

Funding Request - Concert in the Vines

TO Mercury Bay Community Board
FROM Heather Bruce - Community Manager
DATE 7 November 2018
SUBJECT Funding Request – Concert in the Vines

1 Purpose of report

The Mercury Bay Community Board is asked to consider a request from Auckland and Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trusts to assist with costs associated with holding a fundraising concert (Concert in the Vines) for Westpac Rescue Helicopter (**Attachment A**).

2 Background

The Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust (CRHT) was formed in 2012 with a view to establishing a hangar facility for the Westpac helicopter along with a house for the crew whilst based in Whitianga, and provide a general base for the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust (ARHT).

Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust provides an accident and emergency rescue and transport service for the Coromandel Peninsula.

The National Ambulance Sector office (NASO) has recently been reviewing the delivery of rescue helicopter services in New Zealand, which created uncertainty around the continued provision of the service based in Whitianga.

NASO has now confirmed that the Whitianga location will remain as a base from where air ambulance services can be performed, and have entered into an agreement with a new joint venture trust between ARHT and the Northland Emergency Services Trust.

Given the level of uncertainty surrounding the service, ARHT and CRHT have been unable to commit to the Concert in the Vines fundraising event until recently, but are now able to proceed.

Concert in the Vines is in its seventh year and is a family friendly event which raises money to support the rescue helicopter service.

Costs to run the last Concert in the Vines event were approximately \$12,000 with costs estimated to be at a similar level for the January 2019 event.

3 Issue

The Community Board is asked to consider the request for funding for costs associated with holding the Concert in the Vines fundraising concert.

4 Discussion

The Community Grants round for 2018/2019 has been completed and any monies not allocated during that process become retained earnings, making them unavailable for out of cycle funding requests.

In response to previous requests of a similar nature, the Community Board has given a clear message that charity events should become self-funding and any profits be given to their chosen charity.

Board comment has also indicated that rather than giving funding towards running an event, an alternative option is to give the money directly to the chosen charity.

The Community Board can allocate funds from the Social Development Community Board Discretionary Fund which has an available budget of \$20,000.

Options for the Community Board to consider include:

1. Decline the request for funding for the Concert in the Vines event.
2. Support the request for funding for the Concert in the Vines event, using funds from the Community Board Discretionary Fund.
3. Decline the request for funding for the Concert in the Vines event and provide a donation from the Community Board Discretionary Fund directly to the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust.
4. Decline the request for funding for the Concert in the Vines event and provide a donation from the Community Board Discretionary Fund directly to the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust.

5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Mercury Bay Community Board:

1. Receives the 'Funding Request – Concert in the Vines' report dated 7 November 2018.
2. Declines the request for funding for the Concert in the Vines event and provide a donation from the Community Board Discretionary Fund directly to the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust.

References-tabled/Agenda attachments

Attachment A Funding request for Westpac Rescue Helicopter

Attachment A - Funding request for Westpac Rescue Helicopter