

MARTINBOROUGH COMMUNITY BOARD

24 FEBRUARY 2022

AGENDA ITEM 8.3

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REPORT

Purpose of Report

To present the Community Board with applications received requesting financial assistance.

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Community Board:

1. *Receive the Applications for Financial Assistance Report.*
2. *Note that the application from Swim with Sophie is not eligible for funding under the Grants Policy.*
3. *Note that the Community Board can still make a decision that does not align with Council policy if it considers there is good reason to not apply that policy.*
4. *Consider the application from Swim with Sophie for \$4,820.*

1. Background

The Community Board has delegated authority to make financial decisions within the confines of the allocated and available budget and the Board operates its grant fund in accordance with the Council's [Grants Policy](#).

2. Applications for Financial Assistance

The applications received for consideration are summarised in the below table.

Applicant	Amount Requested
Swim With Sophie	\$4,820

3. Eligibility Criteria

Council adopted a new [Grants Policy](#) which sets out the eligibility criteria for applications. The policy takes effect from 1 July 2021.

The key eligibility criteria for Community Board grants is as follows:

- Non-profit community organisations with a formed legal structure or a group of individuals who have come together for a common purpose but who do not have a legal structure may apply.
- The applicant does not need to be based in the South Wairarapa or the ward from where the funds are being sought but the applicant must be able to demonstrate that the activity benefits the ward where the funds are being sought.
- Applicants may not be in receipt of any other Council or Council-administered grant for the same activity in the same financial year.
- The Martinborough Community Board considers grants twice a year in August and February and the maximum grant available in each round is equal to half the available grant pool. Any remaining funds from the August round will be rolled over to the February round and GST will be added to grants approved for GST registered applicant.

The Grants Policy sets out further criteria.

3.1 Assessment against Eligibility Criteria

3.1.1. *Application from Swim with Sophie*

Under the Grants Policy, applicants may not be in receipt of any other Council or Council-administered grant given for the same activity in the same financial year, however the committee can consider grants outside the Policy. Swim with Sophie was awarded a 2021/2022 Council Youth Grant for \$5,000 to support free summer swimming lessons for children in the Martinborough community.

The current application meets the criteria to be considered under the Martinborough Swimming Pool Fund which has a current balance of \$17,679. The money in this fund is ringfenced for a specific purpose and can only be granted for projects which align with this criteria.

The application will be provided to members in confidence.

4. Conclusion

The grant application fits the criteria of the Martinborough Swimming Fund. This fund has been used previously for children's pool toys and improving the Martinborough pool area, however, has not been used for the purposes of providing lessons. If the Community Board decides to consider the application outside the Council policy, there is a risk that other applicants will try and bypass the policy. The merits of each case need to be carefully considered.

Contact Officer: Kaitlyn Carmichael, Committee Advisor

Reviewed By: Amanda Bradley, Chief Executive