



**Date:** Wednesday 3 December 2014  
**Time:** 8.30am  
**Meeting Room:** Level 26  
**Venue:** 135 Albert Street  
Auckland

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## **Environment, Climate Change and Natural Heritage Committee**

### **OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS**

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| <b>9</b>    | <b>2014 Environmental Initiatives Fund allocation</b>   |             |
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## EIF Overview

- Purpose - provide grants, support & advice to help Aucklanders protect & enhance their local environment & heritage
- Changes from last year:
  - Updated distribution of communications material to iwi and Maori groups
  - Assessment Criteria reviewed with Te Waka Angamua – 'Maori perspectives' no longer standalone but incorporated into each criteria
- EIF will cease with adoption of new Community Grants Policy.



## Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals, community groups, schools, early childhood centres, businesses, Mana Whenua groups and Māori community groups can all apply
- Applicants meet 50% of the total project cost
- Maximum grant is \$15,000
- Projects can be on public or private land



## What can be applied for?

- Generally any items needed to make projects successful
- Work plan and quotes assessed by SME to ensure best practice and value for money
- Funding for some items not supported
  - Applicant's own time
  - Funding for some items have special conditions, e.g. fencing and planting



## Outcome Areas & Priorities

### 1. Access Choice and Opportunity

Priority Education for Sustainability projects

- E.g. School native plant trail and school edible garden projects.

### 2. Caring for People

Priority Kaitiakitanga projects

- E.g. Marae ecological restoration projects, Community garden projects and heritage object restoration.



## Outcome Areas & Priorities cont

### 3. Caring for Place / Caring for Coast

Priorities:

1. Regionally and nationally depleted ecosystems
2. Sites meeting ecological significance criteria.
3. Ecological corridors and connections
4. Heritage documentation
5. Heritage restoration work to implement heritage documentation  
–E.g. Heritage building restoration, animal and plant pest control, native forest restoration and fencing.






## Funding Allocation Guidance

### Funding Principle

- Significant funding provided to high scoring projects rather than allocating smaller grants providing partial funding to all projects

### Target Funding Allocation by Outcome Area

| Outcome Area                           | Target Allocation % |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Access, choice and opportunity      | 10%                 |
| 2. Caring for people                   | 10%                 |
| 3. Caring for place & Caring for coast | 80%                 |



## Assessment Process

1. Eligibility screening by Funding Co-ordinators
2. Ground disturbing projects screened by Heritage Advisor
3. SME council officers assess application undertaking site visits as required
4. Assessor scores application against weighted criteria and makes initial funding recommendation
5. Senior officers meet and review all applications, moderate scoring & agree funding recommendations
6. Recommendations made for final decision-maker



## Assessment Criteria

- Environmental or heritage benefits
- Project feasibility and likelihood of success
- Community involvement
- Awareness raising and education
- Long term benefits
- Good practice
- Consideration of Māori perspectives is incorporated into each of the criteria above



## Recommendations Summary

- \$633,910 be granted to 133 applicants
- 26 applications be declined
- Average grant recommended is \$4,729
- Top grant of \$15,000 recommended for 6 applicants



## Overview Recommendations

| Applicant Type                         | Recommended | Location | Recommended |
|--|-------------|----------|-------------|
| Community Groups                       | 64          | North    | 33          |
| Individuals                            | 41          | Central  | 41          |
| Schools                                | 21          | West     | 18          |
| Early Childhood                        | 3           | South    | 33          |
| Other                                  | 2           |          |             |
| Maori community groups and Mana Whenua | 2           |          |             |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>133</b>  |          |             |

| Outcome Area                    | Recommended (Target) | Recommended |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Access Choice & Opportunity  | 13% (10%)            | \$83,910    |
| 2. Caring For People            | 3% (10%)             | \$16,300    |
| 3. Caring for Place / the Coast | 84% (80%)            | \$533,700   |





### Some projects supported



- Educational video production to support the Mussel Reef Restoration project
- Support for community nursery projects producing plants to support local restoration
- Restoration of the Glenfield Mission Hall
- Riparian restoration to projects including fencing, planting and weed control
- A restoration project at the Manukau Heads Ports of Auckland site including fencing, planting, carving of a Pou Whenua and signage.

