



outstanding

Nga Whenu Aronui
Nga taonga nui ki uta ki tai



Wanganui District Public Art Guidelines 2010 – 2012

Public Art Strategy: Guidelines

Introduction

These guidelines outline the criteria to be considered with regard to the acquisition and management of public art.

The guidelines provide criteria for the following:

- Acceptance of offered public art
- Re-siting and/or removal of art works

Criteria for Acceptance

Council will not automatically accept donations, gifts and bequests of artworks, whether of a public, community, temporary or moveable nature. Assessment of artworks will be undertaken by the public art steering group, taking into account the criteria below. The group may be advised by suitably qualified artist(s) / advisor(s) / independent advisor(s).

1. **Arts Policy**
Acceptance of the work should support the objectives of the Arts Policy.
2. **Artistic excellence, leadership and quality**
Whilst art works will, and should be, the subject of debate as to their artistic merits, the primary objective being to achieve quality and leadership in public art.
3. **Environmental Fit**
Proposed art works should consider the physical character, history and social meaning of the public space, and be suitable and/or appropriate to the site, or a public venue.
4. **Accessibility**
The work will be, where possible physically accessible and/or visible to the general public.
5. **Cultural implications**
The project may engage with communities and their histories to achieve a deeper understanding and broaden dialogue around Wanganui's diverse cultural heritage and contemporary makeup.
6. **Impact**
The project should benefit Wanganui – through visibility and enhance the experience of living and working in Wanganui. Art works should be a showcase to attract visitors and travellers to stay longer in Wanganui, and draw international recognition in our public art.
7. **Safety**
Art works need to be robust and considered suitable in view of health and safety legislation.
8. **Lifespan of work**
The intended lifespan should be appropriate to the proposed work.
9. **Ongoing costs**
The proposed work will take into account environmental conditions of public display and the costs of the required ongoing maintenance should be estimated.

Re-Siting or Removal of Public Art Works

A public art work may be considered for a re-siting or removal review if one or more of the following conditions apply. While these criteria may prompt a review process, they are not the sole criteria upon which a final decision on whether to re-site or remove a public art work is based.

1. Significant and/or substantial changes in the pattern of use, community, character or design of the environment where the public art work is located necessitates a re-evaluation of the relationship of the public art work to the site.
2. The public art work site or part of the site is to be redeveloped, demolished or sold and it is not possible to incorporate the public art work into the redevelopment without compromising the integrity of the public art work or incurring excessive costs.
3. The public art work requires a high level of maintenance and/or conservation rendering excessive asset management expenses.
4. The public art work endangers public health and safety and remedy is impractical, not feasible or will undermine the integrity of the public art work.
5. Wanganui District Council is unable to reasonably guarantee the condition or security of the public art work in its present location or the public art work is irreparably damaged, due to reasons beyond the control of the council.
6. Wanganui District Council is no longer able to meet the terms of acquisition, the terms of bailment or the terms contained in any agreement governing the Council's lease or purchase of the public art work.
7. The public art work has been lost or stolen (and amendment of public art data base is required).
8. The public art work is not (or is rarely) displayed.
9. Wanganui District Council's agreement with the lender is terminated or expires.

Public Art Steering Group

- The *Steering Group*, comprised as set out in the Public Art Strategy, will perform the "arbiter/selector role", which will also include commissioning work (when appropriate), advising on suitability of work and judging Council-commissioned competitions for public art work.
- The purpose of the steering group is to ensure the Council achieves high quality public art outcomes, an excellent reputation with stakeholders, effective relationships with partners and the arts sector and high public confidence.