

Tuesday, 27 August 2024

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga
Hastings District Council
Council Meeting

Kaupapataka

Attachments Vol 1

Te Rā Hui:
Meeting date: **Tuesday, 27 August 2024**

Te Wā:
Time: **9:30 AM**

Te Wāhi:
Venue: **Council Chamber
Ground Floor
Civic Administration Building
Lyndon Road East
Hastings**

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TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O HERETAUNGA

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Thursday, 23 May 2024

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga
Hastings District Council: Council Meeting

Te Rārangi Take
Report to Council

Nā:
From: **Louise Stettner, Manager, Democracy & Governance Services**

Te Take:
Subject: **Retention of the Takitimu Māori Ward**

1.0 Executive Summary – *Te Kaupapa Me Te Whakarāpopototanga*

- 1.1 This report summarises proposals from the Minister of Local Government regarding changes to the legislative requirements for the establishment of Māori wards within local government and recommends that Hastings District Council (Council) agree to retain its Takitimu Māori ward ahead of legislation being introduced.
- 1.2 Council resolved to establish Māori wards in May 2021 following comprehensive community consultation that indicated strong support for this decision. The opportunity for the Council to make this decision was enabled by provisions within the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill 2021 which removed the need for a binding poll.
- 1.3 The Local Government Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Constituencies Amendment Bill 2024 (the Bill) is set to be introduced into Parliament in late May this year with enactment expected in July. The Bill will contain provisions that look to re-instate the poll provisions for the establishment of Māori Wards that were in place prior to 2021.
- 1.4 The Bill will allow local authorities who have established Māori Wards or have resolved to establish Māori Wards the option to disestablish those wards prior to the 2025 local body elections. Alternatively, local authorities that opt to retain Māori wards will be required to hold a binding poll at the 2025 local elections if they established Māori Wards without holding a poll. The result of that poll would take effect from the 2028 local elections and will be in place for 2 triennial elections - 2028 and 2031.
- 1.5 Council has been consistent in its support of the establishment of Māori Wards and a fair process in which establishment can be enabled. A Council decision to retain its Takitimu Māori ward would support Māori participation in local decision-making and elections and confirm its initial decision to establish Māori wards following comprehensive community consultation.
- 1.6 On May 8, 2024, the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee resolved that the Committee wants to retain the Takitimu Māori Ward.

2.0 Recommendations - Ngā Tūtohunga

- A) That Council receive the report titled Retention of the Takitimu Māori Ward dated 23 May 2024.
- B) That Council resolve to retain its Takitimu Māori Ward.
- C) Council notes the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee at its meeting on 8 May 2024 resolved that the Committee wants to retain the Takitimu Māori Ward.

3.0 Background – Te Horopaki

- 3.1 Legislative Background
- 3.2 The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) provides for the establishment of one or more Māori Wards aimed at increasing Māori representation and participation in local authority decision-making.
- 3.3 The intent of the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2021 was to:
 - Align the treatment of Māori Wards and Māori constituencies with the treatment of general wards and general constituencies as much as possible; and
 - Remove all mechanisms for binding polls to be held on whether Māori Wards or Māori constituencies will be established; and
 - Provide local authorities with an opportunity to make decisions on Māori wards and Māori constituencies, considering these changes, in time for the 2022 local elections.
- 3.4 To achieve this, the following changes were made to the LEA:
 - Repeal of the provisions in the LEA that relate to polls on the establishment of Māori wards and constituencies.
 - Prohibition of binding council-initiated polls on whether to establish Māori constituencies (while retaining the right for councils to initiate non-binding polls to gauge public sentiment).
- 3.5 The Government Proposals
- 3.6 The Government intends to proceed with legislative change with the result that any local authority that has established Māori wards or have resolved to establish Māori wards will have the option to disestablish those wards after the Bill’s enactment and prior to the 2025 local body elections.
- 3.7 A disestablish decision would apply to the 2025 local elections and Council would either be required to complete a shortened Representation Review process by 10 April 2025 or revert to the most recent pre-Māori ward arrangements. Note these options are still to be confirmed via the Bill.
- 3.8 The Government has also announced that local authorities that opt to retain Māori wards will be required to hold a binding poll at the 2025 local elections if they established Māori wards without holding a poll. The result of that poll will take effect from the 2028 local elections and will be in place for 2 triennial elections (2028 and 2031).
- 3.9 Essentially, the proposals if enacted, will repeal the current legislation with respect to the establishment of Māori wards to re-instate the poll provisions for establishing Māori wards in place prior to 2021.
- 3.10 The Bill will restore the binding polls mechanism for the establishment of Māori wards. The binding poll mechanism was removed from the Local Electoral Act 2001 in 2021. Councils will be able to resolve to hold binding polls on Māori wards and people on the electoral roll will be able to petition

their council to hold one. Binding polls will be reinstated with the same policy settings as they were before 2021:

- A petition from 5% of electors on a council's roll at the last local elections will require the council to hold a binding poll;
 - Any person on the electoral roll for a council will be able to vote;
 - A simple majority will bind a council to an outcome; and
 - The outcome of a poll will decide whether a council has Māori wards for the next two local government terms.
 - The Bill will also remove the requirement under the Local Government Electoral Legislation Act 2023 for councils to consider Māori wards every six years during their representation reviews if they have not established Māori wards.
- 3.11 The proposed changes will affect 45 councils across the country, including Council which established Māori wards in accordance with the current provisions.
- 3.12 Indicative timeframes advised by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) are that the Local Government Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Constituencies Amendment Bill 2024 ('The Bill') will be introduced in late May 2024 with plans for enactment by July 2024. DIA advise that councils can provide feedback to DIA and the Minister of Local Government and there will be an opportunity to make submissions via a Select Committee process.
- 3.13 DIA also advise that in August/early September (after the legislation has been passed) councils can reverse their Māori wards decision by resolving to disestablish Māori wards (for councils which established the Māori wards for the 2022 election). A decision to disestablish would apply to the 2025 local elections. If there is no reversal those councils must hold a poll at the 2025 election; with the outcome to apply from 2028.
- 3.14 *Hastings District Council and Māori Wards*
- 3.15 The Hastings District Council resolved to establish Māori wards on 18 May 2021. This decision was made following comprehensive public consultation and consideration.
- 3.16 The 2022 local body triennial elections included the election of Council's three inaugural Māori ward councillors for one single 'Takitimu' Māori Ward covering the entire Hastings District.
- 3.17 *Hastings District Council's Response to Government Announcements regarding Māori Wards*
- 3.18 On 23 April 2024, Mayor Hazlehurst wrote to the two local Members of Parliament; Ms Catherine Wedd (Tukituki) and Ms Katie Nimon (Napier) outlining Council's concerns with the Government proposals. A copy of that letter is attached (**Attachment 1**).
- 3.19 On May 8, 2024, the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee received a report summarising the recent government announcements regarding proposed changes to the process for the establishment of Māori wards within Local Government. With respect to this report the Committee made the following unanimous resolutions:
- Tom Keefe/Elizabeth Waiwiri-Hunt*
- A) That the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee Meeting receive the report titled Government Announcements regarding Māori Wards dated 8 May 2024.*
- B) That the Committee wish to retain the Takitimu Māori Ward.*
- 3.20 On 20 May 2024, Local Government New Zealand and Mayors and Chairs around New Zealand signed a letter to the Government outlining opposition to the changes the Government is proposing to Māori wards and constituency poll provisions. Mayor Hazlehurst has signed this letter on behalf of Council. A copy of that letter is attached. (**Attachment 2**).

4.0 Discussion – Te Matapakitanga

- 4.1 Council has been consistent in its support of the establishment of Māori wards and a fair process in which these can be established.
- 4.2 With the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee confirming their support to retain the Takitimu Māori ward it is an opportune time for the Council to also signal its position ahead of proposed legislative changes.

5.0 Options – Ngā Kōwhiringa

Option One - Recommended Option - Te Kōwhiringa Tuatahi – Te Kōwhiringa Tūtohunga

- 5.1 Council resolves to retain Māori wards for Hastings District Council

Advantages

- Aligns with the previous decision by Council to establish Māori wards, which was informed by comprehensive community consultation and engagement.
- Supports the important contributions that Māori are making to local government.
- Supports Māori participation in local decision-making and elections.
- Supports the relationships that Council has with mana whenua.

Disadvantages

- Officers have not identified any disadvantages with this decision.

- 5.2 Option Two – Disestablish Māori Wards – Te Kōwhiringa Tuarua

Advantages

- Officers have not identified any advantages with this decision.

Disadvantages

- The advantages detailed in 5.1 would be forgone.

6.0 Next steps – Te Anga Whakamua

- 6.1 Officers will monitor Crown decisions re legislative changes affecting Māori wards and Report to Council as required, including opportunities to submit to any legislative processes.
- 6.1 Should Council resolve to retain its Māori ward, Council will (pending legislative enactment) be required to hold a binding poll at the 2025 local elections. The result of that poll will take effect from the 2028 local elections and will be in place for 2 triennial elections (2028 and 2031).
- 6.2 Should Council consider that it may not wish to retain its Māori ward a report will be written for Council’s consideration following the Bill’s enactment in August/early September that will seek a decision regards the retention or disestablishment of Māori wards for Council. A disestablish decision will apply to the 2025 local elections.

Attachments:

1	Letter from Mayor of Hastings to Local MPs - Māori Wards	CG-17-5-00030	Under Separate Cover
2	Draft - letter from LGNZ Mayors and Chairs on Māori wards and constituencies	CG-17-1-00888	Under Separate Cover

Summary of Considerations - *He Whakarāpopoto Whakaarohanga*

Fit with purpose of Local Government - *E noho hāngai pū ai ki te Rangatōpū-ā-Rohe*

The Council is required to give effect to the purpose of local government as set out in section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That purpose is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by (and on behalf of) communities, and to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future.

Link to the Council’s Community Outcomes – *Ngā Hononga ki Ngā Putanga ā-Hapori*

This proposal promotes the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future.

Māori Impact Statement - *Te Tauākī Kaupapa Māori*

Māori wards support the provision of fair representation for Māori and honour the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, including the principles of participation and partnership. The Takitimu Māori Ward supports Māori participation in decision-making and elections.

Sustainability - *Te Toitūtanga*

N/A

Financial considerations - *Ngā Whakaarohanga Ahumoni*

If the Council decides to retain its Māori ward, the indicative cost of a Poll is \$75,000. This does not include any communication strategy that Council may deliver in support.

A decision to disestablish its Māori ward may trigger the need for a shortened Representation Review that is likely to incur costs of a similar indicative amount.

Significance and Engagement - *Te Hiranga me te Tūhonotanga*

This decision has been assessed under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as being of a high level of significance.

Consultation – internal and/or external - *Whakawhiti Whakaaro-ā-roto / ā-waho*

Hastings District Council established Māori Wards on 18 May 2021. This decision was made following comprehensive public consultation and engagement between 23 April and 12 May 2021. It was publicised across print, social media, traditional media channels, on Council’s website, through flyers to rural areas that may not have online or receive print newspapers, and hard copies and submission boxes were made available at the Council Customer Services Centre, libraries and community centres. The consultation also included hui and kānohi ki te kānohi (face to face) meetings.

In total 2089 responses were received with 76 per cent in support of establishing Māori Wards and 24 per cent against. Those in support said Māori Wards would honour Te Tiriti O Waitangi, acknowledge

mana whenua, ensure a Māori perspective in the Council Chamber, remove barriers for representation, and improve working relationships.

Risks

Opportunity: To confirm Council’s decision to retain its Takitimu Māori Ward.

REWARD – <i>Te Utu</i>	RISK – <i>Te Tūraru</i>
<p>Shows Council’s continued commitment to the retention of Māori Wards.</p> <p>Allows Council to actively participate in the Select Committee process and strongly advocate for a fair process to establish Māori wards.</p> <p>Supports positive relationships with Mana Whenua.</p> <p>Supports Māori participation in decision-making and elections.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>

Rural Community Board – *Te Poari Tuawhenua-ā-Hapori*

Officers have not consulted the Rural Community Board on this report; however, the Board were involved in the initial Council decision to establish Māori Wards in 2021.



Thursday, 23 May 2024

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga
Hastings District Council: Council Meeting

Te Rārangi Take
Report to Council

Nā: **Megan Peacock-Coyle, Manager - Arts & Culture**
From: **Emma Morgan, Community Strategies Manager**
 Kevin Carter, Community Grants and Partnerships Advisor

Te Take:
Subject: **Funding - Arts Inc. Heretaunga**

1.0 Executive Summary – *Te Kaupapa Me Te Whakarāpopototanga*

The purpose of this Report is to address a Council request for an update on the allocation of funding for Arts, Culture and Creativity generally and for Arts Inc Heretaunga (AIH).

- 1.2 This Report provides relevant contextual information for Council on the strategic operations of AIH and seeks a decision (subject to the adoption of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan) from Council on annual funding allocations for AIH.
- 1.3 Officers recommend a continuation of the existing funding allocation of \$344,000 annually. This funding allocation is identified in the draft Council 2024-2034 Long Term Plan which is currently open for Community Consultation.
- 1.4 AIH is one of the key community organisations supporting the local arts and culture sector. AIH operates the Hastings Community Arts Centre where it delivers community arts development programmes. AIH seeks to ensure art in all its forms is accessible to everyone in the community, and that our artists are enabled and supported to thrive. AIH also delivers events including the cornerstone Hastings Blossom Parade and Hawkes Bay Arts Festival.

The recommended funding allocations are;

- \$178,000 (annually for 3 Council financial years 2025-2027 from the Contestable Community Grants Fund) to support operation of the Hastings Community Arts Centre.
 - \$166,000 (annually for 3 Council financial years 2025-2027 from the Council Events Budgets)) to support delivery of events including the cornerstone Hastings Blossom Parade, Hawke’s Bay Arts Festival, and other smaller events.
- 1.5 This is a total annual funding allocation of \$344,000 to AIH and represents a whole of contract commitment of \$1,032,000 over 3 Council financial years.
 - 1.6 A Review of Council Funding Contracts with AIH was completed in May 2023. The Review sought to improve the contract relationship between Council and AIH and deliver improved outcomes. The

Recommendations from the Review will be reflected in future funding contracts with AIH as appropriate and relevant.

- 1.7 Given the quantum of funding for AIH the Report recommends a Business Operational Plan is prepared for the Council Chief Executive, which demonstrates that funding will be invested well to deliver on the milestones in the Funding Contract.
- 1.8 Any Council resolutions regards allocation of funding in future financial years, will need to be subject to the adoption of the 2024 -2034 Long Term Plan (which is anticipated in June 2024) with any resolutions made from this Report, accounted for in the 2024 – 2034 Long Term Plan.

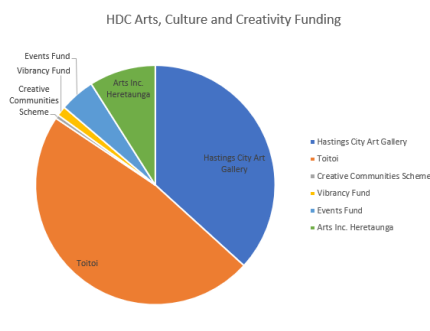
2.0 Recommendations - Ngā Tūtohunga

- A) That Council receive the report titled Funding - Arts Inc. Heretaunga dated 23 May 2024.
- B) That Council (subject to the Council adoption of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan which accounts for these funding allocations to Arts Inc. Heretaunga), approves the following funding allocations to Arts Inc. Heretaunga (AIH).
 - \$178,000 (annually for 3 Council financial years 2025-2027 from the Contestable Community Grants Fund) to support operation of the Hastings Community Arts Centre.
 - \$166,000 (annually for 3 Council financial years 2025-2027 from the Council Events Budgets) to support delivery of events including the cornerstone Hastings Blossom Parade, Hawke's Bay Arts Festival and other smaller events.

This is a total annual funding allocation of \$344,000 to AIH and represents a whole of contract commitment of \$1, 032,000 over 3 Council financial years.
- C) Council delegates the Chief Executive to execute a suitable Contract with AIH which addresses Council's obligations (under the Local Government Act) for the management of funds provided to external organisations once the Chief Executive is satisfied with the AIH business plan for investment of Council funds to deliver on Contract milestones.
- D) Council notes that recommendations from a Review completed in 2023 of the contract relationship between Council and AHI will be reflected in future funding contracts with AIH as appropriate and relevant.

3.0 Background – Te Horopaki

- 3.1 Council's current investment in arts, culture and creativity is approximately \$3.8 million per annum. The majority of this is delivered by Council through the Hastings City Art Gallery and Toitoti. The rating requirement of these two activities is \$3.2 million.



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- 3.2 Creative New Zealand funds \$60,000 annually towards the Creative Communities Scheme and Council funds \$20,000 to create two funding rounds per annum of \$40,000. 56 people/organisations were funded over the last 18 months.
- 3.3 An additional funding reserve, the Abbott Bequest is administered by the Landmarks Advisory Group and can be used for public artworks. The current balance is \$106,000.
- 3.4 AIH currently receives \$344,000 per annum from Council plus in-kind support as detailed below,
 - \$178,000 to operate the Hastings Community Arts Centre from the Contestable Community Grants Fund (which is managed by the Group Manager Community Wellbeing and Services)
 - \$166,000 to support delivery of events including the cornerstone Hastings Blossom Parade, Hawkes Bay Arts Festival and other smaller events from the Council Events Budgets (which is managed by the Group Manager Marketing and Communications).
- 3.5 AIH's operational model is centred around the Hastings Community Arts Centre. The Council is a principal funder of the Centre which has budgeted annual fixed-cost expenditure of \$375,286. The estimated annual budget to deliver the Art Guide and Trail, Blossom Parade and Hawke's Bay Arts Festival and other events/activities is \$700,000. Council's funding commitment to AIH helps provide AIH a strong case to attract sponsorship, donations, and other funding towards the Festival and other services.
- 3.6 The Hawke's Bay Arts Festival was created by AIH in 2015, to help ensure the arts continued while the Hawke's Bay Opera House was closed for strengthening and refurbishment. The Festival was hosted in a Spiegel tent on the Village Green. The Festival has been hosted at Toitoti since it reopened.
- 3.7 The Blossom Parade funding has been \$46,000 since 2015/16. Council took over the marketing and advertising costs of the Parade in 2021, with the expansion of the Parade to a multi-day festival.
- 3.8 A review of AIH funding contracts was completed in May 2023. The review aimed to improve the contract relationship between HDC and AIH and provided recommendations to deliver better outcomes. The review used a desktop review and interviews with Council officers and the Director of AIH.
- 3.9 The Review Recommendations included;
 - Combine the two events contracts.
 - Make all contracts three-yearly with annual monitoring and reviews.
 - Note in-kind support in reporting with a monetary value.
 - Council Officers to be involved in AIH strategic planning.
 - Council to provide an events resource to assist with regulatory requirements.
 - Make the Hawke's Bay Arts Festival a biennial event.
 - Develop processes for budget adjustment requests from AIH.
 - Council funds to be applied towards the shortfall in the Community Arts Centre budgets to allow artists to exhibit for free with only a commission charged not a venue hire fee.
- 3.10 AIH has struggled financially and operated at a forecast loss of \$135,000 in their 2023 financial year. This loss is attributed to a combination of inflation and consequences arising from COVID and Cyclone Gabrielle.
- 3.11 AIH requested an emergency operational grant of \$150,000 from Council in January 2024 to "continue to provide creative experiences that uplift and support the recovery of our community".
- 3.12 In lieu of a Grant Council recommended AIH focus on managing the Community Art Centre as this is a valuable and unique community offering for the arts sector. Council further recommended AIH

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prepared a Business Plan, to implement the recommendations from the Review (covered in 3.9) and return to a sustainable delivery model.

- 3.13 AIH has implemented a Strategic Plan to manage through a “new period of opportunities and challenges”. A key objective for AIH is to develop its overall capacity and capability. This year, AIH has reduced its wage expenditure by 40% and contractor costs by 80% and is diversifying fundraising and revenue opportunities with assistance from a consultant.
- 3.14 AIH’s commitment to shift to a biennial Arts Festival model aligns with other regional festivals in New Zealand. This is a more sustainable model for the region and will allow the Festival to refine its focus and point of difference, for example, potentially commissioning new work to be developed in Heretaunga which supports local economic and creative development. The model would alternate between a year of smaller interventions and a major festival. In the past few years, AIH has seen a shift in audience preferences. A biennial festival model will allow a period of research and development for AIH to reposition its services based on an audience-focused approach. 2024 will be a development year with delivery of the major Festival planned for 2025 and biennially thereafter with smaller activities delivered in alternate years.
- 3.15 AIH has sought an increase in their annual Council funding of \$35,460 to a new annual total of \$379,460. \$21,460 of this increase would allow artists to exhibit their work for free.

4.0 Discussion – Te Matapakitanga

- 4.1 AIH is a regional delivery organisation that creates opportunities for community creativity. It develops audiences and creatives across connected services. Their activities provide a pipeline to develop artists and audiences. The Hastings Community Arts Centre is the only non-curated space in Heretaunga Hastings.
- 4.2 The Toi-Tū Framework, is a regional strategic framework to support creatives and creativity in Hawke’s Bay. It provides a foundation for the Hawke’s Bay creative eco-system to take a collective impact approach. AIH and Council could be leaders in this process and provide backbone support to other creative and community organisations who want to collaborate towards the shared vision. Council officers recommend that a constructive working partnership between Council and AIH would allow both organisations to share resources, expertise and experience for the benefit of the Heretaunga Hastings community and the region.
- 4.3 A collective impact initiative takes an aligned and collaborative approach to achieve greater outcomes. It can also enable a better business case and leverage for grants, funding, and sponsorship opportunities.
- 4.4 Officers and the new Arts Inc. General Manager have benchmarked the Review recommendations against the AIH Strategic Plan, the Multi-year funding application, the Blossom Parade and Hawke’s Bay Arts Festival deliverables and Toi-Tū Framework. The Review recommendations are still relevant, and a new collective impact approach provides an opportunity for Council and AIH to ‘work smarter’ together to achieve greater outcomes.

5.0 Options – Ngā Kōwhiringa

Option One - Recommended Option - Te Kōwhiringa Tuatahi – Te Kōwhiringa Tūtohunga

5.1 **Status quo funding** (\$344,000 per annum to AIH)

- \$178,000 Multi-year Community Partnerships Grant (Hastings Community Arts Centre)
- \$166,000 Event Sponsorship (annual Blossom Parade, biennial Hawke’s Bay Arts Festival etc)
- In-kind support from Council officers.

Advantages

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- Continued operation of the Community Arts Centre, delivery of the annual Blossom Parade and renewed biennial Hawke's Bay Arts Festival, for Heretaunga Hastings and the region and other events and activities.
- Continued AIH service delivery that contributes to community wellbeing and a vibrant arts sector, while enabling AIH to deliver on its business and strategic plans to support creatives and creativity in Heretaunga Hastings and the region.

Disadvantages

- AIH have sought an increase in Council funding of \$35,450 annually. AIH sustainability and viability may be affected due to no increase in funding.

Option Two

5.2 Increased funding to AIH

Advantages and Disadvantages as discussed in Option One, are positively affected because of increased funding levels.

Option Three

5.3 Decreased Funding to AIH

Council is a principal funder of AIH. They confirm that any reductions in Council funding will adversely affect their viability and sustainability, particularly if they are unable to replace Council funding from other funding or revenue sources.

Attachments:

1	Arts Inc 2022 Accounts Report <i>Confidential in accordance with Section 7 (2) (h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</i>	CG-17-1-00853	Under Separate Cover
2	Arts Inc 2024 Multi-year Application <i>Confidential in accordance with Section 7 (2) (h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</i>	CG-17-1-00850	Under Separate Cover
3	Arts Inc 2024 Strategy <i>Confidential in accordance with Section 7 (2) (h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</i>	CG-17-1-00852	Under Separate Cover
4	Arts Inc 2022 Annual Report <i>Confidential in accordance with Section 7 (2) (h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</i>	CG-17-1-00851	Under Separate Cover

Summary of Considerations - He Whakarāpopoto Whakaarohanga

Fit with purpose of Local Government - E noho hāngai pū ai ki te Rangatōpū-ā-Rohe

The Council is required to give effect to the purpose of local government as set out in section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That purpose is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by (and on behalf of) communities, and to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future.

[Link to the Council's Community Outcomes – Ngā Hononga ki Ngā Putanga ā-Hapori](#)

This proposal promotes the social and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future.

Māori Impact Statement - Te Tauākī Kaupapa Māori

In its Strategic Plan 2023 - 2024, Arts Inc. Heretaunga states its commitment to becoming a kaupapa-led organisation. Arts Inc. Heretaunga advises that it is partnering with mana whenua and Ngā Toi Māori leaders to work together to find opportunities to support Māori aspirations in a mana enhancing way.

Sustainability - Te Toitūtanga

Arts Inc. Heretaunga states in its Strategic Plan 2023 – 2024 that through its journey towards being kaupapa-led, te ao Māori provides insight into their connection to the whenua. The organisation intends to transition its practices to support community resiliency and will create an action plan to commit to sustainable change.

Financial considerations - Ngā Whakaarohanga Ahumoni

Discussed in the Report.

Significance and Engagement - Te Hiranga me te Tūhonotanga

This decision/report has been assessed under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as being of low significance.

Consultation – internal and/or external - Whakawhiti Whakaaro-ā-roto / ā-waho

Arts Inc. Heretaunga’s funding opportunities were publicly advertised.

The 2023 review of Arts Inc. Heretaunga’s contracts was completed in consultation with the Chair and General Manager of Arts Inc.

This report has been prepared in consultation with the General Manager of Arts Inc. Heretaunga and staff across Community Wellbeing and Services and Marketing and Communications.

Risks

Opportunity: Arts Inc. Heretaunga receives funding as an umbrella organisation in the arts, culture and creativity sector:

REWARD – Te Utu	RISK – Te Tūraru
Arts Inc. Heretaunga is enabled to continue the delivery of its services and programmes that contribute to community wellbeing.	Arts Inc. Heretaunga is in a period of re-building which could affect the impact and reach of its delivery in the short-term.

Rural Community Board – *Te Poari Tuawhenua-ā-Hapori*
Not applicable.

22 July 2024

Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst
Hastings District Council
sandra.hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz



Dear Mayor Hazlehurst,

I am writing on behalf of the Taranaki Arts Festival Trust (TAFT) to express our strong support for Hawke's Bay Arts Festival to encourage the continuation of funding for their exceptional work in Heretaunga, Hastings. As a leading arts festival in New Zealand, TAFT deeply understands the transformative power of the arts and the vital role they play in fostering community, creativity, and economic growth.

Over the years, TAFT has developed a valuable working relationship with Hawke's Bay Arts Festival. This collaboration has been marked by shared programming across our October festivals and a collective commitment to enhancing the cultural vibrancy of our respective communities. I have met and corresponded with the new General Manager, and I look forward to continuity and ongoing success in our collaborative efforts.

The positive impact of Hawke's Bay Arts Festival on the cultural landscape of Hastings cannot be overstated. We firmly believe that continued funding for Hawke's Bay Arts Festival is essential to sustain this important cultural infrastructure. Such support will not only benefit the immediate community but will also enhance the cultural reputation of the district as a great place to visit and live. Furthermore, arts festivals in New Zealand operate as a network and the success of Hawke's Bay Arts Festival has an impact on Festivals and creatives around New Zealand.

By investing in the arts, Hastings District Council demonstrates a commitment to the wellbeing and cultural enrichment of its residents, fostering an environment where creativity and culture can thrive. We look forward to the opportunity to continue our collaborative efforts with Hawke's Bay Arts Festival and to witness the continued growth and success of their endeavours.

Ngā mihi nui,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan Brown', is placed above the printed name.

Megan Brown
Artistic Director - Taranaki Arts Festival

To whom it may concern at the council,

I am writing to share my support for the continued funding for the Hawkes Bay Arts festival from the Hastings District council. Not only is this festival a fantastic offering for the people of Hawkes Bay but it adds incredible value for my business, a restaurant in the Municipal building. During the colder, darker, off season months the Arts festival gives the people of Hawkes Bay a reason and an opportunity to go out and experience the nightlife that Hastings has to offer and we definitely see benefits of increased patronage when it is on. The Municipal building and the Opera House require a steady stream of quality events such as the week long Festival to justify the money spent on it over the past decade and to give it the recognition that it truly deserves as the cultural epicentre of Hawkes Bay. Our business would really not be the same without it.

Regards
Michael Henley MW
Cellar 495



23 July 2024

Kia ora,

I write to let you know that we strongly support the Hawke's Bay Arts Festival's request for support towards delivering a festival for the community of the Hawke's Bay.

Since its inception I have worked closely with the Hawke's Bay Arts Festival, initially sharing shows and knowledge with the former Festival Director in my previous role as Nelson Arts Festival Director, as we presented festivals concurrently, and more recently knowledge, artist, and ideas sharing with Jade Baker. This collegial way of working is very important as we learn and teach each other, as well as share resources and inside knowledge. The Festival Director and I would spend hours on the phone with each other talking over shows, budgets and design elements, as we both keenly understood where each other was coming from and each festival's needs.

The Hawke's Bay Arts Festival's role in the National arts ecosystem can't be overstated, as it is an important cog in sharing shows with other festivals and presenters, allowing shows to be both affordable and environmentally sustainable by spreading the costs and environmental impact across multiple presenters. The Hawke's Bay Arts Festival has been an integral part of the national collaboration between festivals, and I look forward to continuing this with the new management.

Arts Festivals are integral parts of a community's ability to access and experience all the benefits that the arts can bring. They have budgets that allow larger national companies and international shows to travel to the regions, travel that would not normally be possible without their support. Simply put, *Arts Festivals offer arts experiences that their communities wouldn't normally have access to.*

All major international cities have and celebrate their Arts Festivals, and their festival helps promote the region as an exciting, colourful, and vibrant cultural destination. They are usually unique to their region and celebrate not only the arts, but also the diverse community that resides there. A festival helps reflect the city and region back upon itself and demonstrates what the region values and the benefits the arts can provide.

An Arts Festival increases public awareness of community and artistic facilities, such as galleries, theatres, artists' workshops, and public spaces, it develops links between arts and industry, and provides opportunities for community celebrations, socialising and a sense of pride in their city. Arts Festivals are also leaders in the performing arts

ecology of their communities, often working with other local arts organisations assisting and advising in matters including artistic, financial, administrative, employment and governance.

Financially Arts Festivals are a boon to their community as the majority of their budget is returned to the region as they hire many local contractors, local firms from city venues, hotels, travel agents, taxi and shuttle providers, sound and lighting companies, website developers, IT, etc. They purchase considerable advertising in local print and radio and often support domestic printing. Through Sponsorship they also promote local products and businesses to their visiting audience and artists. Festivals are not only for their communities but also are responsible for bringing visitors into the region staying in local accommodation, dining at local establishments, and bringing income into the city.

For context, the Dunedin Arts Festival has been presenting a biennial pan-arts form festival across the bottom of the South Island, presenting works not only from Aotearoa New Zealand but from all over the world for 25 years, with strong programmes of ticketed shows, free works and a robust schools programme.

I strongly support this application from the Hawke's Bay Arts Festival, and I look forward to working with them again in the future.

Ngā mihi,



Charlie Unwin
Festival Director
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Hawke's Bay Readers and Writers Charitable Trust
PO Box 519
Hastings 4156

Hastings District Council
207 Lyndon Road East
Hastings 4122

To Whom it May Concern:

In support of Arts Inc. Heretaunga and its funding application, Hawke's Bay Readers and Writers Trust (HBRW) would like to acknowledge the symbiotic relationship between our organisations and the significance of the Arts Festival going ahead in 2025.

Hawke's Bay Arts Festival (HBAF) has been a major draw card for the area since its inception in 2014. Having co-operated and worked alongside HBAF to find connections and collaborations in events we have seen how local, national and international artists have served to promote the arts in our district and offer inspiration and hope in the darker times our region has suffered. HBAF, and HBRW Festival, were the only national festivals to go ahead in the immediate aftermath of the first Covid lockdown, celebrating creativity in Te Matau ā Māui Hawke's Bay and Aotearoa New Zealand.

We all know that the arts (performing, visual and literary) are underfunded. Without the arts and artists there is no reflection of human experience, no inspiration for many members of our community. We serve the dancers, the actors, the painters, the storytellers and the writers.

Without an Arts Festival in Te Matau ā Māui something huge will be lost. There is a real human cost in failing to provide this festival: it creates and promotes social cohesion, gives voice to under-represented members of society, encourages kōrero on the most important issues of our times. It promotes our region, drawing people in and boosting our economy, propping up the local, often small, businesses who employ our people. It's something that unites all walks of life and promotes understanding and community.

In this economic and social climate, to fail to provide an Arts Festival would be a blow to those whose livelihoods and wellbeing depend upon it. Arts Inc. Heretaunga are well placed to provide this Festival, keen to collaborate with other organisations (HBRW, local iwi and councils) in order to keep our region on the cultural map and capitalise on the groundwork done by so many committed individuals, many of whom are volunteers.

With this in mind, Hawke's Bay Readers and Writers Trust implore Hastings District Council to support Arts Inc. Heretaunga in their endeavours.

Yours faithfully,

Louise Ward and Catherine Robertson, on behalf of Hawke's Bay Readers and Writers Trust.

To whom this may concern,

Arts Inc Heretaunga is such an important part of our arts community, for me especially it is giving me a chance to exhibit and tell an important story that is part of Hawkes Bays DNA. To exhibit in such an amazing building and have the opportunity to showcase my story I feel very privileged, I have been in Hastings all my life and for me my exhibition is more than just a show, it is paying homage to those that have supported myself and the arts in Hawkes Bay.

The AIH general manager, Jade Baker is great to work with, extremely organised and open to suggestions for exhibition marketing etc, she is an asset to AIH, I very much look forward to exhibiting with her and staff as they give the gallery a very professional feel with a smile which

is soo important in this people related business.

The Arts Festival is a key event that connects artists with inspiration and likeminded people nationally and internationally that we don't often get to meet in Hawkes Bay and is something that is pivotal to our arts and creative community. I very much look forward to experiencing the

10th anniversary and the inspiration it gives us.

I give my full support,

Ngā mihi

Richard Brimer Photographer

027 240 9960

www.brimer.co.nz



Friday August 2nd, 2024

Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst & Councillors
Hastings District Council

Dear Mayor Hazlehurst & Councillors

I write in support of the continued funding of the Hawke's Bay Arts Festival and other related activities through Arts Inc Heretaunga.

Legend has it that during World War Two, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill was asked why he continued to support the arts. His reply was "What else are we doing it all for?"

It is my strong belief that when times are challenging we have more need than ever for the arts. Not just for entertainment, but for original contemporary art.

Entertainment is easy enough to provide. We have a wealth of cover bands and light entertainment available to us, and that's great. Entertainment offers pleasure, comfort and distraction.

Art does more than that. It allows us to glimpse into the uncomfortable, the lesser known, often reflecting back versions of ourselves we may never have considered. It gives us the opportunity to delve into the unfamiliar and to question our perceptions. It can also be beautiful and comforting—and entertaining.

The HBAF has achieved an extraordinary amount in nine years. It has not only brought high quality international artists to Hawke's Bay—many of whom would not have come here otherwise—it has also nurtured and provided a rare platform for New Zealand artists to perform. It has encouraged and developed a local audience for a diverse range of contemporary New Zealand artists.

In a very local context the HBAF has commissioned works from within the local community that have gone on to find not only national, but also interna-

The Small Hall Sessions Ltd
Haumoana Road, Haumoana 4108 m 0224639580 e Jamie@smallhallsessions.co.nz.

tional success. Puti Lancaster's *Contours of Heaven* was a hit at the New Zealand International Festival of the Arts and won awards at a Festival in New York City. It was a piece of theatre that would never have been created had it not been for the HBAF, and went on to tell six modest Heretaunga Stories on the world stage.

Thanks to the HBAF, young local musician Arahi Whaanga now has a significant international following. His first major headline shows were with our festival. His show *The Revelator*, commissioned for the final night of the 2022 Festival, received standing ovations and rave reviews. It gave him the confidence to step on to the national stage.

Much loved local identity Fane Flaws held his most significant retrospective as part of the 2017 HBAF. This came very soon after Fane had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. The Festival was able to respond swiftly and provide a platform in a way that could not have happened without the base that the Festival had created.

Stories of our Festival's significance to both artists and audience are endless. It has brought together a very large number of professional staff and volunteers as a tightly knit team, offering involvement in the arts in a way that created a bond of friendship and camaraderie, a bond still felt strongly. It has created a community.

My passion for the HBAF will be obvious to you. All too often we rely on our historical art to project an image of ourselves; far more important is the vibrancy of contemporary art in our community. The festival has provided our region with a platform for the arts that has become recognised nationally.

I am very excited to have been invited by Jade Baker to work with her and others from within our local creative community, to develop a new and exciting festival in 2025.

I encourage you to wholeheartedly embrace the concept of Great Things Grow Here and continue to apply it to the arts through your continued funding of the HBAF and related activities

Nga mihi nui

Jamie Macphail
Small Hall Sessions Ltd

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