

Arts and Cultural Facilities

Community Facility Strategy Sub-Plan

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Contents

ACTION PLAN	4
1. INTRODUCTION	6
2. GOALS	7
3. HOW THIS SUB-PLAN FITS	8
4. SCOPE	9
5. CURRENT ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES PROVISION AND DISTRIBUTION	9
6. HIERARCHY OF ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES	13
7. KEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES	14
Provision and Distribution	14
Levels of Service	15
Management & Monitoring	16
8. OBJECTIVES ·····	17
9. DECISION MAKING APPROACH FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES	18
10. MONITORING AND REVIEW	18
Attachment 1 - Criteria for categorising arts and cultural facilities	19

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Action Plan

This Action Plan summarises the key parts of the Arts and Cultural Sub-Plan – the key issues and opportunities, the objectives and the actions. The main body provides the details of this plan.

Key issues and opportunities

Provision

Levels of Service

Levels of Service

- Facilities are available for arts and cultural activities, however, no specific provisions for cultural activities.
- Centralised, versatile and multi-use spaces would attract opportunity for the arts and cultural community to thrive and foster community identity.
- Many facilities are ageing or in insufficient condition for continued future use.
- Provide the right type of facilities in the right place for the level of need.
- Consider adaptive reuse of existing buildings such as community halls or Manfeild Stadium to meet the needs of all communities.

Management & Monitoring

- Efficiency and planned maintenance upheld.
- Significant investment/divestment based on robust decision-making framework.
- Role of committees/trusts and Council understood and enhanced.

Key objectives

Provision

An appropriate number of arts and cultural facilities for the district and the community needs to be identified. District and local level quality arts and cultural facilities that are fit for purpose, safe, accessible and meet legal standards.

Management & Monitoring

Arts and cultural facilities have good utilisation rates, are accessible to all, affordable and sustainable.

Operational Actions					
Ке	y Action	Partners	Cost (est.)	Timeframe	
1.	Council will facilitate the establishment of a Performing and Cultural Arts Working Group to ensure a strong, long-term and joint approach to arts and cultural leadership, and that promotion and facility management is provided into the future.	Council & Key Stakeholders	No Cost	2022-2023	
2.	Council will maintain relationships between arts and cultural groups and commercial operators to facilitate access to arts resources.	Council	No Cost	2021-2022	
3.	Monitor the arts and cultural needs of the wider district and related provision.	Council	No Cost	2021-2022	
	Investment Projects				
Key Action					
Ке	y Action	Partners	Cost (est.)	Timeframe	
Ке 1.	y Action Complete essential work to make Feilding Civic Centre fit for current use (as per decision from Council for reroofing, spouting, stormwater, etc).	Partners Council	Cost (est.) \$576,000	Timeframe 2019-2020	
	Complete essential work to make Feilding Civic Centre fit for current use				
1.	Complete essential work to make Feilding Civic Centre fit for current use (as per decision from Council for reroofing, spouting, stormwater, etc). Complete structural work at the Feilding Little Theatre to ensure safe	Council	\$576,000	2019-2020	

5.	Council to complete a feasibility study for a centralised arts hub in Feilding that brings community and some commercial arts activities together. This future space could be considered as an extension to the proposed Feilding library redevelopment.	Council	ТВС	2021-2022
6.	Continue with the 2018–2028 Long Term Plan funding for disposal of Brass Band Building. Council to formally declare the disposal of the building.	Council	ТВС	2021-2022
7.	Apply the investment framework to the Old Tote Building for a potential building upgrade. Complete Needs Assessment as to the best services the facility can deliver that includes supporting cultural group activities. Also see Recreation Complexes.	Council	ТВС	2021-2022
8.	Conduct the Investment decision-making process across all arts and cultural facilities and arts and cultural community groups, including the ability for provision to be provided with existing community halls/school facilities in the District's rural villages within five years.	Council	ТВС	2022-2023



1. Introduction

Manawatū District Council¹ (the Council) provides arts and cultural facilities as an important part of the community's social infrastructure. These places help to encourage and inspire individuals, groups and the wider community to express themselves, celebrate, be entertained and challenge new ideas. The creative sector prospers from opportunities to come together to collaborate, create, present, perform and at times to tour arts and cultural work. The Manawatū District has facilities available for arts and cultural activities, however, some buildings have considerable condition issues or are single purpose and unavailable to the general public.

Council will support the provision of local and district facilities, in a way that brings communities together, to maximise the places and resources for all arts and cultural stakeholders to use. Providing adaptable, multi-use spaces that support the practice of cultural and artistic expression, from exhibitions, shows and events through to classes and training, will ensure the community needs are met into the future.

Specifically, the contribution that arts and cultural facilities make to the Community Facilities Strategy Vision aims to:

'Provide adaptable, inspiring and multi-use arts and cultural places that support community connection, identity, and wellbeing outcomes'.



¹Council have a role under the direction of the Local Government Act 2002, to "meet the current and future needs of their communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions" (Section 3(d)).

2. Goals

To achieve this aim for the Arts and Cultural Facilities Sub-Plan (the Plan), arts and culture facilities will:

- have a clear rationale as to **why Council provides them** and the **priority actions** across the network to achieve the 30-year vision. Through this, Council can effectively plan and budget for developments well in advance.
- be highly utilised by a variety of users.
- be connected and accessible for all abilities.
- be located where the greatest need is to sustain the facility.
- provide the **right type** of arts and cultural facilities.
- be **creative**, **expressive** and **adaptive spaces** that support the changing community needs into the future.
- be in a condition that meets community expectations (safe and legal standards).
- have a **coordinated and effective approach**² including **accurate and up-to-date data** and information.
- be supported through partnerships and collaborative opportunities with key stakeholders.



² On how our arts and culture facilities are being booked, operated, managed, planned for and developed.

3. How this Sub-Plan Fits

This Arts and Cultural Facilities Sub-Plan is one of six created as part of the Community Facilities Strategy. The sub-plans are guided by the Strategic Framework and are supported through the Community Toolbox³.

This Sub-Plan is a way for Council and the community to understand the arts and cultural facilities network and how it is intended for development over the next 30 years. It will assist Council to make decisions on planning arts and cultural facilities provision and distribution.





³The community toolbox provides decision making guidelines and other background information that inform the key priorities and actions in this Sub- Plan.

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4. Scope

The Arts and Cultural Facilities Network has been broken into three tiers⁴ (Table 1). The scope of this Sub-Plan primarily relates to is 'Tier 1 and 2, high profile' arts and cultural facilities that provide spaces for groups and the public to use (Table 2 below). Tier 3 facilities are included to capture the wide range of arts and cultural facilities that contribute to the network as a whole and support different activities of the district.

Table 1 - Tiers for arts and cultural facilities

Tier 1	Council owned arts and cultural facilities for public use (for example, the Feilding Civic Centre Concert Chamber and Feilding Little Theatre).	Council owned
Tier 2	Council have a vested interest (including Council owned land) and/or there is a potential future risk that Council may contribute greater financial assistance to the facility (for example, the Coach House Museum and Manfeild Stadium).	Council vested interest
Tier 3	Arts and cultural facilities owned by another organisation (for example, private art galleries).	No Council vested interest

Tier 2 facilities are not owned by Council and therefore, partnership with other owners will be important to help achieve some actions identified in this Sub-Plan, particularly relating to Manfeild Stadium. Tier 3 arts and cultural facilities that are located on private land or are associated with activities outside of Council jurisdiction such as school facilities, private art galleries and marae sit outside the scope of this Plan. The Feilding Civic Centre⁵ has been included in other Community Facilities Sub-Plans.

5. Current Arts and Cultural Facilities Provision and Distribution

Fit for purpose

The type and location of arts and cultural facilities within the network will impact people's ability to access the opportunities and benefits these buildings provide such as attending practices or seeing a performance. Gaps in provision create unequal access to opportunities and too many complexes are an inefficient use of public money and unaffordable for the community. Therefore, the network needs to provide a sufficient number and appropriate quality of arts and cultural facilities for current and future community needs.

⁴ Facilities identified within the three tiers can use the Strategy and Investment Framework to make decisions on recreation complexes provision and distribution.

⁵The Social Services and Recreation Complexes Sub Plan also address this facility in their respective contexts.

Demand

The demand for arts and cultural facilities is driven by a range of factors including but not limited to:

- the strength of arts and cultural community groups and advocacy agencies⁶;
- increased exposure and opportunities to contribute to arts and cultural activities.

Provision

The current arts and cultural facilities' network provide enough space for practices, intimate theatre shows and large performance events, however, the types of facility provision are sometimes designed to suit particular groups needs. There are also groups that operate in other physical places that support arts and cultural activities such as the Feilding and District Art Society. They operate the Feilding Art Centre located at 104 Manchester Street, Feilding. The building allows artists to showcase and sell their art, run workshops and events and facilitate other similar group activities in its space.

Nationally, there are limited cultural spaces that specifically provide formal infrastructure to support the cultural practice or its coverage. Manawatū District also has limited cultural spaces. For example, Māori infrastructure models and other creative kaupapa Māori spaces to support growing participation and experiences is disparate and unevenly spread across artforms, regions and funders nationally⁷. It is acknowledged that creating new and innovative ways to work within the existing infrastructure is a practical option for Māori cultural infrastructure⁸ and other arts and cultural group's needs.

Table 2 below identifies the current network provision which has been split into the three tiers (as explained in Section 4). These have been categorised into three hierarchies (high, medium and low profiles) that identify the nature of facilities within a specific tier (see Section 6 for more detail).

Arts and Cultural Facilities Network	High Profile	Medium Profile	Low Profile
Tier 1	 Feilding Civic Centre – Concrete Chamber Feilding Little Theatre 	Community Halls	
Tier 2	Manfeild Stadium	Coach House MuseumBrass Band BuildingCommunity Halls	
Tier 3	Feilding Art GalleryFeilding Art CentreMarae	School venuesCommunity Halls	

Table 2 - Arts and culture facilities network (tier and hierarchy)

⁶ For example, Creative New Zealand.

^{7/8} Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa. (2019). Te Hā o ngā Toi Māori Arts Strategy 2019 – 2024.

Distribution

There is adequate spatial distribution in the Manawatū District. Feilding has existing and some potential to modify other buildings to adapt as facilities for arts and cultural needs. The versatile use of community hall spaces as well as other community facilities such as school venues or marae help to fill the arts and cultural facilities network across the district's villages and rural areas.

There is a range of factors that can contribute to adequate arts and cultural provision and distribution including funding and costs, volunteer decline and transportation options.



3.5 2 3 Arts & Cultural Facilities - Tier and Profile 🍫 3-High 👆 1-High 🍫 2-High 1-Medium 🐐 2-Medium 🔖 2-Medium 1-Low 2-Low 1-Low

Figure 1 - Distribution of arts and cultural facilities.

#no	Tier	Profile	Valuation	Name
1	1	High	14101/07200	Feilding Civic Centre - Concert Chamber
2	1	High	14101/19000	Feilding Little Theatre
3	2	High	14101/39425	Manfeild Stadium
4	2	High	14101/41500	Coach House Museum
5	2	Medium	14101/04500D	Brass Band Building
6	3	High	14101/01900	Feilding Art Centre

6. Hierarchy of Arts and Cultural Facilities

The hierarchy of arts and cultural facilities guide Council's decisions around the appropriate level of planning, operation and investment for arts and cultural facilities throughout the district. For example, the right type and the quality of facility for its location. The high, medium and low facility profiles detailed in Table 3 help explain the nature of facilities within each tier group (as identified in Table 2). Attachment 1 of this Sub- Plan provides the criteria for each hierarchy profile. In this way, Council and community can easily understand the expectations to be met for a given facility.

Both the Hierarchy Profiles and Attachment 1 criteria help to categorise current and future provision and distribution of a range of different recreation complexes.

Table 3 - Hierarchy for the nature of arts and cultural facilities

High Profile

High profile arts and cultural facilities are buildings that may primarily be used to house arts and cultural activities. The building will be flexible to cater to multiple user groups. Ideally, they will have a high and diverse level of utilisation for a fee or by lease. They are likely to be larger in size and could have multiple rooms.

Medium Profile

Medium profile arts and cultural facilities are buildings that could either be used by a single arts or cultural group. Equally, the facility may have another primary function other than for arts or cultural activities. It will likely have regular usage and possible charges. The building may have multiple or be a single room facility.

Low Profile

Low profile arts and cultural facilities have a low-level annual utilisation, are used for a single activity or by only one organisation. They may not meet condition standards and will not be connected to similar facilities/ activities. A process to either repurpose or decommission a facility will be strongly considered.



7. Key Issues and Opportunities for Arts and Cultural Facilities

The issues and opportunities presented in this section have shaped the outcomes for this Sub-Plan including the Actions and Objectives specific to this facility group. This section has been informed and developed following ongoing discussion with relevant Council staff members, an online public survey, key stakeholder interviews, document analysis and online research.

Provision and Distribution

Facilities are available for arts and cultural groups to use	There are sufficient regional-level arts facilities within the Manawatū-Whanganui region ⁹ and facilities are available in the Manawatū District for both arts and culture groups to use . However, Council does not specifically provide for cultural groups and their activities.
Limited cultural spaces to support cultural practice or exposure	Nationally, there are limited cultural spaces that provide formal infrastructure to support cultural practice or exposure ⁱⁱ . For example, Māori, Pacific Island, Bhutanese, Asian and other cultural groups performances [Discussion with Iwi/other groups to occur].
Considerable condition issues	Some existing facilities have considerable condition issues such as the Feilding Civic Centre (building deteriorating/dampness) and the Feilding Little Theatre (earthquake strengthening).
Current provision needs to be maintained	Decisions around the Feilding Civic Centre will be made as to its future operation and the location of activities undertaken at this facility. The Brass Band building is also earmarked for disposal. The current number and types of facility provision need to be maintained to meet the present and future community need. For example, if a venue were to become inaccessible, additional space would be required elsewhere.
Current provision is limited to people interested in a particular type of arts or cultural activity	Looking from a whole-of-network perspective, the level of utilisation for facilities ranges from low through to high or facilities are only available to specific groups after prior arrangements have been made. For this reason, provision is limited to people interested in a particular type of arts and/or cultural activity or through formalised bookings.
Strengthen the community's identity and pride in place	New Zealand is a bicultural society and the growing interest in Ngā Toi Māori (the practice of Māori heritage arts) has support from New Zealanders, particularly on the importance of cultural practice to foster our national identity ⁱⁱⁱ . There are opportunities, through decisions we make around our facilities, to demonstrate this support in a way that strengthens the community's identity and pride in place.

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⁹ Palmerston North has Te Manawa, Regent on Broadway, Square Edge and Centrepoint Theatre

Consider a versatile, multi-use space that brings arts and cultural activities together	Some facilities are single purpose while others cater to one group only. Investing in a space that allows for versatile, multi-use purposes would allow for opportunities to grow the sector, utilise facilities and provide for the changing needs of the community. For example, a central facility that brings together arts and cultural activities.
Develop existing rural facilities for arts and cultural provision	Develop existing community facilities in the rural villages to provide greater opportunity to meet the arts and cultural needs of people. For example, a hall may be developed to foster the community's local identity through arts and cultural activities.
Investment decisions to demonstrate high community benefit	Council investment in arts and cultural facilities and any financial decision must demonstrate a high level of community benefit. For example, the right type of facility needs to be located in the right place for the scale of that community need.
Partnership opportunities to co-use spaces will facilitate groups to achieve their desired needs	Arts and cultural communities grow and develop through the ability to connect and foster their own unique identities and to support other groups. Partnership opportunities to co-use spaces will facilitate groups to achieve their desired needs while realising their ability to aid arts and cultural interest groups.
Levels of Service	
Ageing and deteriorating	Some arts and culture facilities are ageing and deteriorating . This has safety and legal issues which Council must address. Decisions around the future use of these facilities are required to provide a level of service that is safe to use and of good quality.
Indoor events and large stage area an option within Manfeild Stadium	Manfeild Stadium is not achieving occupancy levels. As Council is a stakeholder in the facility and committed to its success, an options report investigated how the facility can achieve greater utilisation. As part of those options, indoor events and large performance stage have been tabled as an option.
Provide spaces that can be used by a variety of different groups at different times	Existing facilities either require bookings or are leased to a particular society on a long-term agreement. Single-purpose facilities or those that require formal bookings limit other groups accessing the facility or the opportunity for more casual arts and cultural interaction. There is an opportunity to provide spaces that can be used by a variety of different groups at different times.
Provide good quality spaces that inspire groups of arts and culture	There is an opportunity for Council to focus on providing good quality spaces that inspire groups of arts and culture to work together and enhance the overall experience for performers and their audience.

Management & Monitoring

Good decision making	Poorly maintained arts and culture facilities can reduce the desire for people to want to use them. There is an opportunity to increase the amenity and quality of a facility through good decision making on how the future use or disposal of facilities are planned for .
Limited maintenance or repairs	Facilities have had limited maintenance or repairs undertaken over the years, leaving some tired and run down. For the Council-owned buildings, this can be a high cost to Council if the facility requires significant investment all at once. Good maintenance and operation plans (including financial sustainability) will help reduce the risk of getting into this situation.
Standardised governance structure will help clearly define Council's role or stake in a facility	The governance of arts and cultural facilities often has Incorporated Societies or community trusts to run them. The Council may own the building or land and, therefore, has a vested interest in the facility; however, their agreements are different for each group. Standardised governance structure will help clearly define Council's role or stake in a facility and guide where investment decisions should be placed.
Robust and broader look at the funding needs of all groups to achieve affordable facilities	Council provides a variety of funding opportunities to different groups that use arts and cultural facilities. To date, funding has been decided on an ad hoc basis and there are challenges in providing the right type of investment to deliver high-quality facilities that our communities require in order to do their activities. There is an opportunity to better understand the variety of groups and facilities that may need funding (regardless of their attachment to a particular facility) to allow for a more robust , broader look at the funding needs of all arts and cultural groups .
Lack of accurate and up- to-date information	There is a lack of accurate and up-to-date information on how all arts and cultural facilities are used and managed.
Historical community value	The Feilding Civic Centre is classified as a heritage building under the Manawatū District Plan and has historical community value . Although planning avenues allow for heritage alterations to improve this complex, the process is often costly, time consuming and can be limiting in the options to make changes.
Declining volunteer base	There is a declining volunteer base nationally. The sustainability and longevity of groups or a society may be at risk if the organisation is not well managed and key individuals are no longer able to contribute. The success of arts and cultural organisations can be impacted by this, and facilities should ensure succession planning for the successful running of the organisation and, thus, the facility is maintained.

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Network hierarchy of arts and cultural facilities

Dispose of or sell buildings assessed against Investment Framework Implementing the network hierarchy of arts and culture facilities will help Council rationalise investment decisions of ageing and deteriorating facilities.

Council may identify that the best use of a building and/or site would be to either dispose of or sell a facility. Furthermore, community buildings that house arts and cultural activities may in the future request Council take over or provide a place for activities to go. For example, the Coach House Museum. These will be assessed against the Investment Framework before future decisions are made.

8. Objectives

Objectives are statements that help achieve goals. The goals listed in Section 2 direct the future of arts and cultural facilities. The objectives provide the tangible measure of progress to address the issues and opportunities discussed in order to reach the goals and achieve the vision of the Community Facilities Strategy.

Provision

- a. Any investment decision to the performing arts network will fill a gap in the provision or deal with quality, safety or oversupply issues in an appropriate and equitable manner while demonstrating existing or future community need.
- b. The right number of arts and cultural facilities will be located in the right place for those who need them and where the population can support utilisation.
- c. Arts and cultural facilities are available for all members of the community to access regardless of socio-economic status, age or physical and intellectual abilities.
- d. Council preference is for flexible, adaptable and multi-use spaces by multiple users within the arts and cultural facilities. This ensures they remain relevant for current and future usage as well as providing growth opportunities for activities where they have been identified.

Levels of Service

- a. The network of arts and cultural facilities is the right type and quality for their location, utilisation and they will meet community expectations.
- b. The network of arts and cultural facilities will be fit-for-purpose community spaces that facilitate social connectivity, wellbeing and a vibrant, connected community.
- c. Arts and cultural facilities are developed to the right level so they can be appropriately maintained for the sustained funding resource available.
- d. Arts and cultural facilities are welcoming and creative places, where people feel comfortable, connected and included, and encourages self-expression.

Management & Monitoring

- a. Consistent and well-developed maintenance, renewal and inspections process is continuously in place.
- b. Arts and cultural facilities are an acceptable level of affordability for the community.
- c. Arts and cultural facilities and the decisions made around them are delivered based on robust information, balanced and transparent decision making.
- d. Arts societies/organisations along with Council staff continuously seek solutions for including wider user groups to increase utilisation, flexibility and adaptive use to meet the changing needs of the community and share the reporting of utilisation.
- e. Set out to achieve a collective sense of identity and pride in the Manawatū arts and cultural sector by collaborating and embracing shared opportunities.
- f. Arts and cultural facilities are maintained and sustained through well-planned, proactive, financial forecasting and operate with environmental stewardship.
- g. Partnerships and community will be involved to help deliver and achieve the goals and vision of the Strategy.
- h. The Community Development Strategy's Wellbeing Framework will be applied in the decision-making process and implementation of arts and cultural facilities.

Note: all objectives are bound by the timeframe of this strategy which is 30 years unless specified otherwise

9. Decision Making Approach for Arts and Cultural Facilities

The following approach should be taken when determining the future of arts and cultural facilities across the Manawatū network.

• Apply the Investment Framework, including Investment and/or Divestment Process for decisions on significant development, upgrade or disposal.

10. Monitoring and Review

Successful implementation of the Community Facilities Strategy – Arts and Cultural Facilities Sub-Plan will be achieved through continuous monitoring of its performance. It is important that a regular review of the Plan's effectiveness takes place, and refinements made to the Plan as new information comes to hand.

The Action Plan section outlines important monitoring requirements as a priority of this Plan, which further emphasises the importance of this process, particularly in relation to making decisions about the future of the network (including new builds and rationalisation of facilities).

Initially this plan will be reviewed in one year (March 2021), and every five years thereafter.

Attachment 1: Criteria for categorising arts and cultural facilities

High Profile

Medium Profile

High profile arts and cultural facilities are buildings that may primarily be used to house arts and cultural activities. The building will be flexible to cater to multiple user groups. Ideally, they will have a high and diverse level of utilisation for a fee or by lease. They are likely to be larger in size and could have multiple rooms. Medium profile arts and cultural facilities are buildings that could either be used by a single arts or cultural group. Equally, the facility may have another primary function other than for arts or cultural activities. It will likely have regular usage and possible charges. The building may have multiple or be a single room facility. Low Profile

Low profile arts and cultural facilities have a low-level annual utilisation, are used for a single activity or by only one organisation. They may not meet condition standards and will not be connected to similar facilities/activities. A process to either repurpose or decommission a facility will be strongly considered.

- The facility will be multi-use and adaptable.
- The facility will have a highlevel and diverse amount of annual utilisation.
- The facility will demonstrate strong financial performance.
- The facility will meet and comply with condition assessments.
- The facility will have a highquality, inspiring facility that facilitates connections and community identity.
- The facility will be located or connected to other complementary community facilities/activities.
- The facility will have a stable management and governance model.
- The facility will have a high user satisfaction
- The facility will be open for walk-in public access.

- The facility will have a medium-level annual utilisation.
- The facility will have stable financial performance.
- The facility will meet and comply with condition assessments.
- The facility will be connected to other complementary facilities/activities such as community halls.
- The facility will be a suitable quality.
- The facility will be managed by council or community offsite.
- The facility will have high user satisfaction and will meet the expectations of the community.

- The facility will have a low-level annual utilisation.
 - The facility may or may not meet and comply with condition assessments.
- The facility may or may not meet the expectations of the community.

¹Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa. (2019). Te Hā o ngā Toi Māori Arts Strategy 2019 – 2024; Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa. (2018). Pacific Arts Strategy 2018 – 2023.

ⁱⁱ Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa. (2019). Te Hā o ngā Toi Māori Arts Strategy 2019 – 2024; Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa. (2018). Pacific Arts Strategy 2018 – 2023.

^{III} Colmar Brunton. (2017). New Zealanders and the Arts: Attitudes, attendance and participation in 2017.



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