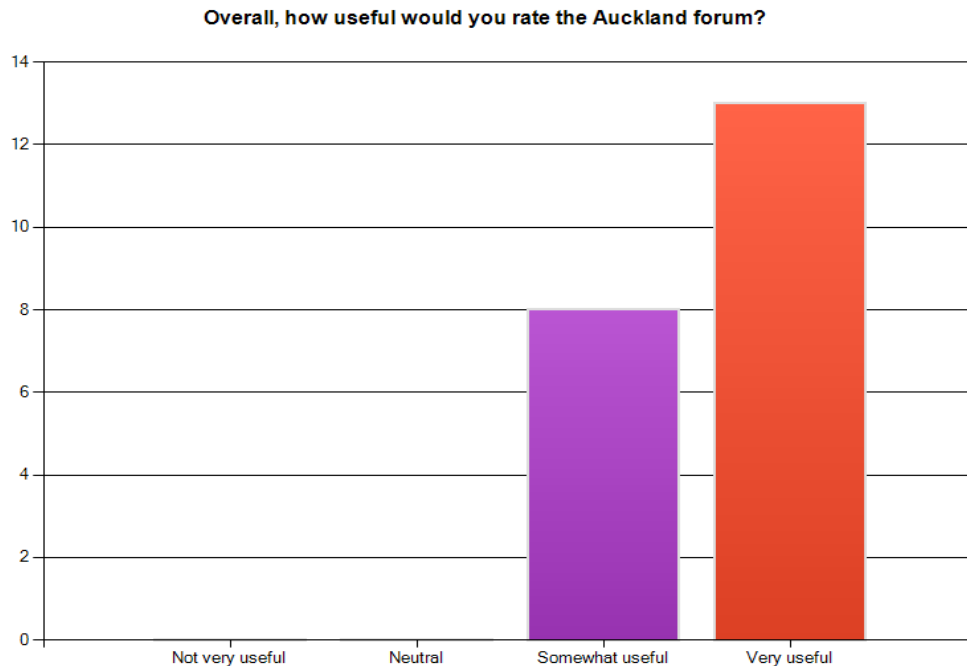


Auckland Regional Funders Forum – Feedback Summary

The Auckland Forum was held on Wednesday 24th June 2009. Thirty-five people attended the forum and feedback was received from 21 (60%). The comments below are a summary of those received.

1. Usefulness of the Auckland Forum



2. What was most useful for you about the Auckland forum?

This is a summary of the responses received

- Key players attended and this enabled me to get some useful contextual information.
- Sharing practical idea around areas for collaborative initiatives
- Everything was good value. It was very well organised and run smoothly as though it was well rehearsed. Thanks
- The chance to speak one-on-one with other grant makers. Also good to hear about what is happening internationally.
- Fast paced, solid up to date information, great networking, healthy lunch
- Networking, Making things simpler for fundseekers, The 4 myths of funding, From crisis to opportunity
- The opportunity to keep pace with local, regional and international trends for funders.
- It was good to meet with those who are in the same position in the Community especially in these challenging times. It was especially interesting to receive updates as to how the rest of the world is working to solve the crisis we are facing with the economic downturn. In particular the way of working together to maximise their resources.

- The group discussions and the quick 3 minute inter-change with different people.
- Speaking with a fund seeker
- To be updated on the funding scene of other local councils.
- Networking and getting new ideas about how to cope with the impact of the recession on trusts and what to look for in fund seekers

3. What was least useful about the Auckland forum?

This is a summary of responses received.

- My role involves the management of contracts, rather than grants. However, the grant information/discussion was still relevant and useful to me.
- A lot to cover in a short time - would have been good to have had the time to discuss some of the issues raised in more depth.
- To see what was happening overseas
- It seems like a lot of common/familiar ground was covered but little basis for action as a consequence of discussions
- The local story
- Might have benefited from less questions/work groups to cover shallowly in the time

4. How could we improve any future events in your region? What topics and formats would be of most interest/use to you?

This is a summary of responses received.

- The topics were very timely and relevant. I also really liked the pace of the forum - the timeframe forced people to be concise in their feedback and contributions (people usually talk to fill the time available).
- More opportunities to understand different funder organisations present - quick intro and overview
- Earlier notice of the date of the forum. Enjoy hearing experts speak. Always interested in hearing a grant seeker's perspective on some of a funder's systems and processes.
- I've been wondering about getting say 20 funders and 20 fund seekers into the same room for a morning. I think it could be helpful for both.
- I don't know about improving, but it would be good to hear more about how other countries are dealing with their challenging times (Part II)
- Was a good format given the time available
- More about the funder-recipient relationship.
- Maybe leave more time for group work, and perhaps have a couple of ice breakers at the beginning rather than just the usual " Round Robin" approach.
- Expanding on specific proposals for grant-makers collaboration,
- Community collaboration from a funder and community organisation perspective - how might this work and what would it look like?
- Have more often. Encourage more funders to come.
- Ideas on what will be the best funding structure in the Super city council.
- Could we have some sort of web blog that we could input ideas into before the event?
- Having more notice of the event would have been helpful. The idea of organisations working together to fund project proactively amongst each other with out the groups having to do many applications and extending the timeline out.
- Hearing more from local groups who have found solutions to common problems.
- It needs to be longer or less content in the program. Information on accountability and measuring the impact of the grant would be helpful.

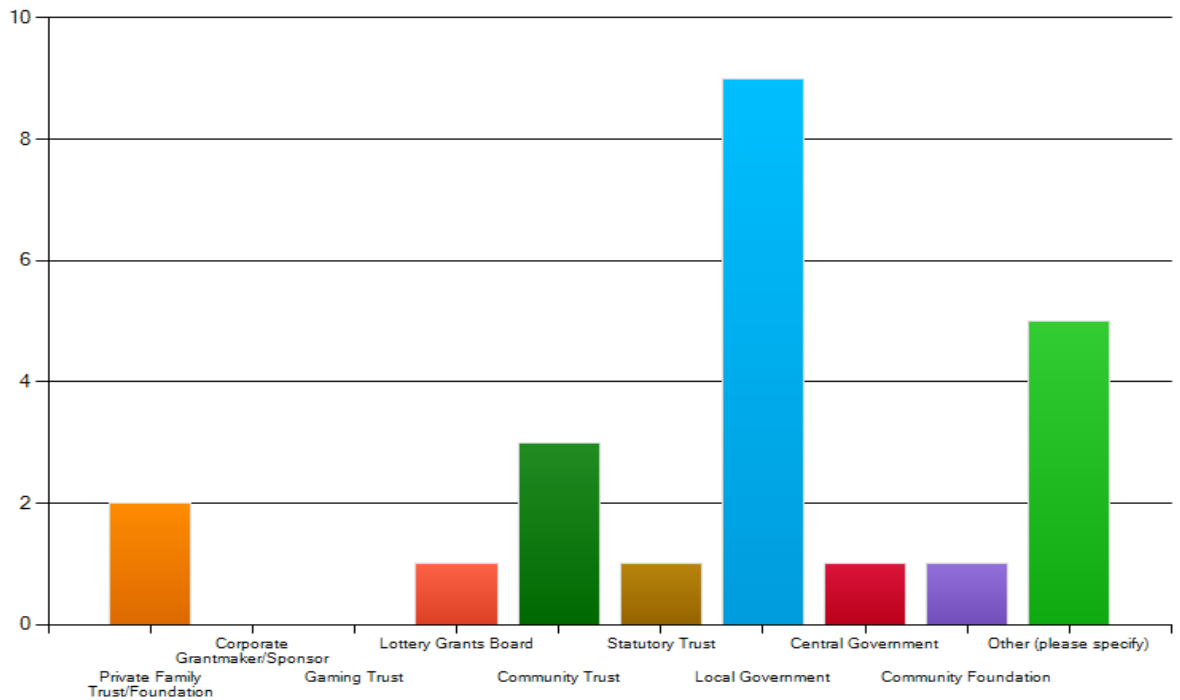
- More time for each questions/work group to be able to go into greater depth.

5. Did you take-away the gem of an idea from the forum which you want to follow up on? If so, please explain briefly and if you have thought it through, outline your next steps in developing this idea.

1. Yes, the need for providers to think and act collaboratively and outside their own immediate goals, in order to survive the recession. This is a good concept, but I have not really thought it through in any detail as yet.
2. Setting up a website in which fundseekers could profile projects needing funding
3. Yes discussion re collaboration. I'm planning to invite fund seekers from our area together to meet with fund providers.
4. Alternative ways for funders to provide resources to fundseekers which don't involve money (eg Knowledge, expertises etc)
5. Developing a template for funders and grant seekers on what each fund covers, exclusions etc in a colour coded manner.
6. Yes, a result of our group activity, we agreed to meet again and explore an idea to work together on an informal way.
7. Creating a grant-seekers website for hosting their application -with a "thermometer" indicating funds as they are granted for each application
8. I did take away gem of loans and not straight funding, however with working for Council that could be a lot of policy changing
9. Think about longevity not just the short term
10. Funding partnership - being clearer about what the funder (other than money) is bringing to the agreement in order for us to be on equal standing.
11. As a funder, sorting the applications rec'd in the high/medium and low priority groups before processing.
12. Helping fundseekers to look at other ways to fund their group or seek in kind donations or exchange resources, expertise, etc.
13. Need to work on recipients of grants reporting back on their projects i.e. what they found useful, helpful about our process.
14. Ways to support each other that don't require money - sharing information, solutions, ideas.
15. We are working hard to look at how to make our small amount of money go further with a higher impact. We are thinking of creative ways to do this.

6. Types of Organisations Present

About your organisation:



7. Roles in Organisation

About you:

