

28 July 2015**Notice of Motion, Cr Richard Foster: Increased funding for Youth Projects Limited****Motion**

That Council approve the allocation of additional funding of \$10,000 from the existing 2015–16 operational budget to Youth Projects Limited for the purpose of assisting the provision of extended services due to extreme cold weather.

Background

Youth Projects Limited (YPL) is based in Hosier Lane and is an independent, not-for-profit agency that provides health, outreach, employment, education and training services to individuals experiencing disadvantage, unemployment, homelessness, alcohol and other drug issues.

The Pathways Homelessness Strategy 2014–17 Action 5.1 states Council will 'develop innovative solutions to ensure appropriate and inclusive support is provided to people experiencing homelessness during periods of extreme weather'. As part of this action, YPL received funding of \$5000 in 2014 as part of Council's response to extreme weather conditions, namely heatwaves. The heatwave response builds on work undertaken in previous years. Council has not as yet formed a response regarding 'extreme cold' weather.

YPL has informed Council of an increase in service and support requirements due to the impact of cold weather on the health status of clients. The impact on services has resulted in the following:

- Extended service hours to 7pm
- Weekend opening hours between 1 and 7pm
- Extension of night nurse street shift to midnight
- Provision of hot food, non-perishable foods and baked goods
- Additional blankets, sleeping bags and warm clothing

A request for additional support has been made to assist with costs which mainly consist of staff costs as YPL seeks to offer respite services and continue to engage via health services and promotion, mental health and nursing care.

The matter has been discussed with management who are supportive of an increase in funding and advise as follows:

- The proposal is a natural extension of our extreme weather response in respect of heatwaves.
- The proposal aligns with current consideration being given by management to developing an extreme cold weather response
- Youth Projects sit as part of the Executive Partnership Group for the Melbourne Homelessness Service Coordination project and can report back on the 'extreme cold' initiative
- Provision of funds will be accompanied by a MoU and YPL will be required to provide a comprehensive report detailing the outcomes of the project.
- The outcomes of this work along with Council's heatwave response will form part of our emergency management framework.
- All media regarding the outcomes and lessons learned will be done in collaboration between City of Melbourne and YPL.

Moved: Cr Foster