

Policy:	Mayor's Relief Fund
Department:	Chief Executive
Approved by:	Council
Effective date:	11 December 2024
Next review date:	2027/2028
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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines on how the Mayor's Relief Fund is operated and distributed.

2. Scope

- 2.1 This fund exists to provide assistance to families and individuals in the Stratford community who are undergoing extreme financial distress.

3. Objectives

- 3.1 Priority for funding will be:
- to help families in need for food, clothing, bedding or furniture;
 - for school camps, and uniforms;
 - for medical costs; and
 - for other crisis situations as deemed by the District Mayor.

4. Principles

- 4.1 The requirement for funds must be one of financial hardship. The applicant must have exhausted general sources of finance, such as Work and Income, or local food banks, and their immediate family, if they are able to assist. The application must be a one-off.
- 4.2 While the Mayor's Relief Fund can be used as a conduit for donations from external donors, wherever possible donors should be directed to the Taranaki Regional Disaster Relief Fund which exists for this purpose. The Taranaki Regional Disaster Relief Fund is managed by the four councils in the Taranaki Region (TRC, SDC, NPDC and STDC) and is hosted and administered by the Taranaki Foundation.

5. Process

- 5.1 All requests for financial assistance from the Fund shall be approved or declined by the District Mayor.
- 5.2 The signatories for the fund's account will be the usual Council signatories. Payment will be made to the service provider for goods and services provided, not the applicant.