

## 17. Community Resilience Partnership Fund

Reference: 19/534859

Presenter(s): Sam Callander, Funding Team Leader

### Confidentiality

<b>Section under the Act:</b>	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 6 and 7.
<b>Sub-clause and Reason:</b>	s6(b) - The making available of the information would be likely to endanger the safety of a person. s7(2)(d) - The withholding of the information is necessary to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health and safety of members of the public.
<b>Plain English Reason:</b>	To protect the safety of the applicant
<b>Report can be released:</b>	The report may be released on the General Manager Citizens and Community being satisfied there are no longer grounds in the Act for continuing to withhold it.

### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend to the Council the allocation of a grant to the Muslim Association of Canterbury from the Community Resilience Partnership Fund.

### 2. Staff Recommendations

That the Council:

1. Makes a grant of \$24,000 to Muslim Association of Canterbury from the Community Resilience Partnership Fund for employment of Intercultural Facilitators for a three month period.
2. Resolves that the decision and/or report be released on the General Manager Citizens and Community being satisfied there are no longer grounds in the Act for continuing to withhold it.

### 3. Key Points

- 3.1 The Muslim Association Canterbury (MAC) are currently receiving an average of 100 visitors a day to the Al-Noor mosque, the site of the first attack on 15 March 2019. The visitors are a mix of local, domestic and international visitors. Many are distressed and find the visit quite emotional.
- 3.2 The Association has a roster of volunteers to greet and host the visitors with the purpose of building intercultural understanding. They are finding that visitors are from a wide range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds and have many questions about activities at the mosque and the community it caters for. MAC have observed with interest the way that visitors realise the many common elements with that of their own culture.
- 3.3 The time required from the volunteers is becoming unsustainable. Funding is sought to employ two community members as Intercultural Facilitators for a three-month period, after

which they expect the number of visitors will have reduced. Suitably qualified individuals have been identified and are able to accept fixed-term positions. The paid Intercultural Facilitators will continue to be supplemented and supported by volunteers during peak times such as weekends.

- 3.4 As the end of the three-month period approaches MAC will review visitor numbers and the workload of those hosting. A decision will be made at that time to either revert to volunteer cover or consider other options.
- 3.5 The need for additional support was identified by MAC through their participation in the Funding Leaders Advisory Group (FLAG). The community has provided for the welfare of well-meaning visitors every day since the attacks. In addition to dealing with their own issues and fatigue many are also returning to work after extended leave, further reducing the number of potential volunteers available. Employing Intercultural Facilitators to take on the majority of hosting tasks would significantly alleviate this stressor for MAC.
- 3.6 The content and recommendation of this report have been discussed with and are supported by the Deputy Mayor, Chair of the Social Community Development and Housing Committee and the Chair of the Multicultural Sub-Committee.

### **Financial Considerations**

- 3.7 The Council has allocated funding to 42 initiatives since October 2017. The total allocations to date is \$2,687,700 Year 1 and \$2,140,520 Year 2.
- 3.8 At the time of writing, the balance of the Community Resilience Partnership Fund until June 30 2019 is \$401,780. From July 1 2019 the balance of the fund will be \$1,150,780.

### **Attachments**

There are no attachments for this report.

### **Confirmation of Statutory Compliance**

Compliance with Statutory Decision-making Requirements (ss 76 - 81 Local Government Act 2002).

(a) This report contains:

- (i) sufficient information about all reasonably practicable options identified and assessed in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
- (ii) adequate consideration of the views and preferences of affected and interested persons bearing in mind any proposed or previous community engagement.

(b) The information reflects the level of significance of the matters covered by the report, as determined in accordance with the Council's significance and engagement policy.

### **Signatories**

<b>Authors</b>	Nicola Thompson - Community Funding Advisor Sam Callander - Team Leader Community Funding
<b>Approved By</b>	John Filsell - Head of Community Support, Governance and Partnerships Mary Richardson - General Manager Citizen and Community