

Toi Ōtautahi Christchurch Arts Draft Strategy – submissions summary

August 2019

Consultation on the Draft Art Strategy was open for feedback from 15th May 2019 - 17th June 2019. Links to the consultation were posted social media, a newsletter was emailed directly to key stakeholders and previous submitters and print documents were available in Council libraries and service centres.

Three drop-in sessions were held in Little River, New Brighton and the Central City and attended by 24 people. A further focus group was attended by approximately 20 people.

Submissions were received from 44 individuals and groups.

Submitters were asked a series of questions and for comments. Each of these questions is outlined below.

Question 1: Do you think we have got the guiding principles right?

One person answered 'no', three answered 'not sure', 35 answered 'yes' and four people did not answer this question.

Of those who answered 'no', or 'not sure', three made comments and the following issues were raised:

- Inclusion needs to look beyond participation – belief in the potential of all communities
- Need wider 'buy in' to these principles
- 'Audacious' could be misinterpreted as disrespectful

Question 2: Do you think we have got the vision right?

Two people answered 'no', four answered 'not sure', 33 answered 'yes' and four people did not answer this question.

Of those who answered 'no', or 'not sure' three made comments and the following issues were raised:

- Focus less on industry and arts organisations
- Need wider 'buy in' to the vision
- Celebrate what makes Christchurch unique and different rather than aiming to be 'better' than other cities

Question 3: Do you think we have got the key themes for development right?

Three people answered 'no', three answered 'not sure', 33 answered 'yes' and three people did not answer this question.

Of those who answered 'no', or 'not sure' three made comments and the following issues were raised:

- Key themes are very culturally defined
- Add 'Ensure that the Treaty relationship is honoured and better understood'
- Add 'opportunity' or 'participation'
- 'Creativity' cuts across four pillars

Question 4: Do you think we have got the strategic action areas right?

Four people answered 'no', six answered 'not sure', 27 answered 'yes' and six people did not answer this question.

Of those who answered 'no', or 'not sure' three made comments and the following issues were raised:

- Accessibility and inclusivity should be a key focus
- Nga Toi Maori is relevant to all, not just Maori people
- Need more clarity of what 'The Arts' actually defines
- Needs more work to show clear intent
- Resource - reference education as part of the investment in arts and creativity
- Create and Encounter - reference music as an artform
- Move 'Ensure that the Treaty relationship is honoured and better understood' to either 'Tuakiri Identity' or 'Kōkiri Leadership' Pou arahi - Key themes for development.
- Include 'Diversity and experimentation is encouraged and supported'
- Could arts and sport-related activities be linked through facilities and events
- To 'Ensure there are opportunities for celebrating difference and diversity-where our communities connect with each other' add
 - 'Ensure arts teachers and leaders have opportunities to develop their necessary skills to make participation available and rewarding to the widest possible audience'.
 - 'Encourage arts teachers and leaders to value engagement with the arts at all levels as a creative and meaningful level, by encouraging reflective practice that explores beyond the number of engagements with artistic practice to quality of those engagements'.

Further comments

A final comments section received a wide array of feedback, from 33 submitters. This ranged from ideas for the implementation of the strategy, funding requests, and specific project ideas, to calls for more research.

There is a lot of information, thoughts and ideas included in these submissions and they are available in full in the attached submissions table and can be read.

Clear themes came through consultation in 2018 and went into developing the draft taken out to consultation.