on agreed outcomes. It is proposed that the Grants subcommittee agree to fund the Sustainability Trust \$45,000 P/A through a 3 year contract for services. This is in line with funding for similar organisations

The Council has an interest in ensuring that Wellington has sound provision of quality early childhood services because of the contribution such services make to promoting economic and social wellbeing. Early childhood services support parents both as workers and in their parenting roles as well as providing intellectual and social enhancement that contributes to a child's later development.

Wellington Community Childcare Association (WCCCA) provides the sector and the city with the necessary infrastructure for support and promotion of the provision of quality early childhood education services. The contract will further support WCCA to assist childcare provision to enhance the quality of children's experiences in early childhood settings through:

- information and advice, including one to one mentoring and development of relevant courses

- WCCCA Management Support Scheme covering Finance, Information Management, Governance, Human Resources, and compliance (ERO Reviews)
- Manager/Senior Teacher relieving
- Support for Project management and co-ordination

It is proposed that the Grants subcommittee agree to fund the Wellington Community Childcare Association \$25,000 through a 1 year contract for services. This is in line with funding for similar organisations.

Currently there is \$1,558,353 allocated to 33 community groups through contract funding. The total ring fenced amount available for contracts is \$1,651,181 leaving \$92,828 available to be applied to new contracts.

5. Conclusion

Officers recommend ring-fencing the overall contract funding at the current level, that new contracts be funded from within that pool and that contract funding can be applied across Cultural, Social and Environmental wellbeings.

Contact Officer: *Jenny Rains, Manager Grants*

Supporting Information
<p>1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome <i>WCC General grants are allocated to support outcomes from the Cultural, Social, Economic and Environmental strategic areas.</i></p>
<p>2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact <i>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.</i></p>
<p>3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations <i>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.</i></p>
<p>4) Decision-Making <i>This is not a significant decision.</i></p>
<p>5) Consultation</p> <p>a) General Consultation <i>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.</i></p> <p>b) Consultation with Maori <i>The WCC Treaty Relations Office is sent the full list of applicants and projects for comment prior to presentation to committee.</i></p>
<p>6) Legal Implications <i>N/A</i></p>
<p>7) Consistency with existing policy <i>The grant pools have been created to assist community initiatives in line with Council strategy.</i></p>