

Memorandum

24 January 2019

To: Howick Local Board
Subject: Barry Curtis skate park custodian
From: Peter Caccioppoli, Senior Activation Advisor, Active Recreation

Purpose

1. To request a funding increase for the Barry Curtis skate park custodian.

Summary

- Howick Local Board currently provides \$51,000 per annum for a skate park custodian service at Barry Curtis Park.
- Parks, Sports and Recreation (PSR) has been working with Skate park Maintenance Services Ltd (SMS), to include new initiatives as part of a new service agreement for the custodian.
- These new initiatives will help to improve and enhance engagement and participation in skateboarding.
- The new service agreement will also include a wage increase in line with the new 'living wage'.
- PSR requests an increase in LDI funding for the Barry Curtis custodian services, from \$51,000 to \$65,000 per annum. For the remaining annum an adjusted amount of \$7,000 is requested.
- It is proposed that this \$7,000 comes from the Parks Response Fund.

Context/Background

2. While PSR have been negotiating the new skate park custodian agreement, the existing level of service has remained, and been funded accordingly to the value of \$51,000 per annum.
3. This means that the full increase of \$14,000 is not required for FY 17/18, instead, only \$7,000 which equates to 6/12 months under the new increased funding allocation.
4. For FY 18/19, and 19/20, the full increase of \$14,000 will be required under the agreement.
5. The 2013 agreement between Auckland Council and SMS was for \$51,000 per annum to provide:
 - 31 hours of supervision during school terms
 - 42 hours of supervision during school holidays
 - A minimum of 3 events per annum
6. SMS has provided a satisfactory level of service from 2013 to the present day, but in 2017, PSR needed to go through a procurement process to renew the agreement, as all rights of renewal had been exhausted.
7. To improve and evolve the service provided, PSR and SMS agreed during the proposal phase of procurement that a range of new initiatives were to be included as part of the services covered in the new agreement. These include:
 - weekly coaching sessions (aimed at beginners)

- monthly skate club (to increase participation and belonging)
 - 'borrow a board' (from a pool of boards stored at the park, already funded).
8. PSR have also considered the increased cost of living, lifting of the minimum wage, as well as the Active Recreation team shifting to a 'living wage' in the period of 2013 – 2018, and believe an increase for service is more than warranted.

Discussion

9. PSR has been, and remains, a strong supporter of funding to support 'human capital' as part of an asset solution, particularly around skate parks as evidenced by the role they play in managing skate park custodians in Clendon, Randwick Park and Howick. Skate park custodians are critical to enabling the council to:
- develop localised and relevant rules and etiquette
 - minimise and manage anti-social behaviour
 - provide positive role models
 - respond quickly to issues, and to make improvements
 - create spaces and places that enhance community engagement and placemaking
 - support local people to provide local services through local employment
 - connect local stakeholders to opportunities for increased local investment.
10. PSR will report on the success of the proposed new activations and ongoing performance of the custodian through the quarterly reporting process. The full quarterly reports will also be made available to the local board.
11. If the increased funding is not approved there will have to be some renegotiation which may result in delays and most likely a decreased level of service. Further, there will be no implementation of the new initiatives outlined above.

Recommendation

12. PSR recommends Howick Local Board allocates \$7,000 for FY 18/19 (half year) and \$14,000 per annum from there forward to increase the full funding allocation and raise the level of service of the Barry Curtis skate park custodian
13. PSR recommend a 3-year service agreement be put in place with SMS, which will be finalised by end of February 2019.

Next steps

14. If the board agrees to the funding increase, this can be approved by the Chair and Deputy who have delegated authority for minor changes to the Annual Work Programme.
15. PSR staff will then implement a new 3-year service agreement based on the local board decision.