Re-setting the way we engage and work with communities through community funding

What we looked at

- Better connecting the funding to Council's purpose, vision, and role
- Principles and approach
- Amount of funding available
- How it is allocated

We have done this by..

- Looking at all funding that Council currently allocates for community purposes (including those funded directly through the Annual Plan)
- Explore the approaches taken by other funders
- Engaged with a number of individuals, organisations, and groups through forums and individual meetings to understand views on our current approach and possible future approaches (Feb/March 2021)

Current types of funding

Council's Community Funding Strategy 2020-2021 (annual, contestable) Community Engagement Fund (yearly)

Community Panel asset fund (3 yearly)

Other funding that Council identifies under Community Funding on our website (annual, contestable) Funding provided to specific groups through the Annual Plan/Long Term Plan via MOU/Funding Agreements/Regional grants (annual, not contestable)

Engagement – key points

Engagement and relationship building

Focus and role - knowing what other funders are doing and where we fit Building high-trust relationships Long term partnerships Work with communities, organisation, and partners on outcomes (we have priorities and will work with those funded on detailed outcomes)

Operating effectively

One Council, one message and relationship. Clear communication internally. Responsive Reporting and accountability - effective not onerous

Accessible funding

Simple forms and processes Good information on criteria Single portal for initial funding filter

Being a good funder

Mechanisms beyond funding to strengthen community capacity

Proposed approach - Principles

- Working together for impact
- Transparency
- Giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Learning together
- Proportionality

Proposed approach - Delivery

- **Engagement and relationship building:** We will work proactively with partners, organisations, and communities to build understanding and relationships and enable effective investment of funding.
- **Operating effectively:** robust organisational practice with corporate understanding of our funding approach, priorities, and relationship management.
- Accessible funding: reducing barriers to our funding, including simplifying our processes and raising awareness of our funding and its expectations.
- **Being a good funder:** exploring and developing Council's role to support capacity building in our communities and amongst organisations, groups, and partners.
- **Developing our funding structure:** this will look at making our funding structure fit for purpose, help with consistency of funding and decision-making, and clear for applicants and council

'Community Funding' Proposed approach - Priorities

- Community-led locally owned visions, goals and initiatives
- Equity recognising different people with different levels of advantage require different approaches and resources to achieve equitable wellbeing outcomes.

Possible community funding structure 2024 onwards

- Big picture change
- New ideas
- Place-based
- Capacity

Is this approach on the right track?

Purpose of community funding:

Supporting our city and all our people to thrive by enabling communities to shape and determine their future.

Principles:

- Working together for impact
- Transparency
- Giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Learning together
- Proportionality

Delivery:

- Engagement and relationship building
- Operating effectively
- Accessible funding
- Being a good funder



Community Funding priorities:

- Community-led
- Equity



21/22 Community Funding

Other funding unchanged

23/24 LTP – new funding categories

- Big picture change
- New ideas
- Place-based
- Capacity

Applies to:

Current Community Funding Other, similar funds Council owns/influences ?

Any other feedback?

Timeline and next steps:

July: paper to Communities Committee seeking approval of the new high level approach (as outlined today)

September: paper to the Communities Committee approving Community Funding 2021/22 decisions

Mid 2022: paper to the Communities Committee with options for 2023/24 LTP, and transition plan