

5. REVIEW OF THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY

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| Corporate Plan Output: Leisure Planning; Plans and Policies | |

The purpose of this report is to establish a process to review the Art in Public Places Policy.

INTRODUCTION

The Council adopted an Art in Public Places Policy in 1993 that set out a number of objectives, criteria for evaluation of proposals and established an Art in Public Places Working Party.

A number of factors have come together to necessitate a review of the current policy:

- The current Art in Public Places Policy is some 8 or so years old.
- In February 2001 the Environment Committee assumed responsibility for administering the Art in Public Places Policy. This change recognised the importance of art in public places integration into wider environments and juxtapositions with buildings and public spaces.
- The Council's Arts Policy and Strategy is currently being reviewed. Whilst this review has not been completed, during its consultation a number of issues concerning the Art in Public Places Policy were raised. It is important that the Art in Public Places Policy is consistent with the overall Arts Policy and Strategy.
- The Council's focus on the central city has brought with it increased interest in the development of art in public places.

AIM OF THE REVIEW

The aim of the review can be formally stated as follows:

'To review the Art in Public Places Policy with a view to identifying the most effective means to enable and encourage the development and care of arts in the public domain in keeping with the currently being developed Arts Policy and Strategy.'

The review will consider the following areas:

- How well has the existing policy operated?
- How can decisions best be made in the future about art in public places?
- Are the outcomes identified in the current policy still relevant and appropriate?
- Are the objectives of the current policy still relevant and appropriate?
- Are the terms of reference of the Art in Public Places Working Party still relevant and appropriate?
- What are the most effective processes for implementing the Arts in Public Places Policy?
- Is the composition of the Art in Public Places Working Party still the most relevant and appropriate?
- Should all projects defined in the current policy as 'Art in Public Places' be considered using the same process or are a number of different processes required?

The policy review aims to identify how the Council can be more proactive and effective in initiating and developing artworks in public places. For this reason it will mainly focus on the structures and processes needed to implement the policy aims and objectives.

PROCESS TO CARRY OUT THE REVIEW.

The proposed process to carry out the review of the Art in Public Places Policy is as follows:

- Research examples of good practice – what policies/methods have been adopted by other cities that have been successful in developing art in the public domain.

- Seeking the views of key informants on what the successes and failures of the existing policy have been and how to improve it for the future. Key informants will include the current members of the Art in Public Places Working Party, Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Chairperson of the Community Services Committee (as the Working Party has reported to this committee for much of its life), a range of people (internal and external) that have been involved in projects included in the current definition of Art in Public Places over recent years, representatives of the arts sector, community boards, the Institute of Architects, relevant business groups, Council Policy Team, Ngai Tahu, relevant taura here groups and the Ethnic Council.
- Analysis of views and information collected.
- Drafting of policy.
- Checking draft policy with main key informants.
- Submitting policy to Community Boards and subsequently the Environment Committee.

Well respected cultural planning and art project management consultant, Richard Brecknock, is visiting the city during the policy review period. Mr Brecknock's advice will also be sought as part of the policy review.

The intention is to complete the policy review in time for the August meeting of the Environment Committee.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.