

# **St Francis School Thames - grant refund**

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**TO** Thames Community Board  
**FROM** Brian Robson - Thames Community Manager  
**DATE** 20 June 2018  
**SUBJECT** **St Francis School Thames - grant refund**

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## **1 Purpose of report**

The purpose of the report is for the Thames Community Board to decide whether to accept or decline the refund of funds granted to St Francis School for Christmas Wonderland 2016.

## **2 Background**

In 2016 St Francis School Thames successfully applied for a Thames Community Board grant of \$4,000 to help finance a Christmas light show in Thames. In the course of planning this event there was a communication breakdown between the School and one of the organisers, resulting in the formation of an incorporated society that held the event independently and purchased the lights from St Francis School.

Christmas Wonderland Inc has used the lights purchased from St Francis School to hold a second event prior to Xmas 2017 and has itself been the recipient of an events grant from the 2017-18 funding round.

St Francis School received legal advice that they were obliged to offer the proceeds of the sale of the assets back to the Community Board. Although the grant process requires unspent funds to be returned, St Francis School have made the point that the money was used for its intended purpose.

## **3 Issue**

St Francis School is seeking a resolution from the Thames Community Board as to whether the Community Board requires the grant money to be returned. Decisions about grant funds require a Community Board decision under the Community Board's terms of reference.

## **4 Discussion**

The grant money in question is from the 2016 - 2017 financial year funding round. Returned grant money goes into retained earnings and can be accessed by the Community Board for specified needs with Council support.

## **5 Suggested resolution(s)**

That the Thames Community Board:

1. Receives the 'St Francis School Thames grant refund' report, dated 20 June 2018.
2. Accepts the offer of St Francis School for the \$4,000 grant money to be returned to Council.