

CULTURAL WELL-BEING

Galleries and museums

High-quality galleries and museums contribute to Wellington's status as New Zealand's arts and culture capital.

They are significant visitor attractions, benefiting the city's economy. They entertain and challenge residents and visitors alike, encouraging engagement and participation in the arts. They play critical roles in protecting the city's heritage – enhancing our sense of shared identity. In addition, several of the museums and galleries are housed in listed historic buildings which contribute to the city's heritage and 'sense of place'.

We fund the Wellington Museums Trust, which operates the Museum of Wellington City and Sea, the City Gallery, Capital E, the Wellington Cable Car Museum, the Colonial Cottage Museum, and the Plimmer's Ark conservation project.

2008/09 will see the opening of the extended City Gallery that includes new exhibition space for the city's art collection.

We're proposing ongoing funding support for the National Children's Arts Festival.

Wellington Museums Trust runs the National Children's Arts Festival, which is held every two years and celebrates the creativity and innovation of young people. Attendance has grown every year since the festival was first held in 2003. We're proposing to provide funding of \$100,000 in 2008/09 and \$50,000 annually from 2009/10 to the Wellington Museums Trust to run the festival.

Based on last year's attendance levels our grant equates to a subsidy of around \$2.60 per attendee.

We're also proposing to increase trustee fees for members of the Wellington Museums Trust.

In November 2007, the Council agreed to increase fees for Wellington Museums Trust trustees. Additional funding of \$23,000 a year is proposed to cover these costs.

We'd like to hear your views on this proposal. You can use the form contained in this plan or comment online at www.wellington.govt.nz.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Performance measures and targets for the Wellington Museums Trust are shown in the council controlled organisations section of this annual plan – see the appendix.

WHAT IT WILL COST

What it will cost		Operational Spending			Capital Spending
		User charges and other revenue \$000	Net expenditure / rates funding requirement \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000
5.4.1	City galleries and museums		6,489	6,489	2,900
Total for 2008/09			6,489	6,489	2,900

CULTURAL WELL-BEING

Heritage

By knowing the past, we know who we are.

Wellington's history is worth preserving for many reasons. The most obvious is that understanding the past contributes to people's sense of shared heritage and identity as residents of the city and as members of particular groups or families. History can contribute to our sense of pride in the city, and our sense that we all have a stake in its future.

Maintaining records of our heritage also has an inherent educational value. Historic records are used by historians, genealogists, students and other members of the public. They also have practical value – they can help people to conduct their business with better information, or understand their property before carrying out building work.

So we preserve and celebrate the city's heritage.

We:

- provide the **Wellington City Archives**, which holds a vast amount of information about the city's history and development from the 1840s to the present – the archives are accessible to members of the public
- manage **Te Ara o Nga Tupuna** – the Maori Heritage Trail, which begins at Pipitea Marae in Thorndon and ends at Owhiro Bay; the sites included in the trail have been selected for their importance to Wellington's history and Maori culture, their accessibility to the public, and their viewing interest
- take a pro-active role in protecting and enhancing the city's **local sense of place**.

In addition to these projects, we use our District Plan to protect historical sites and artefacts (see urban planning) and we provide grants for the restoration of heritage buildings (see earthquake risk mitigation).

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2008/09 are:

- 98% (this target is unchanged from 2007/08) of archives information requests are completed within agreed timeframes
- at least 33,000 (unchanged) additional items are added to the Archives database
- the last of the identified cultural heritage sites will be added to the Maori Heritage Trail.

WHAT IT WILL COST

What it will cost		Operational Spending			Capital Spending
		User charges and other revenue \$000	Net expenditure / rates funding requirement \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000
5.1.1	City Archives	(226)	1,390	1,616	
5.1.2	Promotion of heritage landmarks				68
Total for 2008/09		(226)	1,390	1,616	68

CULTURAL WELL-BEING

Community arts and cultural support

Wellington thrives because of its creative communities.

A buzzing local arts and festival scene is important in many ways. It ensures there's always plenty to see and do, and that the city's atmosphere is lively and vibrant. It also provides other benefits, such as the chance to celebrate Wellington's many cultures. By sharing our experiences through art and performance, we'll build stronger, more cohesive communities.

We support well over 100 community celebrations, fairs and cultural events.

- We support a wide range of cultural and arts events/festivals including: the Diwali Festival of Lights, Chinese New Year celebrations, Cuba Carnival, Summer City, Christmas Carols at the Stadium, Waitangi Day celebrations, the Round the Bays Fun Run, and dozens of other suburban fairs, cultural events, parades and community and charity events.
- We provide grants to support community-based arts and culture organisations and initiatives – such as Arts Access Aotearoa, Pablo's Art Studios, Vincent's Art Workshop, the Christmas Parade Trust, Fringe Festival, the Wellington International Jazz Festival, and many more.
- We run a popular community arts programme and provide exhibition space at Toi Poneke – Wellington Arts Centre.
- We provide subsidies for community groups to use the Wellington Convention Centre.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2008/09 are:

- 110 free events (this target is unchanged from 2007/08) will be held at Civic Square, with a combined attendance of 140,000 (a 5,000 increase from 2007/08's target)
- 80 (unchanged) community festivals and events will be supported by WCC, with estimated combined attendance of 600,000 (unchanged)
- 90% (unchanged) of residents surveyed are satisfied with WCC associated events and festivals
- 34 community groups (unchanged) to access the Wellington Convention Centre with assistance from the venues subsidy, 38 events (unchanged) held, and for the total WCC venues subsidy budget to be spent.

We record the number of arts and culture grant applications we receive, the number receiving grants, and the total budget allocation. Our target is for all arts and culture grants to be distributed in accordance with eligibility criteria.

WHAT IT WILL COST

What it will cost <i>Activity</i>		Operational Spending			Capital Spending
		User charges and other revenue \$000	Net expenditure / rates funding requirement \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000
5.2.1	Arts and cultural festivals	(352)	1,511	1,863	
5.2.3	Cultural grants		738	738	
5.3.1	Access and support for community arts		486	486	42
Total for 2008/09		(352)	2,735	3,087	42

CULTURAL WELL-BEING

Arts partnerships

Wellington's reputation as New Zealand's arts and culture capital depends on the quality and breadth of its professional arts scene.

Wellington is home to top-class orchestras and dance, theatre and opera companies, as well as Toi Poneke – Wellington Arts Centre and The New Zealand International Arts Festival. These organisations entertain residents and visitors, contribute to the city's economy, foster the development of the city's emerging artists and entertainers, and provide opportunities for high-quality artistic expression.

New Zealand's premier arts festivals and organisations are based in Wellington and enjoy our support.

- We support the country's premier arts and cultural event – the New Zealand International Arts Festival – with an annual grant of \$750,000; held every two years, the festival celebrates the very best of international and national theatre, dance, music, opera, writing, and visual arts, and brings thousands of visitors to the city
- We provide and operate Toi Poneke – Wellington Arts Centre; opened in 2005 it provides a home to many emerging artists, theatre groups, designers, producers and dance organisations
- We provide the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra with a permanent home within the Wellington Convention Centre, giving it ready access to the centre's auditoriums as rehearsal and concert venues
- We provide funding to the Chapman Tripp Theatre Awards, the NGC Wellington Sinfonia, the NBR New Zealand Opera, Downstage Theatre, Circa Theatre, Bats Theatre, Taki Rua Theatre, and the Wellington Sculpture Trust
- We host the public art panel, which guides decisions on the purchase and placement of the city's collection
- We maintain more than 80 permanent public artworks, monuments, plaques and fountains throughout the city, such as the Cobham Drive wind sculptures.

In 2008/09, we'll investigate the feasibility of establishing an orchestral studio and scoring stage in Wellington.

We are proposing to undertake the next stage of a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a world class orchestral scoring stage on land behind the St James Theatre.

We have been working with a number of parties – including the St James Theatre Trust – on the proposal, which could also include accommodation for the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. The scoring stage would be the first in New Zealand and would be used to record orchestral scores for the film industry as well as providing recording facilities for others. We're budgeting \$70,000 for this work in 2008/09.

The construction would be dependent on support from the private sector and would likely involve additional facilities being provided at the location to off set the costs of the project. These will be considered in the feasibility study.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our target for 2008/09 is for Toi Poneke – Wellington Arts Centre to achieve occupancy rates of 97% (this is a 1% increase from our 2007/08 target) for the arts studios, 97% (1% increase) for tenancies and 66% (3% increase) for room hire.

We will also record the number of new Council supported artworks installed in public spaces. The key categories of public art are defined as: major stand-alone public art (e.g. sculptures or monuments); the integration of public art design into our urban and suburban environment; community public art, (e.g. public murals and aerosol art); temporary public art works. The type and number of artworks supported can vary from year to year, therefore a target is not appropriate. Our target is to support as many worthwhile projects as possible throughout the stated categories, making best use of the allocated budget.

WHAT IT WILL COST

What it will cost <i>Activity</i>		Operational Spending			Capital Spending
		User charges and other revenue \$000	Net expenditure / rates funding requirement \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000	Expenditure 2008/09 \$000
5.2.2	The NZ International Arts Festival		750	750	
5.4.2	Arts partnerships	(497)	1,407	1,904	
Total for 2008/09		(497)	2,157	2,654	