Community Support – Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) agreements

The Trust will negotiate annually with communities regarding the content and cost share arrangements with fixed community development and essential services and infrastructure assistance. The CARM agreement will clarify the Trust's relationship with each community and represent a signed commitment from the Trust once the Minister has approved the Trust's budget for that year.

- The payment by the Trust to communities under the CARM agreement for disadvantage, incentive and administration will be determined from time to time using an objective appraisal of individual community needs.

- The allocation to a community for executive support will also be on a needs basis but subject to satisfactory outcomes in terms of improved governance performance.

- With the executive support allocation communities need to apply to the Trust and justify that their activity levels and plans for the coming year will require higher accountability input than is available through normal voluntary contribution.

Payments under CARM do not devalue or diminish the responsibility for volunteer contributions by community members. Applications for project subsidy assistance will remain subject to budget considerations.