

4. LATE APPLICATION FROM CENTRE OF CONTEMPORARY ART (COCA)

A late application came in for COCA on Monday 26 July. All other applications were received by the close-off date of 30 June. Before considering this application the Subcommittee should decide whether or not to accept the late application from COCA for consideration.

3.16 Centre of Contemporary Art [LATE]

The Centre of Contemporary Art (COCA) have put in a late request for funding of \$137,000 to cover the increased cost of their building renovations and the additional compliance requirements for their fire safety provisions. There are two aspects to the application: the installation of a fire sprinkler system throughout all levels of the gallery which is now required as part of revised fire safety regulations - they are requesting \$53,400 for this and the increase in costs of planned fire egress and accompanying relocation off storage and exhibitions areas throughout the building to comply with current regulations: \$83,600. Last year COCA received \$100,000 from this Committee towards their overall restoration project which included the upgrading of fire safety and egress.

The COCA is managed by the Canterbury Society of Arts Charitable Trust and receives no regular funding from central or local government as operationally they cover all of their costs. The Centre is financially strong with significant assets and has had an operating surplus for at least the last two financial years. They have the option of borrowing money for the balance needed for the renovations or they could re-approach other funding agencies for further contributions. The Council has already contributed \$100,000 towards the renovations and as a result is a significant contributor to the project, therefore it is recommended that the Committee decline this request for further assistance.

Recommendation for 2004/05: Nil