3. ARTS POLICY AND STRATEGY

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The purpose of this report is to present the Arts Policy and Strategy to the Board for feedback and endorsement.

Introduction

The process to review the Council's Arts Policy and develop an Arts Strategy was initiated some time ago. Consultation has been carried out on two occasions prior to arriving at the attached Arts Policy and Strategy.

At the commencement of the process a number of meetings and focus groups were carried out with Council staff, a wide range of people from the arts sector, with representatives of Asian cultures and with Maori. In May 2000 the results of these consultations were discussed with the Community Services Committee in a seminar.

A draft Arts Policy and Strategy was prepared and further consultation has been carried out on this document. In November 2000 the Spreydon Heathcote Community Board was asked for its feedback on the draft Arts Policy and Strategy. The document has been refined on the basis of the feedback received through consultation and is now being forwarded to the Community Services Committee for approval.

Arts Policy and Strategy

The Arts Policy and Strategy identifies that the Council 'is committed to achieving an enlivened and creative city in which the arts are widely recognised as being essential'.

One of the important themes of the policy is that the arts should be integrated in to many aspects of the Council's operations rather than being considered as only the province of arts staff and arts facilities.

The Arts Strategy identifies six goal areas:

- Arts for All
- Arts and Iwi
- Arts and Other Cultures
- Arts Infrastructure
- Arts and the Natural and Built Environment
- Arts in Enterprise, Tourism and Economic Development

In each case a number of objectives have been developed. It is anticipated that action plans will be developed for the 2001/2 year and the 2002/3 year which will be forwarded to the Community Services Committee by October 2001. Given the desire to integrate the arts in a wide sphere of the Council's work, this involves the co-ordination of actions in a number of Council units.

Recommendation: That the Board recommend to the Community Services Committee that the Arts Policy and Strategy (subject to any comments) be adopted.