



Vote Youth Development

Report in relation to selected Non-Departmental Appropriations
for the year ended 30 June 2009

Foreword

Section 32A(2) of the Public Finance Act 1989 requires the Minister responsible for each non-departmental appropriation to report to the House of Representatives, within three months of the end of the financial year, on the services purchased in the preceding year.

The Vote Youth Development non-departmental appropriation report records the financial and non-financial performance results of service performance for the following non-departmental output expenses for the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009:

- Services for Young People
- Youth Development Partnership Fund.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paula Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hon Paula Bennett
Minister of Youth Affairs

Introduction

The Ministry of Youth Development administers the Services for Young People and the Youth Development Partnership Fund non-departmental output expenses.

During the year, as a result of the change in Government, the High Level Objectives of Vote Youth Development changed from those indicated in the Budget 2008 Social Development and Housing Sector Information Supporting the Estimates of Appropriations. These new objectives are shown below.

Vote: Youth Development 2009/10 Information Supporting the Estimates

Government Priorities	Government Outcomes	Appropriations
Help young people achieve their potential	Young New Zealanders access opportunities and positive experiences – Outcome for Young People	Services for Young People, and Youth Development Partnership Fund

The above revised Government Priorities and Outcomes – Links to Appropriations of the Vote should be referred to when reading the performance information later in the report.

Services for Young People

The Ministry of Youth Development supports, develops and funds community-based social service providers through its Services for Young People non-departmental output expense.

A range of community-based social service provider organisations are funded to deliver personal, social and emotional development opportunities for young people through experiential learning, challenging activities and community and environment-based service projects. Participants are provided with a key stepping stone to help them make the transition to employment, further education or other training opportunities. The young participants develop key life and work skills, including self-confidence, team work, critical thinking and problem solving, and communication skills.

Services for Young People funding of \$7,148,023 was allocated to 45 providers to deliver 131 structured youth development programmes in 68 locations.

In 2008/09, 2,371 young people took part in Ministry-funded structured youth development programmes.

Services for Young People funding also contributes to other youth services and national programmes to deliver youth development opportunities to over 30,000 participants each year. These youth services and programmes include Stage Challenge, Scouting New Zealand and the Young Enterprise Scheme.

The Youth Development Partnership Fund

The Youth Development Partnership Fund (YDPF) is available for one-off contributions to initiatives sponsored by territorial authorities to meet the needs of their local young people. It is allocated on a contestable basis through an annual funding round.

Since the launch of the YDPF in October 2005, 45 territorial authorities have been supported to work with young people on projects contributing to employment, education or training outcomes.

The YDPF has been successful in supporting councils to improve outcomes for young people. Examples of projects funded include initiatives to:

- develop young people's employment-related skills
- provide entrepreneurship opportunities for young people
- develop young people's leadership skills
- prevent young people joining gangs.

Since the launch of the YDPF, territorial authorities report that, from an average of 2,000 to 3,000 participants a year in the first three years, initiatives are now attracting on average 8,000 young people each year. Thus, to date, about 24,000 young people have been engaged in a variety of activities, ranging from attending youth-led events to longer-term involvement in mentoring or cadetship programmes.

At the proposal stage, territorial authorities are required to show how they will sustain a successful project after Ministry funding finishes. During 2008/09, 17 of the 18 initiatives that proposed to continue going beyond the term of YDPF funding had successfully secured other sources of ongoing financial support.

Statement(s) of Service Performance

NON-DEPARTMENTAL OUTPUT EXPENSES

Services for Young People

Scope of Appropriation

Provision of programmes and services to enable the implementation of the *Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa* at a regional and local level.

Intended Impacts, Outcomes or Objectives

Intended Impacts, Outcomes or Objectives of Appropriations	Appropriation
<p>Outcome – Children and Young People</p> <p>Objective – Give children the best start in life. Children are New Zealand's future. All children grow up in a safe and happy environment.</p> <p>Objective – Help young people to achieve their potential. Young people are supported to overcome barriers, and develop their understanding and ability to make good decisions about the range of issues and opportunities they may face.</p>	Services for Young People
<p>Outcome – Working Age People</p> <p>Objective – Enable people to live independent lives. All New Zealanders have access to services and the ability to obtain skills that will allow them to live healthy and productive lives and to achieve independence throughout their working lives.</p>	Services for Young People
<p>Outcome – Communities, Hapū and Iwi</p> <p>Objective – Strengthening communities. Build our relationships with, and the capability of, the community and voluntary sector to ensure that New Zealand families and communities are strong and resilient.</p>	Services for Young People

Description of Activities

Services for Young People funded initiatives focus on removing barriers to education, employment and training, and on building protective factors in young people's lives through opportunities for physical activity and achievement, the development of competence, identity and creative expression, positive social interaction with peers and adults, a sense of structure and clear limits, and meaningful participation in community work.

Service Performance

Non-Financial

Performance Measures	2007/08 Actual Standard	2008/09 Budgeted Standard	2008/09 Actual Standard
The number of programmes or services purchased will be between:	New measure in 2008/09	120 – 140	131
The number of young people participating in programmes or services purchased will be no less than:	New measure in 2008/09	1,400	2,371
The percentage of participants who report being satisfied or very satisfied with the service or programme will be no less than:	95.8%	80%	97.4%
The percentage of participants who report an improvement in their personal and social skills as a result of the programme will be no less than:	Revised measure in 2008/09	80%	92.7%
The percentage of participants who move into employment or structured learning opportunities after completion of the programme will be no less than:	Revised measure in 2008/09	65%	74.1%

Comments

The 2008/09 Actual Standard is greater than the 2008/09 Budgeted Standard. This is due to a planned increase in the diversity of approaches supported, leading to more young people getting opportunities through a wider range of structured youth development services. There has also been an increase in non-structured programmes and services supported in 2008/09, including The Outlook for Someday Sustainability Film Challenge and the Youth Mentoring Network.

Financial

Expenses and Revenue	2007/08 Actual	2008/09 Estimates	2008/09 Supp Estimates	2008/09 Actual
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Total Appropriation	7,388	8,010	8,695	8,495
Revenue from the Crown	7,388	8,010	8,695	8,495

Comment on Variance

The increase in this appropriation is largely due to additional funding from the Pathway to Partnership initiative in 2008/09.

The growth in funding appropriated to Services for Young People from \$8.010 million to \$8.695 million reflected a fiscally-neutral transfer of funding relating to contracts being managed by the Ministry of Youth Development from Vote Social Development.

The \$200,000 under-spend in Services for Young People is the residual of a reserve of funds freed up through contract management decisions over 2008/09. Following a consideration of options for committing the reserve, which resulted in \$439,400 being allocated, the Minister of Youth Affairs agreed that the \$200,000 remain uncommitted and be returned to the Consolidated Account.

Youth Development Partnership Fund

Scope of Appropriation

Provision of one-off partial funding, to assist territorial authorities to respond to the emerging needs and opportunities for young people.

Intended Impacts, Outcomes or Objectives

Intended Impacts, Outcomes or Objectives of Appropriations	Appropriation
<p>Outcome – Children and Young People</p> <p>Objective – Give children the best start in life. Children are New Zealand’s future. All children grow up in a safe and happy environment.</p> <p>Objective – Help young people to achieve their potential. Young people are supported to overcome barriers, and develop their understanding and ability to make good decisions about the range of issues and opportunities they may face.</p>	Youth Development Partnership Fund
<p>Outcome – Working Age People</p> <p>Objective – Enable people to live independent lives. All New Zealanders have access to services and the ability to obtain skills that will allow them to live healthy and productive lives and to achieve independence throughout their working lives.</p>	Youth Development Partnership Fund
<p>Outcome – Communities, Hapū and Iwi</p> <p>Objective – Strengthening communities. Build our relationships with, and the capability of, the community and voluntary sector to ensure that New Zealand families and communities are strong and resilient.</p>	Youth Development Partnership Fund

Description of Activities

The Youth Development Partnership Fund enables the Ministry of Youth Development to respond to emerging needs and opportunities for young people through partnerships with territorial authorities. Initiatives funded through the Youth Development Partnership Fund support young people to realise their potential through building networks and connections across communities. Outcomes for the young participants include: improved self-esteem; personal development and learning opportunities; improved connections to their families and/or communities; improved health; and/or entry into further education, training or employment.

Service Performance

Non-Financial

Performance Measures	2007/08 Actual Standard	2008/09 Budgeted Standard	2008/09 Actual Standard
The number of territorial authorities receiving partial funding will be between:	New measure in 2008/09	10 – 20	30
The percentage of participants who report being satisfied or very satisfied with the project will be no less than:	New measure in 2008/09	80%	80.1%
The percentage of participants who report they have obtained increased skills or motivation to move into employment or structured learning opportunities will be no less than:	Revised measure in 2008/09	80%	81%
The percentage of participants who report they are able to move into employment or structured learning opportunities after completion of the programme will be no less than:	Revised measure in 2008/09	70%	81%

Comments

Thirty territorial authorities received funding from the YDPF in 2008/09 for 33 projects. Twenty-one of these projects commenced in the 2008/09 financial year, and 12 projects continued from previous financial years. The actual number of territorial authorities funded in 2008/09 exceeds the range in the Budget Standard because of the number of initiatives from the previous financial year that spread their allocation across multiple years.

Progress reports show that the young people engaged in these projects are reporting a variety of benefits including improved self-esteem, personal development, connection to family and community, and/or improved health and wellbeing, and increased skills or motivation to move into education, training, and employment.

Financial

Expenses and Revenue	2007/08 Actual \$000	2008/09 Estimates \$000	2008/09 Supp Estimates \$000	2008/09 Actual \$000
Total Appropriation	889	889	889	884
Revenue from the Crown	889	889	889	884

Comment on Variance

At the end of the 2008/09 financial year \$5,000 of Crown funding in Vote Youth Development remained unallocated from the YDPF. This \$5,000 is the final payment for a project for which delivery extends into the 2009/10 financial year through a variation to the funding agreement.

