

Request for an increase to the Whangamata Community Grant fund

TO Whangamata Community Board
FROM Eileen Hopping – Community Manager
DATE 10 September 2018
SUBJECT **Request for an increase to the Whangamata Community Grant fund**

1 Purpose of report

For the Whangamata Community Board to approve and increase in the annual grant fund from \$30,000 to \$37,000.

2 Background

The Whangamata Community Board has had an annual community grant fund of \$30,000 since 2012/2013

During this time all funds have been granted to community groups but the request amounts have been increasing annually to a point where this year \$79,258 was requested from 29 groups.

3 Issue

The Whangamata Community Board to raise its annual grant fund from \$30,000 to \$37,000.

4 Discussion

The Board has observed that the Whangamata annual grant fund of \$30,000 is the lowest of all community boards based on population.

Tairua-Pauanui	\$37,000
Thames	\$90,000
Mercury Bay	\$40,000
Coromandel-Colville	\$33,500

The Board also consider that the community is general in favour of having a larger grants fund available to sufficiently and more effectively fund community organisations as opposed to spreading the grants pool in order to remain within budget and not address the real needs the applicants.

If an increase of \$7,000 was approved the rating impact on the Whangamata/Onemana & Opoutere ratepayers will be an increase of \$1.10.

Staff support the Board's recommendation as it will bring consistency throughout the district and address growing demand for community based funding

5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Whangamata Community Board:

1. Receives the 'Request for an increase to the Whangamata Community Grant fund' report dated 10 September 2018.
2. Recommends to Council that the Whangamata Community Board Annual Grant fund be increased from \$30,000 to \$37,000 via the 2019/20 Annual Plan.