Assessment of Lease Proposal – Support and Funding Policy

In considering an application of a for purpose organisation to use public space, and particularly where there are competing applications for the use of public space or high demand for a public space, the Council will assess the applications against the criteria set out in both policies.

Date: 17 October 2023

Group Name: Te Kohanga Reo o Ngati Hineaute Ki Rangitaane o Manawatu

Trust

Proposed Lease Location: Opie Reserve, Palmerston North

Use of Public Space Policy

Criteria	Assessment
Supports the achievement of the Council's goals	Activities of the Trust are consistent with goals two and three of Council's strategic direction.
Is accessible to the wider community	The Trust activities seek and support the Palmerston North community.
Adds to the variety of events or activities available in Palmerston North	The Trust intends to provide opportunities to promote and create connections within the community.
Enhances any precinct identities (e.g. Broadway as a hospitality precinct)	The Trust supports and enhances the activities at Opie Reserve.
Provides an experience (rather than a simple commercial exchange)	The Trust are focused on supporting community initiative and providing a service for the community.
Does not significantly limit the availability of space for general community use	The lease would reduce the availability of the space for general community use. This is not expected to be a significant impact due to alternative greenspace in the proximity however, this would be tested through the consultation on the proposed lease.
Rangitāne o Manawatu feedback on the proposed activity	Rangitāne o Manawatu representatives have considered the proposal and have no comment.
Potential impact of the occupancy and proposed activities	The proposed lease will have impact on the amount of greenspace however previous investigations shows Opie Reserve is underutilised.

Reserves Act 1977 Considerations

Criteria	Assessment
Meets the defined purpose of Local purpose Reserves in Section 23(1) of the Reserves Act 1977.	The Trust is providing an early childhood organisation to the local community. This activity is consistent with the purpose of Local Purpose (Community) Reserve.
The public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, except for the ability to lease areas under Section 54.	The area is proposed to be leased under Section 54 and therefore public access is not required.
Where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife are present on the reserve, those features or that flora or fauna or wildlife shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve.	No trees or vegetation are required to be removed by the current proposal. The construction of new buildings can be offset to some degree by requiring some landscaping as part of the facility development.
Those qualities of the reserve which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony, and cohesion of the natural environment and the better use and enjoyment of the reserve shall be conserved.	The Trust will impact the existing pleasantness and enjoyment of the reserve due to the development however, the Trust is providing community good.
To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.	The proposed lease will not impact on soil, water and forest conservation.

Impact on the locality and Park operations

Criteria	Assessment
Aesthetics	The area has limited amenity to be a grassed space. Landscaping requirements can help offset loss of amenity.
Security	The Trust will be responsible for security of their buildings and assets.
Cleaning and Offensive litter	The Lease holder would be made responsible for cleaning litter from the area of their lease.
Vegetation	No trees or shrubs would be required to be removed with the current plans provided by the Trust.
	There would be a reduction in grassed area. This can be offset to some degree by requiring some landscaping as part of the facility development. This is intended by the Trust.
Carparking	The Trust have proposed to include a carparking area to minimise impact to neighboring residents.
Affected Parties	Parties identified include: - Neighbouring residents and tenants - Members of the Trust - Opie Reserve Users - Local Community - Rangitane o Manawatu - Local Community.