



## **PORTFOLIO BRIEF FOR INCOMING MINISTER**

# **MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS**

PORTFOLIO BRIEF FOR INCOMING MINISTER  
OCTOBER 2016

**SENSITIVE - CABINET**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW .....	3
PORTFOLIO FINANCIAL OVERVIEW .....	3
LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES .....	7
KEY APPOINTMENTS .....	7
MINISTERIAL COUNCILS AND CONSULTATIVE BODIES .....	7

## PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Arts [and Community Events](#) portfolio supports the development of the arts, encouraging community participation in and access to the arts through supporting artistic excellence and diversity, strengthening the sustainability of the arts, and promoting the capacity for arts to contribute to social and economic outcomes.

### artsACT (CMTEDD)

artsACT is responsible for the implementation of the ACT Arts Policy, and manages the ACT Arts Fund, cultural infrastructure, the ACT Government's public art portfolio and intergovernmental relations.

### Cultural Facilities Corporation (CFC)

The portfolio includes the Cultural Facilities Corporation (CFC), a statutory enterprise established under the *Cultural Facilities Corporation Act 1997*.

The CFC manages a number of the ACT's major cultural assets, comprising:

- the Canberra Theatre Centre;
- the Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG), including the Nolan Collection Gallery @ CMAG; and
- the ACT Historic Places (Lanyon, Calthorpes' House, and Mugga Mugga).

In managing these facilities, the CFC provides a range of cultural services to the community across the performing arts, the visual arts, social history and cultural heritage management. It does this through the provision of activities (performing arts presentations, exhibitions, education programs, community programs and other events) at each site, and through the conservation and interpretation of the ACT Historic Places.

### Community Events

**Oos** Community Events **Oos** includes delivery of Australia Day, Canberra Day, New Year's Eve and the Canberra Nara Candle Festival, in addition to the ACT Event Fund, which provides financial support to ACT community groups wishing to deliver events within the ACT. Cultural Canberra has also been working on the development of an ACT Events Policy to underpin and drive a Whole-of-Government effort on making Canberra event friendly.

## PORTFOLIO FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

### Budget

#### artsACT (CMTEDD)

The 2016-17 Budget for all portfolios is currently being reassessed in light of the recent Administrative Arrangements (AA) announcement.

Portfolios not directly impacted by the AA announcement may require budget adjustments due to the potential reallocation of overhead expenditure (while the available budget for portfolios not



directly impacted by AAs will not change, the reported budget will likely change as a result of an increase or decrease in overhead allocation).

Out of scope



#### Cultural Facilities Corporation

The 2016-17 Budget for CFC is \$18.658 million (expenses) and \$2.184 million (capital).

During 2016-17, the CFC will continue to implement a comprehensive budget strategy that seeks to place its finances on a sound and sustainable basis into the future. One aspect of this budget strategy is the use of a Theatre Reserve to assist in responding to the variability and unpredictability of the performing arts business, including as a result of economic factors. Deficits that are projected for the CFC's operating results for 2016-17 and the forward years are due to it incurring large, unfunded depreciation expenses on its substantial asset holdings.

One particular cost pressure on the CFC is that it only receives a proportion of the annual increases in Government funding that are provided to agencies to take account of rises in CPI and EBA. This is on the basis that Government funding only represents part (currently around 50%) of the CFC's total income, and that the CFC has the capacity to raise sufficient own-sourced income to address the remaining part of CPI and EBA increases. This results in an inbuilt "efficiency dividend", since the CFC must either address these increases by raising additional revenue (primarily from theatre income, which is highly variable, as noted above) or by achieving costs savings in its operations.

Out of scope



#### **Potential Cost Pressures**

artsACT (CMTEDD)

35 (1)(d)

Cultural Facilities Corporation

The key strategic risk that may influence the CFC's future financial position is the variability and unpredictability of the performing arts business. Theatre revenues represent the major part of the CFC's non-government revenue and are the main variable in its financial performance. These revenues are highly dependent on: the availability of performing arts productions for touring; national developments with regard to major performing arts companies; and discretionary consumer expenditure, which is vulnerable to general economic downturns.

Community Events

In the 2016-17 Budget process, one-year-only funding was provided for Canberra Day (\$0.3 million) and SpringOUT (\$0.1 million). This may result in cost pressures for unfunded initiatives, such as Australia Day and Windows to the World.

**Capital Works**artsACT (CMTEDD)

Current capital funding allocations are for priority safety and fire system improvement works at arts facilities. \$496,000 was allocated in the 2014-15 Budget over two financial years to deliver these improvements.

\$180,000 was allocated to fire system upgrades at the Street Theatre in the 2016-17 Budget.

Cultural Facilities Corporation

The CFC received \$410,000 funding in the 2016-17 Budget to implement a further package of works to improve work health safety and security at the Canberra Theatre Centre. The new funding means that, over the six years from 2012-13 to 2017-18, nearly \$9.5 million has been provided for upgrading the Centre. This reflects the need for a continuing program of asset improvement to ensure the Centre remains fit for purpose as the region's main performing arts centre.

**SENSITIVE - CABINET****ARTS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS PORTFOLIO BRIEF  
– OCTOBER 2016**

Studies are progressing into the development of a major (2,000-seat) new theatre for the Canberra region. \$170,000 was appropriated during the previous term to undertake a range of studies, covering : needs analysis and detailed assessment of the demand for the new venue; precinct and siting studies; facilities analysis; concept design; initial traffic studies; investigation of project delivery methodologies; and financial analysis.

These studies will provide the basis for developing a full business case in accordance with the Capital Framework for consideration by the Government in the context of the 2017-18 ACT Budget. The Government has agreed that the preferred site for a new theatre is on the grassed area on the corner of Northbourne Avenue and Vernon Circle, behind The Playhouse.

**Other Financial Considerations****artsACT (CMTEDD)**

\$100,000 was allocated in the 2016-17 Budget to promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture in the Territory through increased community engagement with, and support for, indigenous artists. Community engagement on the best manner in which to implement this program is currently being undertaken.

**Cultural Facilities Corporation**

The CFC received funding of \$50,000 in the 2016-17 Budget to support the presentation of the major musical MAMMA MIA! in Canberra in November 2017. The funding will assist the producer of the show in conducting a regional marketing campaign. Canberra will host the Australian premiere of this production.



## LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

- *Cultural Facilities Corporation Act 1997*

## KEY APPOINTMENTS

### Statutory Appointments

- Cultural Facilities Corporation Board (established under the *Cultural Facilities Corporation Act 1997*)

### Non-Statutory Appointments

- Canberra Glassworks Pty Ltd – Ministerial appointment to board
- Belconnen Arts Centre Incorporated – Ministerial Appointment to board
- Australian National Capital Artists Incorporated – Ministerial Appointment to board

## MINISTERIAL COUNCILS AND CONSULTATIVE BODIES

The Meeting of Cultural Ministers comprises the Australian, state and territory government arts and culture ministers. The Australian Local Government Association, the Australia Council for the Arts and the Government of New Zealand are invited as observers. The Meeting of Cultural Ministers was established in 2012 to follow the work of the Cultural Ministers Council.

Meetings are conducted annually and discussion encompasses areas of national significance and mutual interest, including the creative arts, performing arts, Indigenous culture, film and digital media, and collections.

The next Meeting of Cultural Ministers will be on 4 November 2016 in Fremantle, Western Australia.

The ACT Government is represented on two National Australia Day Council consultative groups by staff from Events ACT and CMTEDD Communications.

## 1. ARTS - PROJECT FUNDING

### Portfolio and function

CMTEDD – Economic Development – Arts

### Issue

The ACT Arts Fund includes a funding category for Project funding, which is currently offered once a year and supports ACT artists, groups and organisations to undertake one-off self-identified arts activities. Applications are assessed by a peer panel with artsACT drafting recommendations to government based on the ranking of applications by the peer panel.

s 35(1)(d), s 36(1)

### Current status

The outcome of the 2017 Project funding category has not been announced.

### Critical dates and reasons

The outcome of Project funding is usually announced in August or September each year. An announcement is recommended as soon as possible.

### Financial considerations

s 35(1)(d)

There was an election commitment made for additional ongoing funding of \$750,000 per year for the arts grants program and an additional \$105,000 over three years to fund the ongoing work of Kulture Break.

The announcement of the arts grants program funding included:

- \$100,000 per year over four years to support Craft ACT deliver an annual DESIGN Canberra Festival;
- \$110,000 in 2016-17 and \$130,000 in subsequent financial years to fund the Art, Not Apart





Festival; and

- \$75,000 in 2017-18 to provide improved signage at ACT Government art centres such as Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres.

The majority of the \$750,000 per year in additional funding will be made available each year to support grants for Canberra artists.

**Recommended approach and timing**

That the 2017 Project funding is agreed and announced as soon as possible following the formation of Government to enable applicants to plan for their activities for 2017, some of which commence in January 2017.

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Directorate: ED - CMTEDD

## 2. ANU-COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

### Portfolio and function

CMTEDD – Economic Development

### Issue

artsACT has a budget line known as the Community Outreach Program with total funding of \$1,778,000 for 2016-17. The Budget line was previously named the ANU Community Outreach.

The funding supports a Community Outreach Program delivered by the ANU; community outreach delivered by the Canberra Symphony Orchestra; access to Llewellyn Hall by the Canberra Symphony Orchestra; a Community Arts and Cultural Development Program delivered by the Belconnen and Tuggeranong Arts Centres; and access to Llewellyn Hall for ACT music organisations.

The Community Outreach Program to the ANU is a three-year funding agreement to deliver a range of music and visual arts education programs for students, teachers and the community across the ACT, through the School of Art, School of Music, and ANU Library.

The ANU undertook a review of the School of Music given a range of issues across governance, financial, reputation and low student numbers, culminating into an unsustainable business model. The review was undertaken by Professor Andrew Podger. The ACT Government provided a submission to the review with Professor Podger also meeting with the Chief Minister, Minister for Small Business and the Arts and Minister for Higher Education as part of the review.

The review has been released and recommends a new structure, increased funding level and revised tertiary programs for the School of Music, including a new 'Advanced Performance Program'. The ANU has announced new funding of \$12.5 million over the next five years to reinvigorate the School **s 43**

**s 43**. ACT Labor made an election commitment of \$250,000 per year towards the Advanced Performance Program, and indicated that it will assist in leveraging the remaining funding required from the ACT community.

**s 43**

### Current status

The ANU Community Outreach Program agreement expires on 31 December 2016 and has been extended by six months to 30 June 2017. This is to allow consideration of the outcome of the review and a renegotiation process.



### **Critical dates and reasons**

artsACT is considering the review of the School of Music and will provide Government with advice about a possible further funding agreement before the expiry of the current agreement, which is 30 June 2017.

### **Financial considerations**

Total budget for 2016-17 for the Community Outreach Program is \$1,778,000 per year. This is made up of \$1,254,911 per year to the ANU School of Art and School of Music to deliver a community outreach program; \$106,101 per year for the Canberra Symphony Orchestra to deliver community outreach and \$106,101 per year to access Llewellyn Hall at the ANU; \$273,328 towards the cost of the community outreach provided through the Community Arts and Cultural Development Program delivered by the Belconnen and Tuggeranong Arts Centres (with the remaining balance of funds of \$94,924 for the total cost of the Program provided through the Key Arts Organisation category), and \$37,559 for ACT music organisations to access Llewellyn Hall.

s 35(1)(d)

### **Recommended approach and timing**

If the ACT Labor election commitment is to be implemented, additional funding or the realignment of contractual outcomes will need to be negotiated within 2016-17.

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Telephone: 6207 2384  
Directorate: ED, CMTEDD

### 3. Major Community Events

#### Portfolio and function

Events, Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, Cultural Canberra

#### Issue

- Events ACT leads the development and delivery of and investment in major community events in Canberra. More specifically, it is responsible for implementation of the ACT Events Policy and major event development, delivery, investment and promotion. Events ACT includes a function that seeks to attract events that are aligned to Canberra's brand and deliver economic and/or social outcomes.
- The role of Events ACT reflects the governments' and the Directorates' focus on broader economic, community, liveability and social perspectives.
- Responsibilities of Events ACT are:
  1. Plan and deliver quality events that are significant to the city and provide economic, strategic and community benefits to the ACT.
    - Currently delivers a range of events for the Government including Floriade, Floriade NightFest, Canberra Nara Candle Festival, New Year celebrations, Australia Day celebrations, Enlighten, Canberra Day celebrations and the Canberra Balloon Spectacular.
  2. Provide leadership on major event related matters to the ACT Government and the Festival and Events sector.
    - Currently developing a Whole-of-Government Events Policy for the city;
    - Provides secretariat support for the Major Events Steering Committee; and
    - Provides leadership on planning for Major Events including the Rugby League World Cup.
  3. Contribute to the development of the ACT Festival and Events Sector.
    - Manages the ACT Event Fund that provides funding to over 14 community events; and
    - Identifies and manages emerging issues in the Festival and Events sector.

#### Current status

Emerging issues within the Events sector include:

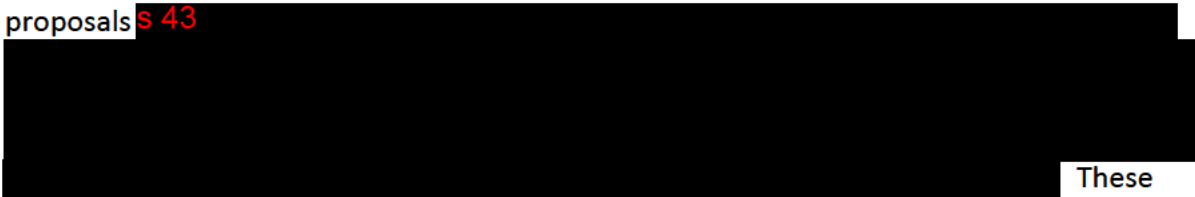
- Australia Day – The National Australia Day Council (NADC) recently announced the cancellations of the concert associated with the Australian of the Year Awards ceremony at Parliament House. In response to this the Chief Minister announced that a concert will be delivered for the Canberra Community. Events ACT has met with NADC and will work collaboratively towards creating a great Australia Day experience for the Canberra community.

s 43



s 43



- Requests for Major Event Funding - Enterprise Canberra has received out-of-round funding proposals s 43
- 

These events will be evaluated against a series of key metrics including economic impact, social and community benefit, city brand alignment, marketing potential, risk profile and synergy with ACT Government objectives. Given that the requests were received during caretaker period, the incoming government will be briefed regarding these proposals following the election.

#### **Critical dates and reasons**

There are heightened community expectations about the above events. Resolutions to the above issues are currently being developed for consideration by government over the two months.



### Financial considerations

- Australia Day – A commitment by the government has been made to support the Australian of the Year awards and concert to the amount of \$100,000.
- s 43 [REDACTED]
- s 43 [REDACTED]
- \$1.5 million initiative was provided in the 2016 -17 budget to support Enlighten, Canberra Day and SpringOUT. This funding has been allocated for one year (2016-17) only and the above events are not able to be accommodated within the existing Events ACT budget.

### Recommended approach and timing

- Resolutions to the above issues are currently being developed for consideration by government over the next two months.

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**Directorate:** CMTEDD





## **ATTACHMENT - KEY ISSUES BRIEFS FOR INCOMING MINISTER**

# **MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS**

KEY ISSUES BRIEFS FOR INCOMING MINISTER  
OCTOBER 2016

**SENSITIVE - CABINET**



## LISTING OF KEY ISSUES

<u><b>Strategic</b></u>
<u><b>Urgent/Priority Matters</b></u>
1. ACT Arts Fund – Project funding
<u><b>Sensitive Issues</b></u>
2. ANU Community Outreach Program
3. COPY Community Events – Australia Day, Canberra Festival (incorporating Canberra Day, Enlighten, Balloon Spectacular and Light Canberra Action), New Years Eve, Nara Candle Festival

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### INCOMING GOVERNMENT 2016 SUPPLEMENTARY PORTFOLIO ISSUES – ARTS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

1.	Arts Policy
2.	Arts Funding
3.	Arts Infrastructure
4.	Public Art
5.	Kingston Arts Precinct
6.	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts and Culture
<b>Cultural Facilities Corporation</b>	
7.	Impact of Government Office Building project for users of the Canberra Theatre
8.	North Building HVAC upgrade – potential period of closure of Canberra Museum and Gallery-
9.	New theatre for the Canberra Region
10.	Enhancement and extension of Canberra Museum and Gallery
11.	Potential new house museum reflecting Canberra's recent history



## 1. ARTS POLICY

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, artsACT.

### Issue

#### 2015 ACT Arts Policy

The 2015 ACT Arts Policy was released on 30 June 2015. The 2015 ACT Arts Policy states a vision 'to be a diverse and dynamic arts ecology valued locally, nationally and internationally'. This vision is supported by four principles:

- Participation in and access to the arts;
- great art and great artists;
- vitality of the Canberra Region arts ecology; and
- engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultures.

The actions and measures to realise this policy were outlined in 2015-16 artsACT Strategic Plan. artsACT is currently developing a new Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

#### Meetings of Cultural Ministers

The Meeting of Cultural Ministers comprises the Australian, state and territory government arts and culture ministers. The Australian Local Government Association, the Australia Council for the Arts and the Government of New Zealand are invited as observers. The Meeting of Cultural Ministers was established in 2012 to follow the work of the Cultural Ministers Council.

Meetings are conducted annually and discussion encompasses areas of national significance and mutual interest, including the creative arts, performing arts, Indigenous culture, film and digital media, and collections.

### Current status

#### 2015 ACT Arts Policy

artsACT is currently finalising the 2016-20 Strategic Plan.

### Critical dates and reasons

#### 2015 ACT Arts Policy

The 2015 ACT Arts Policy will remain current until it is superseded.

#### Meetings of Cultural Ministers

The next Meeting of Cultural Ministers will be on 4 November 2016 in Fremantle, Western Australia. A brief will be forwarded which outlines the agenda for the meeting as well as meeting papers and associated briefs.



**Financial considerations**

2015 ACT Arts Policy

The 2015 ACT Arts Policy was developed within existing resources. The policy does not outline specific financial commitments however there will be a need for further funding on some elements in the future.

Meetings of Cultural Ministers

The ACT contributed \$3,217 to the Meetings of Cultural Ministers in the 2015-16 financial year.

**Recommended approach and timing**

That the 2015 ACT Arts Policy continues to guide the work of artsACT.

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Directorate: CMTEDD

## 2. ARTS FUNDING

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, artsACT.

### Issue

The ACT Government provides \$8,278,000 in arts funding to the ACT community through a number of specific budget lines. These are the ACT Arts Fund, ANU Community Outreach Program, Canberra Glassworks, Belconnen Arts Centre, Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, Arts Residencies, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts.

Within the ACT Arts Fund, there are a number of funding categories including Key Arts Organisations, Program Organisations, Projects, Out of Round, ACT Book of the Year Award, and a number of government initiatives including for the Fringe Festival, Asialink, the Arts Law Centre and ACT Health. Funding arrangement range from one year to five years.

### Current status

The arts funding budget for 2016-17 is fully committed. All funding has been announced for 2016 and 2017 except for the 2017 Arts Project funding category.

artsACT is drafting a new Arts Funding Plan which is proposed to be announced in early 2017 for implementation in 2018. The Plan will provide the arts sector and community with the government's arts funding objectives and priorities, and outline the funding categories, and how these align to the 2105 ACT Arts Policy. artsACT has not previously had a Arts Funding Plan.

The Arts Funding Plan will be informed by the results of the CBRarts Forum on funding (held in March 2016), government priorities, available resources, a review of current mechanisms, innovations and best practice models nationally, and feedback from the community. The Arts Funding Plan is likely to propose a new arts funding model and be highly anticipated by the community.

The 2017 Arts Project funding round has been peer assessed and is ready for consideration by government. It is normally announced in August each year. However, this year consideration of the round was not finalised due to Caretaker. **s 35(1)(d), s 36(1)**

The Community Outreach Program to the ANU is a three-year funding agreement to deliver a range of music and visual arts education programs for students, teachers and the community across the ACT, through the School of Art and School of Music, and ANU Library. The current agreement has been extended for six months until June 2017.





The ANU has undertaken a Review of the School of Music given a range of issues across governance, financial, reputation and low student numbers, culminating in an unsustainable business model. The review was undertaken by Professor Andrew Podger. The ACT Government made a submission to the Review, and the Chief Minister, Minister for Small Business and the Arts and Minister for Higher Education met with Professor Podger as part of the consultations on the review. The review has been released and recommends a new structure, increased funding level and revised tertiary programs for the School of Music, including a new 'Advanced Performance Program'. The ANU has announced new funding of \$12.5m over the next five years to reinvigorate the School **s 43**

**s 43**. The ACT Labor Government announced an election commitment of \$250,000 per year towards the Advanced Performance Program, and indicated that it will assist in leveraging the remaining funding required from the ACT community

.artsACT is party to a national tripartite funding agreement with the Australia Council, all other States and the Northern Territory, and the Arts Law Centre of Australia for the Centre to deliver a range of legal advice and services to artists, either free or heavily subsidised. The agreement expires on 31 December 2016. There is national in-principle agreement to enter into a new four year funding agreement, with increases in funding requests from all jurisdictions including the ACT. artsACT currently provides \$11,000 per year and has been requested to increase this to \$15,000 per year. A brief will be provided to the Minister for the Arts seeking agreement to this funding and increase. The Australia Council hopes to finalise the agreement by 14 November 2016.

### **Critical dates and reasons**

The Arts Funding Plan is proposed to be announced in early 2017 for implementation in 2018 to provide time for currently funded organisations to apply within the new funding model.

2017 Arts Project funding can be announced once the new government has been formed.

**s 35(1)(d)**

### **Financial considerations**

The funding allocations for 2016-17 Budget lines are:

- ACT Arts Fund - \$5,138,000;
- ANU Community Outreach Program - \$1,778,000;
- Canberra Glassworks - \$722,000;
- Belconnen Arts Centre - \$334,000;
- Visual Arts and Craft Strategy - \$150,000;
- Arts Residencies - \$56,000; and
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts - \$100,000.

The allocations for the ACT Arts Fund categories are:

- Key Arts Organisations - \$4,192,000;
- Program Organisations - \$522,000;
- Projects - \$274,000 (including \$30,000 for Screen projects);



- Out of Round - \$25,000;
- ACT Book of the Year Award \$15,000; and
- Government initiatives including for the Fringe Festival at \$30,000, Asialink at \$44,000, Arts Law Centre at \$11,000, and Health at \$25,000.

**Recommended approach and timing**

That the government note the development of the Arts Funding Plan, and agree to the 2017 Project funding recommendations and announce the outcome as soon as possible in October/November 2016.

**Contact Officer:** Adam Stankevicius, Director, Cultural Canberra  
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**Directorate:** CMTEDD



### 3. ARTS INFRASTRUCTURE

#### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, artsACT.

#### Issue

artsACT is the custodian of thirteen arts facilities that are occupied under licence agreements with not-for-profit arts organisations. Building occupants are responsible for minor repairs, maintenance and outgoings. artsACT is responsible for strategic asset management as well as routine and reactive building maintenance.

#### Current status

##### *Cultural Infrastructure Plan*

A Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities Plan is being prepared by artsACT following recent sector and community consultation. The Plan will outline the principles by which the cultural infrastructure needs of the city will be prioritised.

It will also ensure that the ACT Government continues to provide facilities that accommodate the needs of the sector and the community as well as maintenance planning for facilities and for the public art collection.

##### Arts Facility Portfolio

##### *Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP)*

The focus for the arts facility portfolio in 2016-17 is on safety improvements and the maintenance of existing assets. artsACT is custodian of thirteen arts facility buildings and facility upgrades are guided by the SAMP completed for the portfolio in 2014.

s 35(1)(d), s 36(1)(a)

##### *Belconnen Arts Centre*

Stage 2 of Belconnen Arts Centre has been planned for a number of years. The proposed extension includes more exhibition space, expanded dance studios and a multi-use space for performance and



community events. The scope of the project includes landscape works for the site and the lake foreshore.

Belconnen Arts Centre Stage 2 has not received funding in 2016-17 due to competing capital priorities across government. Until funding is available for Stage 2 construction, minor improvements to address shortcomings in the existing facility will be funded where possible from arts facility capital upgrades funding.

#### *Tuggeranong Arts Centre*

Fire egress provisions and related safety measures to enable increased community use are currently being reviewed at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre. Following this review, works will be progressed to improve the suitability of the centre for children's programs. Changes to egress routes and the installation of outdoor fencing are under consideration to improve facility safety.

#### *Strathnairn Arts Facility*

Associated with the West Belconnen suburban development by Riverview Group, a new multi-purpose facility is being constructed at Strathnairn Arts Centre. The facility will initially be a shared land sales and arts facility (community hall/workshop and exhibition space) and will be ultimately handed back to artsACT and exclusively used for arts activity.

Construction of the multi-purpose centre is expected to be completed by February 2017.

### **Critical dates and reasons**

There is no critical date, for your information only.

### **Financial considerations**

#### Arts Facilities - Capital Funding

Current capital funding allocations are for priority safety and fire system improvement works at arts facilities. \$496,000 was allocated in the 2014-15 Budget over two financial years to deliver these improvements.

\$180,000 was allocated to fire system upgrades at the Street Theatre in the 2016-17 Budget.

s 35(1)(d)

#### Arts Facilities - Recurrent Funding

##### *Arts Facilities Capital Upgrades Program*

Minor improvements to arts facilities will continue under the capital upgrades program. \$325,000 is expected to be allocated to arts facilities capital upgrades in 2016-17. Projects include lead paint removal at Gorman House Arts Centre, kiln shed improvements at Watson Arts Centre, Galley



kitchen upgrade at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre and other minor works.

*Repairs and maintenance*

In 2015-16, \$360,000 is available for repairs and maintenance. This funding covers routine and reactive maintenance at thirteen arts facilities s 35(1)(d), s 36(1)

**Recommended approach and timing**

That you note the information contained in this brief.

That you support the implementation of the recommendations in the Strategic Asset Management Plan for the arts facility portfolio. Further briefing will be provided on arts facilities and their management for your consideration.

That you support the development of a funding request through the 2017-18 Budget process as per the election commitment for the delivery of Belconnen Arts Centre Stage 2.

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Directorate: CMTEDD





## **4. PUBLIC ART**

### **Portfolio and function**

Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, artsACT

### **Issue**

There are more than 100 works in the public art collection managed by artsACT in the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate. There are numerous other public artworks owned and managed by other Directorates.

### **Current status**

The current focus is on the care of existing Government-owned public artworks managed by artsACT. Dedicated funding is provided each financial year for collection management and this covers scheduled maintenance such as cleaning as well as unscheduled maintenance activities such as graffiti removal and artwork remediation following vandalism. There is no current funding allocated for new public artworks.

As part of a previous ACT Government funding arrangement, known as the 'Percent for Art Scheme', a maintenance fund was established for the care of artworks commissioned under this Scheme. This fund is accessed for major conservation of the works commissioned under the Scheme. Recurrent funding for the care of the public art collection funds repairs and maintenance for all the other works in the collection.

Non-financial support is provided to the private sector to encourage commissioning of artwork for public spaces by others. The ACT Government Public Art Guidelines are available on the artsACT website to provide direction and advice about commissioning public art in the Territory.

The Minister for the Arts is required to approve any new artworks proposed for the Government's collection. A number of public artworks located in the new suburb of Denman Prospect at Molonglo are proposed for donation to the Territory. Advice about these artworks will be provided in further briefings to the Minister for the Arts.

There is the opportunity to re-introduce Government funding for a public artwork commissioning program as either a set allocation each financial year or partnership funding with the private sector. Further information will be provided to the Minister for the Arts on funding options for commissioning new works.

### **Critical dates and reasons**

There is no critical date, for your information only.





### **Financial considerations**

There are no new funds for public art commissioning or acquisition in the Territory Budget.

\$150,000 in recurrent funding is allocated for the repair, maintenance and conservation of existing artworks in the public art collection managed by artsACT. Each Directorate is responsible for the management of its public artwork commissions and acquisitions.

### **Recommended approach and timing**

New funding for public art will be put forward for consideration as part of the 2017-18 budget process.

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**Directorate:** CMTEDD

## 5. KINGSTON ARTS PRECINCT

### Portfolio and function

Urban Renewal Portfolio, CMTEDD, Land Development Agency.  
Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, artsACT.

### Issue

The ACT Government Strategic Priorities under suburban renewal and better transport outlines the development of the Kingston Arts Precinct as a key deliverable. The Vision for the Kingston Arts Precinct, as set out in the Kingston Arts Precinct Strategy (2011), is *“Dynamic, inspirational, energetic: where artists, cultural organisations and creative businesses make, teach, exhibit, perform and sell their work. The ACT’s destination of choice to experience contemporary visual arts and culture.”*

### Current status

- The Land Development Agency (LDA) is currently running a two stage sales process for the development of the Kingston Arts Precinct.
- The approximately 5 ha site has been released as an englobo parcel. This fully integrated precinct will include arts facilities, public areas, commercial, residential and car parking.
- The area is already home to leading arts organisations the Canberra Glassworks, Megalo Print Studio + Gallery, and the Old Bus Depot Markets.
- The following arts organisations are proposed for relocation to the Kingston Arts Precinct: Photo Access, Craft ACT, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra Potters Society (additional space), Megalo Print Studio + Gallery, M16, ArtSound FM, Canberra Glassworks (additional space), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander space (artists and organisation not yet identified) and Kingston Arts Precinct Management.
- artsACT are working closely with the proposed tenant organisations and will be developing a transition plan for the relocation.
- The first stage (Request for Proposal, RFP) of the process ran between October 2015 and December 2015. The second stage (Request for Tender, RFT) closed 14 July 2016. **s 43**

### Critical dates and reasons

- An announcement of the outcome of the RFT is expected later in 2016.
- Development of the Kingston Arts Precinct will be a 5–10 year program.  
Relocation of the local Canberra arts groups to the Kingston Arts Precinct is anticipated to occur 4–5 years from commencement.

### Financial considerations

Funding for the Kingston Arts Precinct is currently off budget.

The Kingston Arts Precinct will include a number of new assets to be owned or leased by the ACT Government, including arts facilities and public car parking.

Funding will be required to transition organisations to the Kingston Arts Precinct and to commence activation of the Precinct during the development stage.



**Recommended approach and timing**

That you support the ongoing sales process and development of the Kingston Arts Precinct, noting that it is a 5 to 10 year program.

Transition planning and activation of the Kingston Arts Precinct will be put forward for consideration as part of the 2017-18 budget process.

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## 6. ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ARTS AND CULTURES

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, artsACT

### Issue

The ACT Government released the 2015 ACT Arts Policy on 30 June 2015. The Policy incorporated community feedback received during consultation that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultures should be celebrated, supported and developed for the benefit of the ACT community. It is a priority that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture is recognised in culturally appropriate ways, and specifically driven by the unique and self-determined needs of the sector.

The Arts Policy recognises the opportunities for increased engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, and the role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture within the Canberra community. artsACT is committed to improving engagement with the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

This policy objective is in accordance with the commitments outlined in the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2015-2018 and will assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to pursue cultural development, provide opportunities for self determined life-long learning and development and provide the community with access to events and activities that celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

### Current status

artsACT is currently conducting a wide ranging engagement program with the purpose of setting up an effective and respectful mechanisms to build and maintain ongoing and meaningful relationships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in relation to arts and culture issues.

This engagement will enable design of community appropriate methods for allocating funding to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

### Critical dates and reasons

It is expected that a report on the engagement process will be finalised in late November 2016 which will provide direction for program delivery.

### Financial considerations

Funding of \$100,000 has been allocated through the 2016-17 ACT Budget. Planning for the program will be informed by the current consultation and engagement process.

### Recommended approach and timing

That you note the information contained in this brief.



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## 7. IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING PROJECT FOR USERS OF THE CANBERRA THEATRE CENTRE

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, Cultural Facilities Corporation

### Issue

The new Government Office Building project will result in a Government Office Building and a separate commercial office and boutique hotel building on the site adjacent to the ACT Legislative Assembly. Construction is scheduled between November 2017 and October 2020. Underground car parking will be incorporated into the project.

The project presents a range of impacts for the operation of the existing Canberra Theatre Centre and for the future new theatre, both in the project's construction phase and when completed.

Issues that will present challenges for operations during the construction period include:

- **Car parking availability**, with loss of the surface car park adjacent to the ACT Legislative Assembly building, together with pressure on other car parks as a result of their use during the day by construction workers (expected to reach a maximum of 200 in the latter stages of the project). The potential for the underground car parks to be completed as the first stage of the project has been discussed, as has the potential for the Cultural Facilities Corporation (CFC) to submit an ACT Budget bid to create a temporary car park on the land adjacent to The Playhouse, the future new theatre site;
- **Pedestrian access** around the construction site, including signage and safety;
- **Truck access** around the construction site;
- **Construction noise** impacts on theatre operations; and
- **Potential to use site hoardings for wayfinding** and theatre show promotion.

Issues which will need to be addressed for the completed project include:

- **Car parking availability**, including the scope to :
  - provide car parks beyond the 250 public car parks currently planned, in view of their revenue potential from both day time and night time use;
  - incorporate car park ticketing technology that is easy and quick to use (unlike current ticket machines in the car parks around the Canberra Theatre Centre) e.g. using licence plate recognition, in view of the fact that many people will want to use the car parks at the same time, just before "curtain up" at the theatres;
  - sell car parking tickets at the same time as theatre tickets, using compatible technology; and
  - reuse car parking spaces reserved during the day (for ACT Government service employees and office workers) for night time theatre patron use.
- **Truck access.**
- **Ease of access and wayfinding for theatre patrons**, including from the underground car parks.
- **Compatibility of the precinct with theatre usage**, theatre patrons are able to provide business for restaurants and cafes that can service pre-and post-theatre dining.
- **Scope for the new hotel** to service the needs of visiting theatre companies (which require apartment-style accommodation) and of interstate theatre patrons.





**Current status**

The CFC is in dialogue with the project developer in regard to issues identified and your office will be kept informed as solutions to ameliorate these issues are agreed.

**Critical dates and reasons**

Early planning and a clear communication plan will need to be developed well prior to project commencement in November 2017 in order to provide a context for the management of impacts on the public, including theatre patrons in particular.

There are opportunities to learn from challenges theatre patrons experienced in the roll out of afterhours pay parking in this same area in 2015. This is particularly in regard to the need for a comprehensive communication strategy that has benefited from stakeholder input and is implemented well prior to any public impact.

**Financial considerations**

The CFC understands the project developer will undertake full consultation and will identify and implement actions to minimise the public and business impact of works.

s 35(1)(d)

**Recommended approach and timing**

That you note the information above.

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## 8. NORTH BUILDING HVAC UPGRADE – POTENTIAL PERIOD OF CLOSURE OF CANBERRA MUSEUM AND GALLERY

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio, CMTEDD, Cultural Facilities Corporation.

### Issue

North Building houses the Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG) as well as corporate/head office functions of the Cultural Facilities Corporation. The Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system for North Building is over 20 years old. The system does not cope with current requirements and is increasingly expensive to run and maintain. A contemporary system could achieve a reduction in electricity utilisation of 20-30 per cent.

ACT Property Group will replace the HVAC system in 2017 and has worked closely with tenants to develop a program which minimises disruption to business operations and safeguards the sensitive museum collection held at CMAG.

The HVAC replacement program will see CFC staff relocated for approximately twelve weeks from mid March to end May 2017. CMAG will be closed to the public for a six week period from mid March to mid May 2017.

### Current status

The design of the new HVAC system is complete as is a detailed program for replacement works. Tender documents are with the market and a contract is expected to be executed in mid-late November 2016.

### Critical dates and reasons

Public notification of the closure of CMAG is scheduled for early December 2016 following execution of contracts. Early notice is required to accommodate impacts on education and community programs and venue hire activity at CMAG. The public will be notified that CMAG will be closed from the end of the Canberra Day week 2017 until mid-May 2017.

Arrangements for notification of the temporary closure of CMAG will be discussed with your office.

### Financial considerations

ACT Property Group has advised that it believes it has adequate funding allocated to the project.

### Recommended approach and timing

That you note the information above including that arrangements for public notification of the temporary closure of CMAG in 2017 will be discussed with your office.

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## 9. NEW THEATRE FOR THE CANBERRA REGION

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio (+ Tourism+ Treasurer Portfolios), CMTEDD, Cultural Facilities Corporation.

### Issue

The ACT's main performing arts venue, the Canberra Theatre, is over 50 years old. Although state of the art when it opened in 1965, the building is no longer suitable as the region's premier theatre venue, due to its limited size (1,250 seats) and the technical constraints of its facilities (e.g. low proscenium arch and fly tower, limited wing space etc.)

The Cultural Facilities Corporation (CFC), which manages the Canberra Theatre Centre, has identified the need for a new theatre facility of around 2,000 seats. The lack of such a venue is unusual in a capital city of Canberra's size and means that the region's residents and tourists cannot access the range of performing arts experiences available in comparable cities, including major musicals, popular concerts and main stage opera and ballet.

These limitations are impacting the ACT economy as Canberrans travel interstate to access high end theatre experiences, and the opportunity is lost to attract tourists to Canberra for 'blockbuster' theatre shows comparable to 'blockbuster' exhibitions. The positive impact that such a venue would have on the cultural vibrancy and international perception of the region remains unrealised as does the scope to revitalise the Civic Square Precinct and Civic more generally. Studies to date indicate that a major new theatre would deliver a substantial economic benefit relative to the costs of such a facility.

### Current status

The need for a major new theatre was recognised in the ACT Labor Arts Policy released prior to the 2012 ACT Election. This included a commitment to funding of \$750,000 for studies into a major new theatre for Canberra. Of this amount, \$170,000 was provided and a range of studies were progressed by the CFC in conjunction with the Office of the Coordinator General.

These studies have focused on: precinct and siting studies; analysis of the functional needs and spatial relationships of facilities within the new theatre; concept design; traffic studies; an initial analysis of project delivery methodologies; investment logic mapping workshops; a financial analysis/demand study; and an economic analysis study.

Following an analysis of siting options, the Government agreed that the preferred site for the new theatre is on the grassed area on the corner of Northbourne Avenue and Vernon Circle, behind The Playhouse. The siting of a new theatre in this location is consistent with the City Plan, which identifies a 'cultural arc' around the north eastern perimeter of City Hill.

s 36(1)



**Critical dates and reasons**

The former Government stated in July 2016 that a new theatre was likely to be constructed in the next five to ten years.

**Financial considerations**

s 36(1)

The \$170,000 provided for preliminary and planning studies has been expended and no further funding has been allocated through the ACT Budget.

**Recommended approach and timing**

It is recommended that a commitment is made in the context of the 2017-18 Budget to a timeframe that will see commencement of construction within the current term of Government.

An early announcement would boost confidence in the Government's commitment to developing Canberra's city centre as a focus for the region and Canberra as a world class tourism destination.

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## 10. ENHANCEMENT AND EXTENSION OF CANBERRA MUSEUM AND GALLERY

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio (+ Tourism Portfolio), CMTEED, Cultural Facilities Corporation.

### Issue

Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG) opened in February 1998 and will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2018. Minimal refurbishment has been undertaken since this time. The building fitout is deteriorating and the foyer, exhibition and collection areas no longer meet visitor needs, current safety and access standards, or accurately reflect Canberra's aspirations as a contemporary regional centre and international tourism destination.

Key pressures exist in the following areas:

- **the foyer** where a dominating central stair presents safety issues and limits the number of people that can be accommodated at public events;
- **the café** where limited seating, layout and kitchen facilities prevent a viable full menu business from operating;
- **s 43** [REDACTED]
- **the upstairs gallery** which does not have the potential to permanently accommodate the Nolan Foundation Collection due to environmental conditions, but if it did would free up important ground floor space to tell a more connected narrative of our region including much needed stories of Canberra as a maturing contemporary city;
- **the interface with London Circuit and Civic Square** which could function as a lively and porous ground level entry that signals arrival in the city's premier arts and government precinct. There is also strong potential to develop existing visitor information services through a redesigned 'open to the street' foyer area;
- **s 36(1)** [REDACTED]
- **the gallery lighting** is of an older incandescent type which has been phased out in comparable museums as it is past its safe useful life, is increasingly costly to maintain and is inefficient. Replacement with low UV, low energy LED lighting would result in reduced electricity usage and better conservation outcomes for collection material.

### Current status

An initial concept design for an enhanced and extended CMAG has been undertaken. Preliminary sketch plans and costings are being finalised for the conversion of the upstairs gallery to permanently accommodate the Nolan Foundation Collection and replacement of LED lighting throughout CMAG's galleries.

### Critical dates and reasons

For consideration early in the 2017-18 Budget process.



**Financial considerations**

A proposal will be presented for your consideration in the context of the 2017-18 Budget.

**Recommended approach and timing**

That you note the information above including that a proposal for the enhancement and extension of CMAG will be presented for your consideration in the context of the 2017-18 Budget.

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## 11. POTENTIAL NEW HOUSE MUSEUM REFLECTING CANBERRA'S RECENT HISTORY

### Portfolio and function

Arts Portfolio (+ Planning and Land Management + Urban Renewal Portfolios), CMTEDD, Cultural Facilities Corporation

### Issue

The former Government stated that a house museum would be considered as a part of the redevelopment of the Northbourne Avenue housing precinct designed by prominent modernist architect Sydney Anchor.

The Cultural Facilities Corporation (CFC) manages three historic places which are run as house museums: Lanyon, Calthorpes' House and Mugga-Mugga. Of these, the 'youngest' property is Calthorpes' House, which was built in 1927, meaning that Canberra's more recent history is not currently reflected through a house museum.

It is widely acknowledged that government housing represents a highly significant aspect of Canberra's housing history. In recent years, the CFC has focused on identifying a suitable former government housing property that has the potential of being developed into a house museum.

A number of suitable units within the Northbourne Avenue housing precinct have received heritage listing. The presentation of one or more units (i.e. a block) would assist in demonstrating the Government's commitment to the heritage significance of the precinct at a time when the area is undergoing major redevelopment in association with the Light Rail project. The ACT Heritage Council is very supportive of this approach.

The CFC has held discussions with the Land Development Agency to explore this proposal further and to consider whether the necessary funding to establish and operate a house museum of this nature would be provided by Government, or through a requirement on the developer of the site, or through a combination of these avenues.

The CFC has also discussed its interest in managing a former government home as a house museum with Housing and Community Services ACT.

### Current status

Indicative budget costings to convert and operate a Northbourne Avenue block as a house museum has been developed by the CFC and provided to the Land Development Agency for consideration.

### Critical dates and reasons

It is anticipated that heritage groups will seek a response from the Government on the future use of heritage listed properties as land sales and development of the former Northbourne Avenue Housing Precinct progress.

Regardless of whether Government decides to establish a house museum in the Northbourne



Avenue precinct, the CFC would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you the potential to create a house museum in a former government housing property, or otherwise to create a house museum that reflects Canberra's more recent history.

### **Financial considerations**

Depending on the scale and condition of the property selected, capital costs in the order of **s 36(1)** are anticipated. This budget would allow conversion, restoration and furnishing of a unit, house or small block of units to a house museum. Initial recurrent expenditure to interpret, curate and organise, and then operate the museum would be in the order of \$150,000 to \$250,000 annually, relative to the final scale and scope of the house museum. Some costs could potentially be met as developer contributions or rental from a sympathetic tenancy within part of the museum.

### **Recommended approach and timing**

It is recommended that the Government confirm its intention to develop a house museum as a part of the former Northbourne Avenue housing precinct and provide a program for completion. An early announcement would place the Government in a pro-active position to respond to concerns from heritage groups on this matter.

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