

WELLINGTON REGIONAL AMENITIES FUND JOINT COMMITTEE

22 August 2014

REPORT NO 2

FUND CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES FOR THE WELLINGTON REGIONAL AMENITIES FUND

1. Purpose of report

This paper outlines the existing criteria and priorities for the Wellington Regional Amenities Fund (the Fund).

This paper seeks the Joint Committee's agreement to approve the criteria and priorities for the Fund for the 2014/2015 round and send out a call for expressions of interest.

2. Executive summary

The Fund was established in 2012 by the Wellington City, Hutt City, Upper Hutt City, Kāpiti Coast District and Masterton District Councils. In 2014 Porirua City Council joined the Fund.

The Wellington Regional Amenities Fund is an initiative to support entities of regional significance with day to day operational expenses and new innovative projects that will achieve identified priorities for the region.

The Fund is focused on arts cultural and environmental attractions and events to support and add to the attractiveness and vitality of the Wellington Region.

The Fund was developed to ensure that regionally significant entities can be developed or sustained in the Wellington Region.

The Fund is intended to allow funded entities to:

- Focus more on their core business
- Reduce the amount of time spent on securing funding across the region
- Improve their ability to perform on a wider regional basis
- Improve accessibility to their services
- Ensure staffing requirements are met adequately for a fixed term.

The Fund is intended to compliment and not replace existing funding to the recipients from the participating councils.

The criteria and priorities for the Fund are in the draft call for expressions of interest for the 2014/2015 round of the Fund (Appendix One). They were developed by the cross-council Fund Officers Group and the Fund Manager and informed by the discussion had at the Joint Committee meeting on 8 February 2013.

Once the criteria and priorities have been confirmed they will be communicated to those entities that have been identified as broadly meeting the aims of the Fund or those who have expressed interest in the Fund.

3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Joint Committee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Agree with the criteria and priorities for the Fund.*
- 3. Approve the call for expressions of interest for the 2014/2015 round.*

4. Conclusion

The terms of reference for the Fund were agreed by the five local authorities in 2013 and the criteria and priorities for the Fund were based on the terms of reference.

Funded projects from the 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 rounds of the Fund are starting to be completed and reports on the outcomes are being sent to the Fund Manager. Early indications suggest that the criteria and priorities are working well and delivering on the aims of the Fund. A report on funding results will be provided at the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

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Appendix One – Draft Call for Expressions of Interest in the Wellington Regional Amenities Fund