



general
purpose
committee

3
section

organisation
and
resources

GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE - ORGANISATION & RESOURCES

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ITEM: 12 Women's Cottage**FILE NUMBER:** 79342/CSV/OGB24LCX.C03

REPORT:

At the last General Purpose Committee of Council on 27 January 2004, Councillor Paine asked a 'Question Without Notice' that the Women's Cottage be invited to the next General Purpose Committee to discuss domestic violence and other issues.

The Hawkesbury Area Women's and Kids Services Collective Inc. is a community based incorporated association, which manages the Women's Cottage. The Women's Cottage operates as an information centre offering resources, referral and advocacy for women and children living and/or studying in the Hawkesbury.

The activities of the Women's Cottage range across a number of significant social issues including violence against women and children, childhood sexual assault, homelessness (particularly for women escaping domestic violence) and homophobia. The Women's Cottage also provides women of the Hawkesbury with access to therapeutic and counselling services.

The services provided through the Women's Cottage are primarily funded by the Department of Community Services. The Women's Cottage has recently been successful in securing funding to hold a camp for Aboriginal women and children.

In recent times, the Women's Cottage have requested:

- Painting;
- Carpeting;
- Electrical equipment; and
- Disability access ramps.

The majority of rental properties in Council's portfolio, where a lease/rental scenario is entered into, requires the lessee to provide for internal maintenance while Council is responsible for structural integrity. The following projects have been included in the 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 Building Maintenance Works Program:

- 2003/2004 - Disabled Safety Ramp - \$1,500.00
- 2003/2004 - Replace South Fence - \$3,000.00
- 2003/2004 - External Painting - \$2,200.00
- 2004/2005 - Carpet Replacement - \$4,450.00
- 2004/2005 - Refurbish Meter Board - \$1,200.00
- 2004/2005 - Internal Painting - \$10,000.00
- 2004/2005 - Concrete Driveway - \$2,500.00

The disabled safety ramp will be completed shortly and the 2003/2004 internal painting is expected to be completed during April 2004. Items included in the 2004/2005 program are subject to funding and adoption by Council with the 2004/2005 Estimates and Management Plan.

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

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Item: **12**

It is recommended that the Women's Cottage be given the opportunity to address Council at its General Purpose Committee meeting of 24 February 2004.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The information be received.
2. The Women's Cottage be invited to address the General Purpose Committee.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 12 Oooo