

Application for Community Grant

TO	Tairua-Pauanui Community Board
FROM	Lorna Price - Community Coordinator
DATE	29 January 2015
SUBJECT	Application for Community Grant - Rabbit Bait Stations

1 Purpose of Report

For the Community Board to consider an application for community grant funding for a contribution towards the purchase of rabbit bait stations for Pauanui.

2 Background

Under the Waikato Regional Councils Regional Pest Management Plan rabbits are a landowner responsibility. The council only becomes involved when rabbit population levels exceed the control threshold that is set in the RPMP.

Any complaints that the Council receives are forwarded to their contractor who provides the landowner with advice on how to control their rabbits.

Some rabbit eradication has been undertaken over the last few years mainly in the area of the golf course and airfield.

Waikato Regional Council offered to subsidise the purchase of 10 bait stations by the Pauanui Residents & Ratepayers Association and supply pre feed and poison pellets.

The reason WRC proposed that the Pauanui Ratepayers & Residents Association purchase the bait stations is that they can then be responsible for their choice of landowners to use the bait stations, their placement and the reason the Council preferred the 2kg buckets of bait is that they offer better poison security, are fully labelled with warning and safety messages and are easily distributed amongst the control volunteers. As pre feed is non-toxic, it does not require the same precautions. The Council considered this to be a location specific measure to bridge the gap left by the contract conclusion for pest control.

3 Issue

Pauanui has a rapidly increasing rabbit population and a group of residents were willing to volunteer their time to monitor and bait rabbit bait stations.

4 Discussion

The Tairua-Pauanui Community Board held back a sum of the community grant pool to accommodate one-off projects that occur outside the grant application window.

The cost to the Pauanui Ratepayers and Residents Association to purchase 10 rabbit bait stations for placement with volunteer landowners in Pauanui is \$200.00. A reduction in the rabbit population will see a reduction in rabbit damage in the community.

5 Suggested Resolution(s)

That the Tairua-Pauanui Community Board:

1. Receives the report.
2. Approves the community grant application by the Pauanui Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc for \$200 towards the purchase of rabbit bait stations.

References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A *Application for Community Grant - Pauanui Ratepayers and Residents Association*

Attachment A

Attachment A - Community Grant Application - Pauanui Ratepayers & Resi...