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**Report 5e**  
*(1215/52/IM)*

## **WELLINGTON MUSUEMS TRUST 2006/07 FUNDING REQUEST**

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### **1. Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to consider a funding bid from the Wellington Museums Trust.

### **2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Agree to decline the funding request for \$152,500 for the Capital E National Arts Festival*

### **3. The Proposal**

The Wellington Museums Trust (WMT) is requesting \$152,500 from the Wellington City Council in order to deliver the 2007 Capital E National Arts Festival to previous standards, make it accessible and preserve its place in Wellington “Creative Capital”, as the leading national arts festival for children.

The request from the WMT was received on the 21st of March 2006 and officers have not yet had time to fully assess it.

Planning for the 2007 festival is currently underway. It will present:

- A programme of local, national and international performances
- Expanded audience numbers
- Expanded public programme
- Attract national attention as a major Wellington event

Collaborative and commissioned projects which will provide employment opportunities for artists and creative industry personnel in Wellington

## **4. Strategic Fit**

Capital E's work is aligned to the Wellington City Councils draft strategic direction 2006-2016, specifically around the following strategies and outcomes:

### **CULTURAL WELLBEING**

#### **More Eventful**

- “Wellington will be recognised as the arts and culture capital, and known for its exciting entertainment scene and full calendar of events, festivals, exhibitions and concerts.”

#### **More Actively Engaged**

- “Wellington will encourage greater engagement and participation by offering an exceptional range of arts and cultural amenities that cater to all tastes as well as a high quality environment that fosters a vibrant city life.’

#### **More Inclusive**

- “Wellington will celebrate its bicultural heritage and growing ethnic, religious and social diversity, and be tolerant, welcoming and inclusive of peoples differences to create a sense of belonging, shared understanding and identity.”

The work of Capital E fits with strategic priority 7 (Strengthen and develop the city's status as centre of creativity and innovation), priority 20 (Strengthen partnerships with arts organisations, festival groups and institutions) and priority 22 (Engage grassroots and youth orientated arts/culture).

## **5. Relationship to Existing Activities**

The WMT are responsible for the following facilities and associated programmes and services:

- The City Gallery Wellington
- The Museum of City and Sea
- Capital E
- The Colonial Cottage
- Wellington Cable Car Museum
- Plimmers Ark Project
- The New Zealand Cricket Museum

Capital E is a creative technology and performance facility in Civic Square. There are four main components to Capital E's services:

- Professional theatre for children
- The ONTV Studio and SoundHouse NZ Creative Technology labs
- A year long events programme of cultural and community activity
- The biennial Capital E National Arts Festival.

## 6. Proposal Costs

The WMT is requesting from Wellington City Council \$152,500 from the Wellington City Council in order to deliver the 2007 Capital E National Arts Festival. Funding for the 2003 and 2005 Capital E National Arts Festival came from within existing WMT core funding. This has been eroded for Capital E because of:

- Loss of \$40,000 derived from sub-lease of space to retailer 'The Playground' which was unwilling to remain here and unable to attract a buyer due to ongoing uncertainty over the Ilott Green development
- Loss of \$60,000 Ministry of Education LEOTC (Learning Experiences Outside the Classroom) funding in 2005, and
- Cost increases due to inflation, and substantially higher insurance and energy costs across the Wellington Museums Trust.

The budget for the Festival is as follows:

<i>Income</i>	\$
WMT Allocation	92,500
Other Grants	20,000
Sponsorship	40,000
Donations	30,000
Admissions	100,000
Cost of Goods Sold	-1,000
Sales/Merchandise	84,000
Sub-Lease	2,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>367,500</b>

Note: These external income levels are based on historically achieved figures in previous project budgets.

<i>Expenditure</i>	\$
Payroll/Personnel	101,000
Occupancy	27,500
Travel	4,500
Printing and Stationery	500
Exhibitions/Public Programmes	343,500
Marketing	43,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>520,000</b>

This leaves a deficit of \$152,500 which is requested from the WCC. The funding will be used across the arts and creative industry, and will flow directly back into the sector in the form of commissions and project development and presentation funding. Additionally, the 2007 Festival plays host to the international APPN (Asia-Pacific Producers and Presenters Network), with delegates from 12-16 Pacific Rim nations looking to purchase arts product for children.

## **7. Conclusion**

Officers have not had time to undertake a detailed analysis of the proposal.

As a one off piece of funding, consideration should be given to events and grants funding avenues. Given the Council's current fiscal constraints, officers are unable to support a bid of this magnitude.

Contact Officer: *Lisa Clarke-Watson, Portfolio Manager, Council Controlled Organisations*

<b>Supporting Information</b>
<p><b>1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome</b>  <i>Refer to the report for strategic alignment.</i></p>
<p><b>2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact</b>  <i>Not applicable</i></p>
<p><b>3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations</b>  <i>There are none.</i></p>
<p><b>4) Decision-Making</b>  <i>This proposal will be consulted on within the draft LTCCP.</i></p>
<p><b>5) Consultation</b></p> <p><b>a) General Consultation</b>  <i>The Trust has been consulted over the contents of this report.</i></p> <p><b>b) Consultation with Maori</b>  <i>None has taken place.</i></p>
<p><b>6) Legal Implications</b>  <i>There are none at this stage.</i></p>
<p><b>7) Consistency with existing policy</b>  <i>Not applicable.</i></p>