

Title: Contestable Waste Fund Recipients
Section: Waste Management
Prepared by: Darnelle Timbs (Waste Minimisation Facilitator)
Meeting Date: 11 October 2018

Legal Financial Significance = low

Report to ASSETS & INFRASTRUCTURE Committee for information

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the recipients of the Contestable Waste Fund.

The funding for this comes from Gisborne District Council's allocation of funds from the Waste Levy (a charge on all waste going to landfill in New Zealand). Five project applications were received in 2017 with a combined value of \$39,723.

Under the Contestable Waste Fund, the maximum funding that can be applied for in one application is \$10,000 (excl. GST). In 2017, based on the Contestable Waste Fund assessment criteria, Gizzy Kai Rescue was the successful applicant approved for the full \$10,000 amount.

The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **low** significance in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Assets & Infrastructure Committee:

- 1. Notes the contents of this report.**

Authorised by:



Andrew White
Director Liveable Communities



Neville West
Acting Director Lifelines

Keywords: Waste, Contestable Waste Fund, WMMP, waste minimisation

BACKGROUND

1. The Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2012–2018 (WMMP) enabled the Council to allocate the Contestable Waste Fund to local projects that will minimise waste, reduce harm and improve resource efficiency. The funding for this comes from Council's Waste Levy income (a charge on all waste going to landfill in New Zealand, central government redistributes funds from the \$10 per tonne Waste Levy to local authorities on a per capita basis).
2. The purpose of the Contestable Waste Fund is to minimise waste by providing support for local initiatives. Funding is for trialling or supporting new waste minimisation initiatives rather than giving ongoing support for operational activities.
3. The Contestable Waste Fund has an annual application round and calls for expressions of interest from the community to receive funding up to the value of \$10,000 for a local waste minimisation project. If no projects meet the criteria, there is no obligation on the Council to grant funding.
4. The projects were assessed by the staff waste group (Waste Minimisation Officer and Solid Waste Engineer) against the goals of Council's WMMP 2012–2018 and the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, with preference given to projects that collectively give the largest net benefit over time.
5. The project objective and expected outcome of Gizzy Kai Rescue is "to fill a need for assisting those in our community experiencing food scarcity by redirecting as much nourishment as possible from waste to table".

DISCUSSION and OPTIONS

6. Five applications were received in 2017 and evaluated with a ranking process by the staff waste group against the assessment criteria. Gizzy Kai Rescue was the one successful project awarded the full \$10,000. The four applicants whose projects were unsuccessful in obtaining funding from the Contestable Waste Fund were Para Kore Marae Incorporated, David Preddey, Riversun Nursery Ltd, and Project Litefoot Trust.
7. The assessment criteria was:
 - Does this trial or support a new, local waste minimisation initiative?
 - Does this support a waste management system that minimises waste?
 - Does this enhance community responsibility for waste minimisation?
 - Does this reduce harmful effects - to health and/or environment?
 - Does this support efficient resource use?
 - Is this likely to succeed?
 - Is there an economic, environmental, social or cultural benefit?
 - Is this a catalyst for waste minimisation?
 - Is there a partnership or other funding involved?
 - Does the timeframe of the project fit?
 - Are there benefits over time?
8. Gizzy Kai Rescue originally applied for \$8,732. It was then granted the remainder of the fund for training and associated travel costs of the training.

9. Gizzy Kai Rescue submitted a Half Yearly Progress Report in June 2018 as required in its funding agreement. Its Final Report is due by the end of the year 31 December 2018.
10. The Half Yearly Progress Report outlined delays and changes to the project's plans and budget (such as establishing a premises and its operations in order to start rescuing and redistributing food) and explanations and reasons for these delays and changes.
11. Gizzy Kai Rescue has remained in contact with Council staff throughout the year with updates and changes to its plans. It has stated in the Progress Report that it would continue contact with Council staff as plans develop for the project and the intended use of the Contestable Waste Funding.

ASSESSMENT of SIGNIFICANCE

Criteria	This Report	The Process Overall
The effects on all or a large part of the Gisborne district	Low	Low
The effects on individuals or specific communities	Low	Medium
The level or history of public interest in the matter or issue	Low	Medium
Inconsistency with Council's current strategy and policy	Low	Low
Impacts on Council's delivery of its Financial Strategy and Long Term Plan.	Low	Low

12. The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **low** significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
13. Gizzy Kai Rescue is a group within the district actively working towards an initiative to divert food from the waste stream. The Contestable Waste Fund contributes start-up funding for the project. Minimising organic food waste was an objective of the WMMP 2012–2018. The recently adopted WMMP 2018–2024 has a target to decrease organic waste by 40% by 2024.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

14. A goal of the WMMP 2012–2018 was "individuals and organisations take greater responsibility for waste minimisation". The purpose of the Contestable Waste Fund is to support local initiatives.

CONSIDERATIONS

Financial/Budget

15. The cost of the Contestable Waste Funding was \$10,000 and sourced from Council's allocation of the Waste Levy from central government, which sits at around \$167,000 per annum to be spent on implementing the WMMP. This Waste Levy income is carried over each year for the purposes of the WMMP and at the start of the 2018/19 year there was \$257,132 carried forward to this financial year. This is being used to fund current waste minimisation work and the remainder set aside for future waste minimisation initiatives.
16. The Contestable Waste Fund is not rates funded.

Legal

17. The allocating of the Contestable Waste Fund was approved by the Ministry for the Environment under its approval of Council's WMMP 2012–2018.
18. The WMMP 2012–2018 states “the Gisborne District Council approved the establishment of the Contestable Waste Fund, document 11/603, at its meeting of 9 February 2012”.

POLICY and PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

19. This is consistent with Council's policies and plans.
20. Action 31 of the recently adopted WMMP 2018–2024 states an ongoing commitment to the Contestable Waste Fund titled ‘*Develop a robust procedure for the provision of grants for community and business waste minimisation projects*’, and described as “*using a percentage of council waste levy funds, provide grants for stakeholder groups and individuals to develop waste minimisation initiatives. Grants are allocated under a contestable process and guided by the council strategic priorities as described in the WMMP*”.

RISKS

21. There are no major risks associated with the decisions or matters.

NEXT STEPS

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
Ongoing	Gizzy Kai Rescue establishing itself at the Tairāwhiti Environment Centre.	Waste Minimisation Facilitator to remain in contact with Gizzy Kai Rescue to monitor progress.
31/12/18	Final Project Activity Report due.	Gizzy Kai Rescue to submit.