

MEDIA RELEASE

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16 April 2018

Cash for communities with SPM bobby calf scheme

Last year \$90,000 was returned to rural communities with AFFCO and SPM's Cash for Calves programme, and the meat supplier is encouraging farmers to sign up again this year and get behind the cause.

The Canterbury community benefited to the tune of \$8,460 with \$6,709 donated to local rural schools and \$1,730 to fire brigades. Amuri Area School received \$506 and Cheviot Area School supporters raised \$777. Both schools put the funds towards new learning resources and were grateful for the donations over the last few years.

Local SPM Buyer Carl Forrester said that any farmers considering an option for their bobby calves this coming season should get in touch.

"With SPM offering a 6-day pickup and competitive pricing, the community donations are the cherry on top. It would be great to see Amuri and Cheviot Area Schools reach the \$1000 mark this year."

National Livestock Manager Tom Young, says that it's often AFFCO and SPM's farmer suppliers that volunteer at rural fire brigades and schools, and local people rely on them to bring their communities together, look out for families, and keep them safe.

"We have been donating to rural primary schools since 2006 through our Bobby Calf Cash for Schools and in 2013 in response to supplier feedback we introduced the option to nominate their rural fire brigade."

Each season the suppliers fill out a registration form and at the bottom of the form they simply nominate their school or fire brigade. AFFCO donates 40 cents for every calf supplied to the nominated recipient which is a donation by AFFCO and doesn't come out of the schedule payment.

In 2017 a total of \$21,000 was donated to fire brigades and a further \$70,000 to rural schools. AFFCO has donated more than \$1 million to rural communities since the donation scheme started out in 2006.

Farmers should have received their registration forms by mail, or they can download them from <http://www.affco.co.nz/livestock/bobby-calf-registration/>, phone 0800 722 422 or contact their AFFCO/SPM buyer. Registrations are due on 1 June in the South Island.

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PHOTO CAPTION:

Cheviot Area School students Jack Daly, Lucy Ensor and Mexley Falwasser pictured with local SPM Buyer Carl Forrester.

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ABOUT AFFCO

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AFFCO has been proudly serving rural New Zealand since 1904, working closely with local farmers to process and supply quality meat and animal products to over 70 countries worldwide.

