

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Grants and Community Facilities Subcommittee  
**FROM:** Mike Tasman-Jones  
**DATE:** 20 January 2010  
**SUBJECT:** Community Grants Financial update – RCS10-02-01

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## REASON FOR REPORT

1. To update the Grants and Community Facilities Subcommittee on the financial situation of Tasman District Council Community Grants.
2. To clarify the guidelines for considering discretionary grants.

## BACKGROUND

The Tasman District Council has an annual Community Grants round which closes on 31 August. The Council allocates \$162,000 per annum of its general rate to organisations that provide activities related to the objectives of Council.

## DISCUSSION

1. The subcommittee has allocated \$157,505 in the current financial year leaving an available balance of \$4,495. The Community Recreation Advisor will keep the committee up to date with grant accountabilities and any grants that are either fully or partially returned.
2. While the vast majority of the grants are distributed via the annual round the subcommittee has some flexibility to consider grants outside the annual round as a discretionary grant. These are used to support projects that are considered both as a very high priority and that require decision within such a timeframe that to refer to the annual round would not be possible. It is important that the grants considered outside the annual round meet these criteria so we are offering a transparent process and an equal opportunity to all applicants.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Grants and Community Facilities Subcommittee continue to focus where possible on considering all Community Grant applications as part of the annual

August round. Where grants are considered outside this timeframe they must not only meet the grants criteria, they must also be of such high importance and urgent timeframe that it is of wide benefit to consider the application as a one off discretionary grant.

**Mike Tasman-Jones**

**Community and Recreation Advisor**

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