

4. ROBERT McDOUGALL GALLERY – CANTERBURY MUSEUM

Officer responsible General Manager Regulation & Democracy Services	Author Peter Mitchell, DDI 941-8549
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The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval as landowner to further structural changes by the Canterbury Museum Trust Board to the Robert McDougall Gallery.

At its meeting on 22 May 2003 the Council considered a report which set out the proposed structural changes to the Robert McDougall Gallery to be made by the Canterbury Museum Trust Board as part of its revitalisation project. A copy of that report is attached and the recommendation in that report was adopted by the Council.

Since that report was put before the Council there are further structural changes proposed by the Museum Trust Board which require the Council's consent as the owner of the Robert McDougall Gallery. In providing this consent the Council is acting as landowner only, and not as resource consent authority with regard to the resource consent application which has already been filed with the Council and which is currently before a commissioner awaiting a reconvened hearing.

The two additional structural changes that are proposed are:

- (i) A new opening of 1.75 metres in width in the northern wall of the McDougall Gallery to allow access to and from the McDougall Gallery exhibition space into the Canaday Wing. It is proposed that this part of the Canaday Wing be used as a café and this opening is intended to facilitate access to this café.
- (ii) A seismic and structural upgrade to meet earthquake code requirements and to also allow support of the Level 3 whare whakairo complex. The funding of this upgrade has yet to be finalised.

The Museum's consultants advise that numerous options have been developed and investigated to ensure an appropriate strengthening recommendation is put forward that minimises the visible interventions to the external and internal spaces of the Robert McDougall Gallery, and ensures that the building is protected in the event of an earthquake.

The proposal put forward and is agreed with the Museum's conservation architect, Mr Jeremy Salmon, involves upgrading the Robert McDougall Gallery to 100% of earthquake code requirements. It is anticipated that the strengthening work will be completed from the roof only and will not, internally or externally, affect viewing from the ground.

Regarding the whare whakairo, it is anticipated that new concrete facings will be applied to the inside faces of the roof parapets ensuring that no strengthening work is visible from the ground.

The May 2003 report referred to the establishment of the whare whakairo between the Museum and the Gallery. That is to be a complex comprising

- (a) the whare whakairo (Māori exhibition space);
- (b) the whare arrival and circulation space of approximately 60m²
- (c) whare kai (function area) of 40m²
- (d) toilet facilities

A drawing of the complex and a photo montage are attached.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Council, as landowner of the Robert McDougall Gallery, approve the structural changes set out in paragraphs (i) and (ii) and the whare whakairo complex as described above.
 2. That the Council authorise the Facility Assets Manager, on behalf of the Council as landowner, to approve the earthquake strengthening programme.

Chair's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.