

AUCKLAND REGIONAL AMENITIES FUNDING BOARD

2014-2015

Funding Plan



Table of Contents

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	4
INTRODUCTION	6
BACKGROUND	6
AUCKLAND COUNCIL	9
PRINCIPLES OF THE ACT	10
ALLOCATION OF GRANTS TO SPECIFIED AMENITIES	11
2014 - 2015 ALLOCATION OF GRANTS TO SPECIFIED AMENITIES	12
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	24
APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING FOR JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2017	29
AMENITIES INDICATIVE FUNDING REQUESTS FOR JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2017	30
LEVELS OF FUNDING	31
CONTRIBUTING AUTHORITIES	32
FINANCIAL INFORMATION	32
THE BOARD	33
FUNDING BOARD MEMBERS REMUNERATION	34
AMOUNT PAYABLE TO THE ADVISORY OFFICER	34
ADMINISTRATION	35
THE AMENITIES INTRODUCED	36
Auckland Festival Trust	37
Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra	39
Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust	41
Auckland Theatre Company Limited	42

Coastguard Northern Region Incorporated	44
New Zealand National Maritime Museum Trust Board	45
New Zealand Opera Limited	47
Stardome: Auckland Observatory and Planetarium Trust Board	48
Surf Life Saving Northern Region Incorporated	50
WaterSafe Auckland Incorporated	52
DIRECTORY OF SPECIFIED AMENITIES	56
SUBMISSIONS ON THE DRAFT 2014-2015 FUNDING PLAN	55
DIRECTORY	56

Chairman's Report

It is again my pleasure to present the 2014-2015 Funding Plan on behalf of the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board.

This is the Funding Board's fifth funding plan since the enactment of the legislation, although it will represent the sixth distribution of grants to the 10 specified amenities.

The 10 specified amenities continue to make a significant contribution to the well being of the Auckland region, and towards making Auckland a vibrant and attractive place to live in and visit as well as contributing to making Auckland the most liveable city in the world.

Having developed a robust methodology, the Funding Board has considered the funding applications from the 10 specified amenities; determined the provisional allocation of grants to each amenity; and discussed the proposed levy with representatives of Auckland Council.

The 2014-2015 Funding Plan provides details of the total levy to be collected from Auckland Council, and the allocation of grants by the Funding Board to each of the 10 specified amenities for the 2014-2015 financial year.

Consistent with previous years, the primary focus of the 2014-2015 Funding Plan has been to ensure that an adequate, sustainable and secure funding mechanism is attained for the amenities

In previous Funding Plans, the Funding Board has identified that some of the funding requests signalled for future years were somewhat ambitious. It was the Funding Board's view that the level of funding allocated in both 2012–2013 and 2013 – 2014 to many of the amenities contributed significantly to fulfilling the intention of the Act; the board has taken this into consideration when assessing the applications and developing the funding plan for 2014-2015.

Once again, the Funding Board finds itself having to reiterate that message with regard to the levels of funding signalled for 2015–2016 and 2016-2017. The requests for future years appear to reflect very ambitious programmes of work which will need to be thoroughly tested and worked through will all interested and affected parties prior to being

finalised. Although the legislation requires the amenities to signal what future year funding requests may look like, the proposed funding levels do appear excessive.

The Funding Board is proposing a levy of \$14,311,000 for 2014-2015, representing an increase of \$215,000 (or 1.53%) over 2013-2014.

During the period that the draft 2014-2015 Funding Plan was being considered the Board has also had to deal with the impacts of a Judicial Review of the 2013-2014 grant allocations initiated by the Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust. This has proven to be both an expensive and very time consuming exercise for the Board. However, in undertaking its assessments of the funding applications for 2014-2015 the Board has continued to apply the principles and disciplines it has developed over the last five years to reach its grant allocation decisions. Should the outcome of the Judicial Review necessitate a review of the 2013-2014 grant allocations, it may also be necessary to revisit the 2014-2015 decisions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my board colleagues, for their diligence and professional work during the development of the 2014-2015 Funding Plan. They all approach their work for the Funding Board with a high degree of commitment and integrity. Individually and collectively, they bring with them a wealth of experience, skills and abilities that gives me confidence as Chair that the 2014-2015 Funding Plan is one that delivers a mechanism to provide adequate, secure and sustainable funding within a fiscally responsible framework.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the contribution of Dr Carolyn Coggan who was the Deputy Chair from the Board's inception in 2009 and stepped down during the 2013 year. Carolyn not only contributed significantly to the draft Funding Plan and others before it, but she was also a tremendous support to me and a wise and pragmatic head when one was needed. Dr Carolyn Coggan passed away on 14 February 2014 after a long brave battle with cancer.

Scott Milne was appointed Deputy Chair in 2013. Other members of the Funding Board have also recently been re-appointed for a further 3 year term, and I welcome their return.

Vern Walsh
Chair

Introduction

This Funding Plan, covering the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, is the fifth plan published by the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board, (Funding Board).

Although the 2014-2015 Funding Plan represents the fifth year that the Funding Board has assessed and recommended the distribution of grants to the specified amenities, it will be the sixth year that grants will be distributed to the amenities. The Funding Board believes that the levels of funding proposed in this plan are in line with the key funding principles outlined in the Act, and in accordance with the primary purpose of the Act, namely the provision of a mechanism for adequate, sustainable and secure funding for the specified amenities.

Background

The Funding Board was established with the introduction of the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act 2008. The Act introduced a levy to be imposed on Auckland Council. The levy is collected by the Funding Board and distributed as grants to the ten specified amenities named in the legislation. The purpose of the Act is to establish a mechanism that provides sustainable funding to ensure the on-going sustainability of the organisations named in the Act who deliver arts, culture, recreational, heritage, rescue services and other facilities and services to the wider population of the Auckland region. All ten amenities make significant contributions towards making Auckland a global city.

In this sixth year, the maximum funding permissible is defined in the Act as being no more than 2% of the rates collected by Auckland Council in the previous financial year. For 2014-2015, the maximum levy cap has been calculated as \$26.74M. The Funding Board, whilst cognisant of that levy cap, assesses each application on its merits and does not regard the maximum levy cap as either a target or a notional budget to work towards. The proposed 2014-2015 levy represents 53.5% of the potential levy amount permitted under the legislation. The additional levy requested for 2014-2015 over and above 2013-2014 equates to approximately \$0.45 per rateable property in the Auckland region.

The Funding Board has remained mindful of the comments and decision made in 2010 by the arbitrator when he determined the amount of the levy for 2010-2011. The Funding Board has therefore made a concerted effort in two main areas:

- a) Considering the rationale for changes in grant funding levels, and
- b) Improving communication with Auckland Council.

On a day to day basis, the Funding Board is not responsible for the governance of any of the entities named in the Act. The sole purpose of the Funding Board is to administer the provisions of the Act which primarily comprises determining the levy to be collected from Auckland Council, and then distributing this as grants to the ten specified amenities. Each of the specified amenities retains its own board of governance and management and is therefore responsible for the decisions made regarding the operations of the organisation. It does not follow however, that decisions made by an entity that may have operational funding implications will trigger an increase in grant funding to contribute to any increased costs associated with those decisions.

Similarly, increased public expectations of service delivery need to be tempered with the willingness of the public and other users to pay for such services. If other users of a service are unwilling or unable to increase the amounts paid, it does not automatically mean that increased grant funding will be made available through this regional funding process.

The availability of regional funding via the Funding Board for the specified amenities does not replace the requirement for each of the specified amenities to continue raising funds from other sources. The Funding Board is aware that in some cases, the ability for some of the amenities to access those resources is becoming more challenging, primarily because they are in receipt of funding via the Funding Board. Conversely, some of the amenities are particularly successful with their fundraising activities, thereby reducing the reliance on this grant funding. The Board is cognisant of the statutory requirement that the amenities must make all reasonable endeavours to maximise their funding from other available funding sources.

Grants provided through the regional funding provisions, are assessed on an annual basis. This means that annual funding applications are assessed on their own merit, allowing changes in economic and environmental matters to be taken into account as they arise.

This allows grants to either increase or decrease as the board considers appropriate, noting that the Act does not stipulate that annual grant funding should remain at a minimum or constant level.

The Funding Board is also aware that the general funding environment is continuing to be a challenge to all organisations, not just the ten specified amenities.

The provision of regional funding via the Act has enabled each of the ten amenities to plan both strategically and operationally within a framework of some certainty of on-going funding. Since the introduction of regional funding, the amenities have been able to demonstrate to the Funding Board significant improvements, both in regional reach and quality of the services being delivered to residents of Auckland. From pages 36-54 of this funding plan the Funding Board has included a report from the amenities themselves on what difference the availability of regional funding has made for those organisations.

The grants distributed to the ten amenities are derived from a levy paid to the Funding Board by Auckland Council, or the ratepayers of Auckland. The Funding Board and amenities are aware of the source of this funding; accordingly each amenity ensures that advertising, promotional material and funding acknowledgements recognise the role of Auckland Council and the ratepayers of Auckland.

The Funding Board recognises that for some of the amenities the grants are the largest single source of grant funding received. Importantly there are also numerous other partner organisations involved in supporting the organisations and funding many aspects of the work that the amenities have highlighted in this plan. This is important, as the nature of much of the work undertaken by the amenities is dependent upon developing and maintaining strong links with their partners to ensure consistent and sustainable service delivery.

Auckland Council

The Funding Board remains mindful that it must act in accordance with the legislation and needs to fulfil its obligations to provide a mechanism for adequate and sustainable funding to the specified amenities. The Funding Board undertakes a thorough and comprehensive review of all applications received to ensure that the amount provided is justified and that the Board is fulfilling its legislative requirements. The Funding Board welcomes regular meetings with Auckland Council representatives to learn of the issues facing the Council as well as the goals and aspirations Auckland Council is hoping to achieve.

The funding plan has been subject to a public consultation and hearings process. As a result of this process, the Funding Board has considered all the submissions received and made a determination on whether changes are required the draft 2014-2015 Funding Plan. The final Funding Plan was then adopted and forwarded to Auckland Council to consider together with details of the proposed levy.

Auckland Council has recognised that the current Judicial Review being undertaken in respect of the 2013-2014 grant allocation to the Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust has severely compromised the Funding Board's ability to operate due to the large cost of legal fees being incurred. An ex gratia payment of \$400,000 will be made to the Funding Board in the 2013-2014 financial year.

The Funding Board has subsequently amended downwards its proposed administration charges for 2014-2015 by a corresponding amount, which has had the effect of reducing the overall levy requirement for 2014-2015.

Principles of the Act

The funding principles are embodied in s.21 of the Act.

These principles are to be considered by the Funding Board and Auckland Council when assessing the funding applications and approving the total levy.

These principles are summarised below:

- a) the primary purpose of the funding is to contribute to the expenses that the specified amenity must incur to provide its facilities or services;
- b) funding is not available for capital expenditure;
- c) funding is not available for any part of facilities or services that the specified amenity provides outside the Auckland region;
- d) funding is not available for facilities or services that at any time in the five years immediately before the date on which the Funding Board or the Auckland Council applies this paragraph have been provided funding by
 - I. a crown entity as defined in section 7 (1) of the Crown Entities Act 2004
 - II. a department specified in Schedule 1 of the State Sector Act 1988;
- e) the funding for the retention and preservation of a specified amenity's library or collection takes priority over the amenity's other expenses;
- f) funding is available only if the specified amenity has made all reasonable endeavours to maximise its funding from all other available sources;
- g) total funding for all specified amenities assessed for a financial year must not exceed the maximum total levy for that year under s.34;
- h) Total funding for all specified amenities assessed for a financial year should have regard to Auckland Council's proposed rates increases for the forthcoming year;
- i) Funding is available only if the specified amenity has made all reasonable endeavours to align its activities (in the Auckland region, and for which it seeks funding) with the objectives of the Auckland Plan, including by adopting relevant performance measures.

Note: (h) and (i) above were introduced by Auckland Council on 25 November 2012.

Allocation of Grants to Specified Amenities

The Funding Board has undertaken a rigorous examination of the applications made by the specified amenities and has made an allocation of grants for the 2014-2015 financial year.

The table on page 12 sets out the allocation of grants to each of the 10 specified amenities. Following this table are comments from the Funding Board relating to the level of funding allocated. If appropriate, the comments also include any conditions placed on the grants or directions on how a portion of the grant is to be used by the amenity to ensure that particular matters raised in the funding application are actually provided or implemented.

The 2014-2015 Funding Plan identifies a total grant allocation of \$13,996,000 to which administration costs of \$315,000 are to be added, giving an initial total levy requirement of \$14,311,000; an increase of 1.53% over the 2013-2014 levy.

It is noted by both the Funding Board and amenities that over \$2 million per annum flows back to Auckland Council from the 10 amenities in the form of occupancy costs, venue hire, ticketing costs, rates, interest and other payments.

The annual grants distributed to the 10 amenities are derived from a levy paid to the Funding Board by Auckland Council and, by extension, the ratepayers of Auckland. As both the Funding Board and amenities are acutely aware of the source of this funding, each amenity ensures that any advertising, promotional material and funding acknowledgements recognise the role of Auckland Council and the ratepayers of Auckland.

The Funding Board recognises that all organisations, including Auckland Council, continue to operate in difficult economic times. The Funding Board also wished to maintain its positive working relationship with Auckland Council and to fulfil its obligations to provide adequate and sustainable funding to the specified amenities.

2014 - 2015 Allocation of Grants to Specified Amenities

Amenity	Grant Allocated by Funding Board 2013-2014	Amenity Funding Application 2014-2015	Allocation of Grant 2014-2015	Year on Year Change 2013-2014 to 2014-2015
Auckland Arts Festival	\$2,230,000	\$2,375,000	\$2,305,000	+\$75,000
Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra	\$2,817,000	\$3,100,000	\$2,942,000	+125,000
Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter	\$900,000	\$1,350,000	\$450,000	-\$450,000
Auckland Theatre Company	\$1,330,000	\$1,545,000	\$1,415,000	+85,000
Coastguard Northern Region	\$650,000	\$670,000	\$670,000	+20,000
New Zealand Opera	\$800,000	\$840,000	\$800,000	\$0
Stardome - Auckland Observatory and Planetarium	\$1,119,000*	\$1,315,000	\$1,269,000	+\$150,000
Surf Life Saving Northern Region	\$1,140,000	\$1,201,421	\$1,200,000	+\$60,000
Voyager - New Zealand Maritime Museum	\$1,875,000	\$2,300,000	\$1,975,000	+\$100,000
Watersafe Auckland	\$920,000	\$1,012,000	\$970,000	+\$50,000
Total	\$13,781,000	\$15,708,421	\$13,996,000	+\$215,000
Funding Board administration budget	\$315,000		\$315,000	
Total Levy payable by Auckland Council	\$14,096,000		\$14,311,000	+\$215,000

* the grant allocation to Stardome includes a one-off payment of \$75,000 for 2013-2014.

Auckland Festival Trust

A vibrant arts scene is a key component in any modern city's life. Auckland Arts Festival, a biennial event is an increasingly important part of the arts environment in Auckland. In 2013 the Auckland Arts Festival "opened its doors" for the sixth time, bringing parts of the refurbished Aotea Square to life with the festival garden, along with many other performances, exhibitions and workshops throughout the city.

Making festivals financially sustainable is a challenge which is not unique to Auckland.

The Funding Board recognises this and considers the contribution of funding it has made towards the festival as providing the festival organisers with a degree of financial security when planning for the festival.

The challenges for the Festival Trust are to secure funding from other sources, revenue from attendances at festival events, and undertaking other revenue generating activities in between festivals which will enable them to meet their budget aspirations.

The grant allocation in 2014-2015 from the Funding Board is \$2,305,000. This represents an increase of \$75,000 over 2013-2014 and is reflective of the improved financial position and stability of the Trust.

The Funding Board considers that the level of funding allocated is sufficient to meet the needs of the Trust for the forthcoming period.

Concurrent with this funding application, the Trust is also engaging with the many interested stakeholders around the matter of annualisation of the Auckland Arts Festival. Auckland Council is considering the matter in early 2014, in time for the 2015-2016 funding application round. The Board will take the findings of the Auckland Council deliberations into account when assessing the future year funding applications.

Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra

The Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra (APO) makes a significant contribution to ensuring that Auckland has a vibrant arts scene, performing Mahler to Haydn; and Holst and Elgar; Sacre: The Auckland Dance Project; high profile events such as the Rugby World Cup and delivery of its Sistema Aotearoa programme are just a few small examples of the breadth of the high quality programmes that the APO delivers across Auckland.

As the city's resident orchestra, the APO has more demands for its activities than it can meet but endeavours to deliver to as wide an audience and in as many areas of Auckland as practicable.

APO aspires to move to a point where its players are remunerated at a level that is appropriate to their skill levels and that that remuneration is as secure as possible. The APO believes that this approach is essential to ensure that the APO retains and attracts world-class musicians, conductors, directors and other essential supporting staff.

The grant allocation in 2014-2015 from the Funding Board is \$2,942,000 which represents an increase of \$125,000 over the 2013-2014 grant allocation.

The Funding Board is confident that the level of funding allocated is an appropriate contribution to support the increased activities laid out in the 2014-2015 application.

Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust

The Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust (ARRHT) continues to represent the best example of how the impact of regional funding can significantly enhance the financial health of these key regional amenities.

One of the key tenets of the regional funding legislation is the provision of funding that is sufficient and sustainable. The provision of regional funding along with significant efforts of ARRHT in accessing support and funding from alternative sources, coupled with judicious financial management by ARRHT demonstrates all too well the impact that the regional funding framework has had in this context.

The Funding Board again congratulates the ARRHT on its excellent and sustainable business model.

The ARRHT made both written and verbal submissions to the draft 2014-2015 Funding Plan. The Funding Board notes that no new or additional information regarding the changes to levels of service, activities or programmes or the impact on services was presented by the ARRHT in these submissions.

The grant allocation in 2014-2015 from the Funding Board is \$450,000 which represents a \$450,000 decrease from the grant allocation in 2013-2014 and is reflective of the exceptionally sound financial position that the ARRHT group has managed to establish.

Although this may seem to be a significant reduction, the Funding Board considers that it reflects the intention of the legislation as the Trust has demonstrated the ability to access alternative funding to support its activities.

The Funding Board is confident that the level of funding allocated is an appropriate contribution to support the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 funding application.

Auckland Theatre Company

The Auckland Theatre Company (ATC) forms part of Creative New Zealand's arts leadership funding programme and recognises the key role that the country's largest professional theatre company plays in Auckland. Over 61,000 people participated in, or attended the 174 performances and programmes in 2011-2012.

The Funding Board recognises that the ATC has expanded its influence across the region in terms of delivering its participation programmes since the inception of regional funding with an associated broadening of its audience base at its main bill productions. For example, since the implementation of regional funding in July 2009, the number of professional performances presented by ATC has increased by 15% and the number of free and low cost events has increased by 90%.

The Funding Board is aware that ATC is working hard towards the development of a new venue on Auckland's waterfront. The business plan indicates that the increased costs of operating this venue should be covered by increased revenue. It should not be assumed that the level of regional funding provided by the Funding Board will increase should operation of the new facility result in increased operational costs.

The grant allocation in 2014-2015 from the Funding Board is \$1,415,000, which represents an increase of \$85,000 over the grant made in 2013-2014.

The Funding Board considers that the level of funding allocation is an appropriate contribution towards the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 application.

Coastguard Northern Region

Auckland is a maritime city, with so many people spending a large proportion of their leisure and, or professional time on the waters around Auckland.

Coastguard Northern Region (CNR) provides an invaluable search and rescue service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The organisation also provides other services such as weather information and boating education to the estimated 470,000 people who enjoy the waters around Auckland every year.

A significant proportion of the 1000 volunteers that contribute directly to CNR's work are from Auckland where 14 units are located.

CNR has undergone a restructuring of its operations and has subsequently signalled that it believes that the level of funding it receives via regional funding is at a level that ensures its financial sustainability and that any further request for increases will be of a modest nature and will be around the level of inflation.

The grant allocation for 2014-2015 is \$670,000, which represents an increase of \$20,000 from the grant made in 2013-2014.

The Funding Board considers that the level of funding allocation is an appropriate contribution towards the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 application.

New Zealand Maritime Museum (Voyager)

Of all of the organisations receiving regional funding Voyager is perhaps the one with the greatest untapped potential. It has a prime waterfront location in the heart of the city and it has the ability to tell the story of New Zealand's unique maritime history.

The provision of regional funding has given the organisation the security and confidence to plan and develop projects, such as its improved off-site storage facility that will ultimately enhance the visitor experience by ensuring appropriate preservation of its exhibits.

Through its education programmes Voyager attracts in excess of 10,000 students annually and provides Voyager with the opportunity to engage with schools in the region.

The Funding Board is aware of the master planning process that Voyager has been undertaking and that this may include major redevelopments. Voyager is actively seeking alternative revenue sources and as such is aware that it should not assume that the level of regional funding would automatically increase should the capital development project result in increased operational costs.

The Funding Board is keen to see an improvement in the public awareness and promotion of the Voyager facility and services. While the Funding Board has not identified a specific sum to be allocated to these activities, the level of funding allocated recognises this important aspect of the work undertaken by Voyager.

The grant allocation for 2014-2015 is \$1,975,000 which represents an increase of \$100,000 over the grant made in 2013-2014.

The Funding Board considers that the level of funding allocation is an appropriate contribution towards the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 application.

New Zealand Opera

In 2012-2013 the New Zealand Opera (NZO) summed up the importance and impact of regional funding to the organisation when it suggested that *“since its implementation in 2009, the financial position of New Zealand Opera has moved from the precarious to the stable”*. There is no doubt that many of the organisations funded via the regional funding mechanism would reiterate the Opera’s observation.

Since the introduction of regional funding NZO has significantly expanded its regional reach with a particular focus on engaging with children and young people. The Opera in Schools programmes takes an adapted version of the opera to schools around the region; giving many students the opportunities to experience opera close up. The “Opera Open Day” held annually at its technical centre also significantly contributes to introducing opera to children, young people and adults from throughout the wider Auckland region.

The organisation also shows how the regional funding has enabled it to develop its technical centre in such a way that the organisation benefits from greater efficiencies. NZO is actively promoting the services of the technical centre to improve its revenue generating activities. This is applauded by the Funding Board.

In 2012-2013 the NZO has signalled that it considered that the level of funding it receives via regional funding was at a level that ensured the organisations financial sustainability and that any further request for increases will be of a modest nature and will be around the level of inflation. No additional funding is required from regional funding despite the unsatisfactory trading result for the last financial year as Funding Board is aware another funding agency has stepped in to assist.

NZ Opera made both written and verbal submissions to the draft 2014-2015 Funding Plan, requesting that the Funding Board grant the full amount originally requested by NZO for 2014-2015. After consideration, this request was declined.

The grant allocation for 2014-2015 is \$800,000 which is the same level granted in 2013-2014.

Notwithstanding the trading results of the NZO, the Funding Board is confident that the

level of funding allocation is an appropriate contribution towards the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 funding application.

The Funding Board is aware that a further review of the operations of NZ Opera is being undertaken and will await the outcome of the review and its recommendations regarding future operations when considering future year funding applications.

Stardome Observatory

(Auckland Observatory and Planetarium Trust)

Over 6500 pupils from lower decile schools across the Auckland region had the opportunity to attend Stardome as a direct result of the provision of regional funding. Without the availability of regional funding, it is highly unlikely that those children and young people would have been able to access the opportunities at Stardome.

Regional funding has also enabled the organisation to align its visitor admission prices in such a manner that will enable it to compete better in the market for the visitor discretionary spend.

Accessing funding from other sources to support both the work of the organisation and the funding of building and asset renewals and maintenance remains a challenge for Stardome.

Following the strategic review funded by the Funding Board and undertaken in 2013, the Funding Board is looking forward to see the impact of the outcomes of the review as they are implemented in 2014-2015.

The grant allocation for 2014-2015 is \$1,269,000 which represents an increase of \$150,000 over the grant made in 2013-2014.

The Funding Board considers that the level of funding allocation is an appropriate contribution towards the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 funding application.

Surf Life Saving Northern Region

The reassuring sight of the surf life saving teams is one that greets the thousands of Aucklanders as they use the beaches every summer. In the year to 30 June 2013 SLSNR patrols provided 80,371 patrol hours throughout the 2012-2013 season. A further 643 people owe their lives to the efforts of outstanding lifeguards and the invaluable service that they perform.

All through the year, however, members and clubs that comprise SLSNR are engaged in a wide range of work that aims to prevent the need for intervention on the beaches. Many of these preventative initiatives have been made possible by the provision of regional funding.

The attraction of more volunteers as a result of club sustainability is also attributed to the degree of security brought about through the availability of regional funding.

The grant allocation for 2014-2015 is \$1,200,000 which represents an increase of \$60,000 over the grant allocation made in 2013-2014.

The Funding Board considers that the level of funding allocation is an appropriate contribution towards the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 funding application.

Watersafe Auckland

The need for drowning prevention programmes across Auckland is essential, given that part of the attraction of Auckland is its proximity to high quality beaches, kayaking, boating and fishing. The water is never far away from all of Auckland citizens. The presence of regional funding has enabled Watersafe Auckland to plan and deliver a wide range of initiatives that make it safer for Aucklanders to enjoy the water safely.

Auckland's drowning rates are 1.3 per 100,000 people which compares to 2.7/100,000 for the rest of the country. This is in spite of Auckland having enhanced exposure to a wide range of aquatic activities including swimming, boating and fishing. Auckland also has higher proportions of high risk populations. As well as this population measure, key performance measures highlight significant positive outcomes as a result of Watersafe Auckland and their partners' specific interventions, for example, rock-fishing among new migrants. The increase in the number of rock fishers who now wear lifejackets has increased from 4% to 30% in five years.

The Funding Board, along with a number of funding organisations, is aware that in recent years a perception of duplication of services in this area. It is apparent that this perception has resulted in a net loss of funding to the water safety sector as funders have lacked clarity.

The Funding Board therefore welcomed the reviews undertaken within the water safety sector to determine a coherent way forward that ensures resources are appropriately applied to initiatives that deliver the required outcomes.

Watersafe made a written submission to the draft 2014-2015 Funding Plan, requesting that the Funding Board grant the full amount originally requested by Watersafe for 2014-2015. After consideration, this request was declined.

The grant allocation for 2014-2015 is \$970,000 which is an increase of \$50,000 over the grant allocation made in 2013-2014.

The Funding Board considers that the level of funding allocation is an appropriate contribution towards the activities laid out in the 2014-2015 application.

Key Performance Indicators

Under the Act, each amenity is required to identify key performance targets and other measures by which to assess the amenity's achievements of the objectives as outline their annual plans.

The targets and measures that each of the amenities have identified for 2014-2015 include:

Auckland Arts Festival	
1	Successfully securing budgeted funding from local government, sponsorship (cash and in-kind), trusts and private giving.
2	Meeting box office targets through a balanced programme including popular events of scale.
3	Delivering 2015 AAF within budget parameters.
4	Securing and delivering a strong international programme for the 2015 AAF.
5	Programme the 2015 AAF with a strong focus on Maori and Pacific work.
6	Commissioning at least one major new NZ work for presentation at AAF 2015.
7	Establishing and implementing key collaborations with a range of other presenters, venues and festivals
8	Achieving stronger awareness and brand presence among key stakeholders including current and new funders and sponsors, national organisations and audiences.
9	Increasing attendances at AAF 2015 compared to AAF 2013; including those from wider Auckland.
10	Attracting increased audiences reflecting Auckland's cultural identity: increased Maori, Pacific and Asian audiences.
11	Continuing to work towards presenting a Festival Every Year (FEY) from 2016.

Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra		
Area of Activity	How Measured	Organisational/Auckland Impact (KPI)
APO Connecting	Connecting measures (see below)	Measures used to ensure Connecting programmes are delivering on high levels of customer satisfaction, and are relevant. Identifying areas of high performances, and areas for development
Artistic Excellence	Concertmasters Committee reviews Visiting Conductor and Soloist Reviews and Press reviews	Informed future artistic development

Reach and Community Access	<p>People who hear APO live</p> <p>Number of schools</p> <p>Number of programmes</p>	<p>110,000+ total (APO and other performances/hires)</p> <p>Number of different schools = 118 school groups attending APO concerts</p> <p>33 APO Connecting programmes for the 2014-15 year</p> <p>Auckland impact: Overall, a wide cross section of Aucklanders experience and enjoy orchestral music of all kinds.</p>
Customer Satisfaction	Council KPI Feedback from concertgoers and participants	<p>APO will have 90% positive feedback</p> <p>Auckland impact: Public pride in Auckland increases and APO contributes to vibrant community.</p>
Audience	<p>Annual audience at: APO concerts (main stage, family and low cost)</p> <p>APO Free concerts and events APO Connecting education concerts</p> <p>Partnership/accompanying events e.g. Opera, Ballet</p>	<p>55,000</p> <p>40 free community events/concerts</p> <p>Capacity audiences at all education concerts</p> <p>40,000 (this is dependent on numbers at non-APO events, and numbers of hires)</p> <p>Auckland impact: APO contributes to vibrant community.</p>
	Numbers of subscribers	14,000 subscription tickets sold to 1,200 subscribers
	Subscriber ticket revenue –	\$1 million+ Downstream revenue for restaurants and bars near location of concerts
	Individual concert ticket revenue through external ticketing agencies	<p>\$350,000</p> <p>Auckland impact: Downstream revenue for restaurants and bars near location of concerts</p>
	Number of self-presented concerts (main stage and	<p>50.</p> <p>Auckland impact: Variety of</p>

	Connecting – ticketed;	concerts adds to vibrancy of Auckland’s cultural mix
	Number of free /low cost (<\$25) public performances	25. Auckland impact: Accessibility through location and low cost.

Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter

1	That ARRHT maintains a 24/7 response capability.	
2	That ARRHT achieves 95% of call-outs within the industry response guidelines of 10 minutes during the daytime and 20 minutes at night.	

Auckland Theatre Company

1	Target: Performance/event days	
	• Mainbill/Family	209
	• Free/Low Cost Events days	275
2	Attendance against budgeted targets for each production event	
	• Mainbill/Family	62,625
	• Free/Low Cost Events days	17,182

Coastguard Northern Region

1	The provision through Auckland Regional Coastguard units, of an emergency response to all Auckland recreational boating areas. Via its communication network, CNR will task rescue assets to be on scene within 60 minutes of activation, available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year in conditions up to force 7.
2	Continue to dedicate in excess of 70% of total CNR resources to the Auckland region, in order to deliver its 3 primary services; search and rescue, communication and education for the benefit of the Auckland boating community. In order to achieve this CNR will maintain volunteer numbers in Auckland above 600, support a minimum of 14 Auckland units, and ensure that boating education is available to all in Auckland who seek it.

Voyager - New Zealand Maritime Museum

1	VNZMM creates or enhances cultural partnerships to provide new and compelling cultural attractions on or around Hobson Wharf.
2	Increase by 30% the proportion of visitors that have a ‘deep engagement’ with the museum, relative to those with a ‘peripheral engagement’.

New Zealand Opera		
1.	Outreach:	
	Opera in schools (total per annum)	4,000
	Opera Tool Kit (Students per term)	30
	Master Class (students per session)	5-10
	Opera Trunks (8 locations per annum) – students per classroom	30
	Design Creative Workshops	40
	Vocal Creative Workshop	25
	School Attendance	1000
2.	Total audience and viewer numbers will exceed 15,500 in 2014-2015.	15,500
3.	NZO restricts the application of Regional Funding to between 27-10% of the overall Auckland overhead expenditure.	

Stardome - Auckland Observatory and Planetarium Trust		
1.	Monthly measurement of our performance against budget. Stardome will use its financial reporting as a vehicle for this, with both the Board of Trustees and the Management Team reviewing performance. Constant reviews for the organisations efficiencies take place with the management team and the board being the key drivers in this.	
2.	Attendance KPI's . This is broken down into Total Attendance, and then down further into business units, and further into show attendance. The Vista software which is the Stardome ticketing program provides very accurate statistics on individual show attendance. The new visitor monitoring system will allow Stardome to track “free entry” customers, which was previously estimated.	
3.	Low Decile Scheme This is monitored every month to ensure Stardome offers this to as many schools as funding will allow. This has also allowed Stardome to target low decile schools that have not visited before and get them to the facility.	
4.	Regional Reach Monthly monitoring of which regions the audience comes from will continue, and this information will be used by the marketing team to push into outer Auckland City areas, to increase attendance from these areas.	
5.	Customer satisfaction. Education visits will continue to have an evaluation form as part of the process. The new kiosk has already proven popular as an interactive display that gives customers the opportunity to give feedback on the facility. This vital information is readily accessible from the Kiosk, and will be used to improve customer satisfaction.	
6.	Staff Reviews As part of the staff review process Stardome actively seeks feedback from staff on how they think things are going. Stardome welcomes their input into	

	improvements that could be made to Stardome.
7.	<p>Volunteer Recruitment</p> <p>An on-going on line recruitment drive for volunteers is happening on the Stardome website and through various Astronomical groups that Stardome is associated with. This is an essential and valuable component of the facilities operating so numbers are always closely monitored.</p>

Surf Life Saving Northern Region

1.	SLSNR provides a lifesaving service, via the Regional Lifeguard Service, for a minimum of a combined 123 weeks on 16 beaches within the Auckland region. These patrols will comply with all minimum lifesaving standards, as dictated by the standards set by Surf Life Saving New Zealand, and no drownings will occur between the patrol flags on these beaches.
2.	SLSNR increases the number of participants in its education programmes by 10%.
3.	The 10 Auckland clubs that receive an operational grant from Auckland Regional Amenities Funding, will comply with all minimum lifesaving standards as per the clubs Patrol Operations Manual, as audited by SLSNR throughout the season.

Watersafe Auckland

1.	<p>Quantity of Direct water safety education contacts.</p> <p>Rationale: A direct water safety education opportunity enables the targeting of high risk drowning groups across age, ethnicity, activity and/or environment or for specific educational content.</p>	KPI: Direct water safety education to 350,000 residents via professional learning and development opportunities; forums; meetings; presentations; workshops; courses; seminars; telephone; email; or website.
2.	<p>Quality of Direct water safety education contacts.</p> <p>Rationale: The targeting of water safety education contacts ensures the water safety education needs of residents of Auckland are met.</p>	KPI: 80% of our direct water safety education contacts meet the needs of attendees or recipients.

Applications for Funding for July 2015 to June 2017

As part of the application process for 2014-2015, each of the 10 specified amenities are required to indicate what level of funding it may seek in the subsequent two financial years, i.e. 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, and 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

Whilst the Funding Board recognises that these figures are indicative only, it is again signalling at an early stage that there is currently a level of discomfort regarding some of the proposed increases being sought by several of the amenities, in particular the increases signalled for these future years.

Many of the amenities have identified increases in funding for total grants which are greater than the amounts allocated in the 2014-2015 Funding Plan. The Funding Board is signalling that such increases and grant requests are, in many cases, unlikely to be realised and will need to be fully justified in the form of independent needs analysis and other third party verification that increased services/programmes/facilities justify increased funding from the Funding Board.

While each organisation is responsible for its own governance and management decisions, the Funding Board remains firmly of the view that there should not be an automatic assumption that changes or increased costs arising from decisions of the governors or management of the entities will automatically result in increased grant funding.

The Funding Board is aware that the key purpose of the Act is to provide a mechanism for adequate, sustainable and secure funding. The Funding Board believes that the levels of funding allocated in the 2014-2015 Funding Plan, for many of the amenities, satisfy that obligation.

Amenities Indicative Funding Requests for July 2015 to June 2017

Amenity	Grant Allocation 2014-2015	Indicative application amount for 2015-2016	Indicative application amount for 2016-2017
Auckland Festival Trust	2,305,000	3,375,000**	3,450,000
Auckland Philharmonia Trust	2,942,000	3,250,000	3,500,000
Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust	450,000	1,369,909	1,404,257
Auckland Theatre Company Ltd	1,415,000	1,563,500	1,600,000
Coastguard Northern Region Inc	670,000	720,000	750,000
New Zealand Opera Ltd	800,000	840,000	840,000
Stardome - Auckland Observatory and Planetarium Trust	1,269,000	1,253,000	1,293,000
Surf Life Saving Northern Region Inc	1,200,000	1,250,000	1,300,000
Voyager – New Zealand Maritime Museum	1,975,000	3,950,000	3,100,000
Watersafe Auckland Incorporated	970,000	1,022,120	1,032,341
Total	\$13,996,000	\$18,593,529	18,269,598

** This reflects the request for Festival Every Year funding

Levels of Funding

The maximum amount of the levy that can be charged for 2014-2015 and future financial years is specified in s.35 of the Act.

“An amount equal to no more than 2% of the total adjusted revenue from rates of the Auckland Council in the previous financial year.”

The total maximum levy has been calculated as \$26,740,000 in accordance with s.34 (5) (a) (ii) of the Act. This is based on the annual rates revenue information of \$1,337 million published in the Auckland Council Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2013.

For 2014-2015, the Funding Board has fixed a levy of \$14,311,000, to be apportioned as follows:

Allocated to the 10 specified amenities	\$13,996,000
Administration costs	<u>\$315,000</u>
Total Levy	\$14,311,000

The levy payable in 2013-2014 was \$14,096,000. The levy for 2014-2015 is \$14,311,000. This represents an increase of 1.53% over 2013-2014. In monetary terms it represents a \$215,000 increase over the levy Auckland Council paid in 2013-2014.

The levies are payable to the Funding Board by the Auckland Council on 1 July 2014. The levies will be distributed as grants to the specified amenities no later than 15 August 2014.

Contributing Authorities

Pursuant to s.34 of the Act, the Funding Board has calculated the maximum levy payable by the Auckland Council for the 2014-2015 financial year.

Council	Percentage	Amount
Auckland Council	100.0%	\$14,311,000

Financial Information

Income & expenditure in relation to the levies received

	2014-2015	2013-2014
Income		
Levies receivable	\$14,311,000	\$14,096,000
Total	\$14,311,000	\$14,096,000
Expenditure		
Grants to be distributed to amenities	\$13,996,000	\$13,781,000
Honorarium	\$157,500	\$144,250
Audit and Administration costs	\$10,500	\$9,000
Advisory Services	\$50,000	\$67,000
Legal and Consultancy	\$97,000	\$94,750
Total	\$14,311,000	\$14,096,000
Net Surplus/(deficit – funded from reserves held)	\$0	\$0

For the seventh and subsequent years, the levy has not been set; however, the setting of the levies will follow the guidelines prescribed in s.34 of the Act.

The Inland Revenue Department has determined that the portion of levy collected and then distributed to the specified amenities as grants (\$13,996,000) is not subject to GST. That portion of the levy collected for administration costs (\$315,000) is subject to the normal rules applying to the supply of goods and services and is therefore subject to GST.

The Board

The Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board was established by the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act 2008.

The members of the Funding Board are selected following a publicly notified and contestable selection and appointments process.

The members of the Funding Board are:

Mr Vern Walsh	Chair
Mr Scott Milne	Deputy Chair

Ms Candis Craven

Ms Anita Killeen

Mr Grant Lilly

Ms Lyn Lim

Ms Diane Maloney

Ms Penny Sefuiva

Ms Moana Tamaariki-Pohe

Dr Carolyn Coggan (passed away 14 February 2014)

Term of Office

Expires 30 May 2017

Mr Vern Walsh

Ms Candis Craven

Mr Grant Lilly

Ms Anita Killeen

Ms Penny Sefuiva

Ms Moana Tamaariki-Pohe

Expires 30 May 2015

Vacancy

Ms Lyn Lim

Ms Diane Maloney

Mr Scott Milne

In accordance with the provisions in the Act, Auckland Council and the Amenities Board has undertaken a process to appoint new board members within the timeframes stipulated in the Act. Existing board members were

eligible for re-appointment. The vacancy that has arisen in respect of Dr Coggan will be filled by the Amenities Board for the remainder of the term.

Funding Board Members Remuneration

Auckland Council has determined that the rates of remuneration for members for the year commencing 1 July 2014 shall be as follows:

Chair	\$28,000 per annum
Deputy Chair	\$17,500 per annum
Members	\$14,000 per annum

Amount Payable to the Advisory Officer

No formal arrangement had been entered into with Auckland Council regarding the appointment of an Advisory Officer for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 or subsequent periods. If Auckland Council does not require the Funding Board to appoint an Auckland Council nominated Advisory Officer, it may choose to make its own appointment.

The Funding Board had appointed Leigh Redshaw to act as Advisory Officer for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014 at the rate of \$4166 per month, with the option for parties to renew the contract for a further period.

Auckland Council provides other services to the Funding Board from time to time. The Funding Board will make full reimbursement as required, and pay for services as agreed. For example, the honorariums payable to board members are managed and paid through the Auckland Council payroll system. The Funding Board will fully reimburse Auckland Council for these and any other costs incurred on behalf of the board.

Administration

Pursuant to s.25 of the Act, the Funding Plan must disclose the maximum amount of the Funding Board's reasonable administrative costs.

For the 2014-2015 financial year, administrative costs have been assessed as \$315,000.

The administrative costs cover the honorariums of members, plus the cost of the Advisory Officer and all other administrative costs, such as secretarial services, printing, advertising, meeting costs, legal and other consultancy or professional advice received.

	Budget 2015	Budget 2014
Income		
Levies receivable	14,311,000	14,096,000
Total income	14,311,000	14,096,000
Expenses		
Audit fees	5,500	5,000
Grants distributed	13,996,000	13,781,000
Legal fees	50,000	79,750
Advisor & Board secretarial support	50,000	67,000
Consultants	47,000	15,000
Board member fees	157,500	144,250
Administration expenses	5,000	4,000
Total expenses	14,311,000	14,096,000
Surplus/ (deficit)	0	0

The Amenities Introduced

The 10 specified amenities funded under the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act 2008 provide a wide range of experiences and services to people across the greater Auckland region each year.

Each specified amenity has prepared a brief outline regarding the activities of their entity and these follow.

Auckland Arts Festival

The Auckland Arts Festival is Auckland's premier festival of New Zealand and international arts and culture. Currently being presented biennially, the globally-recognised event showcases a rich programme of theatre, dance, music and visual arts, offering unique experiences for audiences and artists. It contributes to Auckland's reputation as a vital arts and cultural centre, provides significant social and economic benefits to the region, and promotes Auckland as a great place to live.

Since the inaugural event in 2003, the Auckland Arts Festival has welcomed over 1.2 million attendees and increased Aucklanders' participation in arts. The 2013 Festival was staged from 6 - 24 March 2013 and achieved box office and attendance records; more than 100,000 tickets sold and 183,000 attendances recorded across ticketed and free events.

The Festival puts on work that would not usually occur outside a festival context and commissions and stages both international and New Zealand works. The work varies from populist and accessible to more boundary-stretching and thought-provoking art, reflecting our world today.

The Festival delivers a significant Maori, Pacific and Asian programme, an extensive family and schools programme, reaching out to communities from Mahurangi to Mangere, Great Barrier to Pukekohe, and has created work of national and international significance.

The education programme delivers to over 10,000 young people through the schools' 'smartsfest'. The Festival programmes multiple family-specific events that have an audience capacity of over 100,000, which can be experienced across generations with the entire family.

The Festival is a major user of Auckland venues and over a 19 day period it uses more than 20 different venues, many for the entire festival period, as well as partnering with other institutions such as art galleries and museums.

The Festival provides proven leadership in the arts, mentoring and employing Auckland arts companies, artists and arts workers.

The next festival is in March 2015.

Regional funding enables the Auckland Arts Festival to deliver a world class Festival to communities right across Auckland and to attract visitors from beyond the region.

The Trust intends to stage an annual Festival from 2016. Holding the event annually would improve its financial viability while also fostering and encouraging the development of Auckland's creative sector.

Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra

Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra (APO) is the city's leading performing arts organisation, and Auckland's only full-time professional symphony orchestra. It is the main supplier of orchestral music to greater Auckland and is popular across the region for its appealing variety of concerts from core classical repertoire such as Beethoven and Mahler to presenting popular children's classics.

In more than 80 performances annually, the APO presents a full season of symphonic work showcasing many of the world's finest classical musicians. Recent and upcoming soloists include artists of the calibre of James Ehnes, Maxim Rysanov and Dame Evelyn Glennie. Renowned for its innovation, passion and versatility, the APO collaborates with some of New Zealand's most inventive artists, including performances with The Adults, Nathan Haines and Six60. Additionally, the APO is orchestra of choice for visiting international acts such as Diana Krall and Natalie Cole.

The APO plays to more than 100,000 people each year and works with New Zealand Opera, the Royal New Zealand Ballet, Auckland Arts Festival, the Michael Hill International Violin Competition and other local and international presenters.

The APO promotes a vibrant arts culture by providing leadership and support. Through its numerous education, outreach and community initiatives the APO offers opportunities to more than 30,000 young people and adults nationwide to participate in music, ranging from hip-hop and rock to contemporary and classical.

Free education concerts for students from low-decile schools as well as the wider community have been part of the APO's programme for several years, and have expanded in scope in 2014-15. As well as performing concerts in various venues in central, west, south and north Auckland, APO musicians visit schools across the region and actively develop year-long working relationships with teachers and students, developing a love of music in the next generation of Aucklanders.

With the advent of regional funding, the APO has greatly increased its community access and outreach programme across Auckland. This includes free 'Open Orchestra' days that grant the public full access to the APO operations, and special performances and activities in multiple local centres.

The orchestra has also expanded its Remix the Orchestra creative mentoring programme, which fuses classical music and hip-hop, and is targeted at talented and

at-risk young people in south and west Auckland. In 2013 Remix the Orchestra was honoured with a Music Rights Award from the UNESCO-affiliated International Music Council.

In 2014 the orchestra continues to build on the legacy of the 2011 Auckland Dance Project. In 2012 The APO worked with three Auckland schools to present original choreography to Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks* by Atamira Dance Company Artistic Director Moss Patterson, followed that in 2013 with Takarangi, and in 2014 presents Te Manu Ahi, featuring young dancers selected from five schools covering north, south, east and west Auckland, and representing deciles 1 to 10.

Most APO concerts are broadcast live nationally and streamed online, allowing everyone the chance to share the excitement of a world-class performance.

The APO is passionate about orchestral music, and the quality it can add to the lives of all residents of this world-class city, and looks forward to opening doors for more people of the greater Auckland region to share in the excitement.

Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust

The Trust provides a rescue helicopter service to the communities of the greater Auckland region on a 24 hour, 7 day basis for 365 days a year.

This service has been provided for over 40 years and over 800 missions are undertaken annually.

Mission activity for 2012/13 was:-

Primary medical	375
Primary accident	303
Starship Hospital child transfers	85
Search & Rescue	<u>63</u>
	<u>826</u>

In response to increasing demand for the Trust's services, a second helicopter was introduced to service in August 2010.

In addition to rescue services, the Trust undertake training for community ambulance staff, paediatric nurses, Surf Lifesaving lifeguards, Coastguard and Search & Rescue.

The Trust continues to run its very popular and successful school Chopper Challenge program. This provides primary and intermediate schools with a unique personal development module for their students, which is based on a fitness program and provides the children with a sense of achievement, as well as introducing them to social and community responsibilities.

Auckland Theatre Company

Auckland Theatre Company is the region's leading professional theatre company, offering a year round programme of high quality theatre performed in a number of city theatres, including the Maidment Theatre, Q Theatre, the Bruce Mason Centre, the Basement and the Mangere Arts Centre.

The annual programme includes productions of classics, international contemporary drama and comedies, home grown New Zealand work, family shows, community-based productions and an annual youth theatre festival.

As an industry leadership organisation Auckland Theatre Company performs to an audiences of over 75,000 people per annum and provides employment for up to 350 artistic, creative, technical and associated personnel.

Auckland Theatre Company's highly regarded education programme supports theatre education and training via a school matinee programme for over 7,000 students each year, school visits, workshops, master classes, an Ambassadors programme and curriculum linked resources. Approximately 11,000 students and young people participate in ATC Education activities each year.

ATC Participate offers Auckland residents from many walks of life with opportunities to engage in the performing arts to learn new skills, exchange stories, knowledge and ideas. The growing programme extends across the region to create inspiring theatre experiences with community-based organisations, often on a free or low cost basis.

Auckland Theatre Company contributes to the role that the performing arts play in developing Auckland's cultural identity, giving voice to uniquely New Zealand stories. The company runs a dedicated Literary Unit which commissions, develops and fosters new New Zealand work for the stage. Free monthly play readings of work in the development are held throughout the year in addition to Auckland Theatre Company's annual festival of new works in development.

Auckland Theatre Company is passionate about the role that the arts can play in everyday lives of Auckland residents. Regional funding enables Auckland Theatre Company to provide world class theatre to enrich the life of the city, celebrate

Auckland's diversity and contribute to Auckland's development as a creative and culturally vibrant powerhouse.

Coastguard Northern Region

The organisation has over 647 volunteers and 13 Coastguard Units in the greater Auckland area. These volunteers, who are often faced with difficult and dangerous conditions, dedicated more than 100,000 hours in the last year, attending 1,678 incidents that ensured 4,167 people from the Auckland community were brought home safely to their families.

With the continual growth of the boating sector, a focus over the last 12 months has been the critical upgrade of the organisations Operations Centre which provides vital information and coordination of Coastguard rescue resources and safety services to over 300,000 marine users. This project delivers significant benefits to the greater Auckland area with the upgrade seeing a move from old technology to a new digital platform, increased work stations, capability and future proofing to meet the continuous increase in demand.

Of importance remains initiatives aimed at 'at risk' sectors of the Auckland population. Safe boating programmes continue to be developed and implemented in communities throughout the region Bar Crossing Days around the Manukau Harbour and Life Jacket Awareness Days in both east and central Auckland.

In addition, the Maritime School delivers the training for the organisation's 1,021 volunteers ensuring they are ready to provide effective assistance to the Auckland communities who enjoy the many waterways in the region.

Coastguard Northern regions most recent annual turnover was in the region of \$4.1 million of which approx. 65% was generated through membership, grants, sponsorship and donations.

Regional funding focuses on the 24/7 operations of the Communications & SAR Response Centre, education courses and initiatives as well as increased services and support to the 13 Coastguard units that operate in the wider Auckland area.

Voyager - New Zealand Maritime Museum

Voyager - Te Huitēananui a Tangaroa, New Zealand's National Maritime Museum, tells the stories of the nation's rich maritime heritage which shapes Aotearoa New Zealand. Voyager celebrates this bond between our peoples and the sea and connects the journeys of the past with the present and future.

Aotearoa New Zealand is built on a foundation of great voyages and endeavour. From the discovery of Aotearoa by Kupe and the Polynesian migration across the Pacific, to Tasman and Cook's exploration and the achievements of Sir Peter Blake and Sir Russell Coutts. The Museum celebrates these pioneers and the maritime stories through exhibitions, displays and on-water experiences. Voyager also provides public access to nationally significant maritime collections, library and archive and provides a full calendar of education activities, public programmes and events.

The Museum opened in August 1993 and is located on Auckland's Waterfront at Hobson Wharf in the Viaduct Harbour. The Museum is an independent charitable trust, employing 25 full time equivalent staff, complemented by 165 volunteers. In the 2012 - 2013 year its volunteers contributed 30,018 hours towards the Museum's operations.

During 2012-13 Voyager attracted 134,695 visitors to the Museum, up 14% on the previous year, of these 35,685 were Aucklanders visiting free of charge, up 27% on the previous year, 16,376 children participated in LEOTC programmes and 9,117 children were engaged in school holiday programmes. Audience research indicates that 45% of visitors to the Museum are from Auckland, 11% are from elsewhere in New Zealand and 44% are international visitors.

Voyager's annual turnover in the 2012 - 2013 year was \$4.1 million, of which 55% was raised from admission fees, commercial income and grant funding from community and gaming charitable trusts. The remaining 45% was generously provided through regional funding.

Significant Objectives for 2014 – 2015 include:

- Improving public access to Voyager’s collections and enhancing standard of collections care.
- Enriching the visitor experience through new and innovative exhibitions and interpretation, educational activity, public programming, special events and on water experiences.
- Refurbishing the Museum Concourse and the Edmiston Special Exhibition Gallery.
- Increasing Voyager’s outreach initiatives within the Auckland community through new lifelong learning opportunities in partnership with others.

New Zealand Opera

New Zealand Opera (NZO) is one of New Zealand's largest arts organisations and produces fully professional opera seasons that are highly regarded in New Zealand and throughout the world.

In addition to its two main stage productions in Auckland (with annual audiences of 16,000), the company performs for 'Music in Parks', and large domain concerts. It also presents opera seasons in Wellington and Christchurch. Its Chapman Tripp Opera Chorus performs in concert with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, as well as in various sponsor functions.

NZO nourishes the talents of New Zealand-born singers, and fosters young opera talent through a long-standing emerging artists internship programme. It also cultivates the talents of practitioners in the technical fields, such as stage-management and set and costume construction.

NZO runs a production workshop in Onehunga, a multi-purpose facility in which sets, costumes and props are constructed, and the opera productions are rehearsed. This is also where NZO's extensive costume stock is housed. Whenever possible, this facility is also made available for the use of other arts groups in Auckland.

NZO also works in partnership with a number of overseas opera companies. 2014 will see collaborations with the State Opera of South Australia and Opera Queensland as well as participation in a multi-nation project which will be featured during the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Regional funding has enabled NZO to sustain and develop its programmes and continue its policy of promoting opera to the wider Auckland community. In particular, it has brought about a significant expansion of its outreach work. In a typical year, this consists of:

- Vocal and design creative workshops
- 'Opera in Schools' performances
- Students attendance at dress rehearsals

Stardome: Auckland Observatory and Planetarium

Stardome, the Auckland Observatory and Planetarium's mission is "To Share Knowledge of Space in Ways that Inspire, Challenge and Excite"

Stardome is New Zealand's leading astronomical attraction. Its facility comprises a world class planetarium where visitors can see shows and programmes about space and the universe on the immersive 360 degree dome, astronomical and educational displays and exhibits in the foyer and public areas, a publicly accessible observatory where the public can actually view planets and constellations and a world rated astronomical research observatory all located on the slopes of Maungakiekie.

In addition, Stardome has introduced a range of non astronomical shows (such as music shows etc) over the past few years to broaden its customer base and to attract a wider audience from throughout the Auckland region.

Entry to Stardome is free but visitors are required to pay an entry fee for public and education planetarium shows.

In the 2012/2013 year Stardome increased the number of visitors paying to attend planetarium shows by 12% to a record 80,240 and with total visitors, including the many Auckland citizens who visit Stardome to enjoy the free displays and exhibits, exceeding 130,000. Over 60% of Stardome's visitors are children, the majority of whom attend with their schools as part of their science curriculum.

Around 95% of Stardome visitors are from within the greater Auckland region with the balance of visitors coming from other parts of New Zealand or from overseas.

Regional funding has helped to underwrite the sustainability and financial stability of Stardome and has allowed for the provision of a world class observatory and planetarium, open to the public of Auckland seven days a week.

Specifically the regional funding has allowed Stardome to:

- Introduce its lower decile school subsidy program that allowed over 8,000 students from decile 1, 2 and 3 schools to visit Stardome in 2012/2013 and over

19,000 low decile students to attend under this program in its first three years of operation.

- Expand its Regional Reach program which is designed to maximise visitors from outside of the traditional “Auckland City” area.
- Lower entry charges for public and educational visits to make attending planetarium shows more affordable for the citizens of Auckland and to increase visitor numbers.
- Acquire new educational and astronomical shows and to introduce new types of shows and programs that are designed to broaden Stardome’s customer base.
- Introduce its new “Southern Initiative” which will focus on bringing students to Stardome from the four areas of South Auckland deemed by the Auckland Council as being areas of high social need.

Stardome has a high level of engagement with Maori across the Auckland region including projects to expand understanding and teaching of Maori astronomy and to support the growing level of interest in Matariki as both an astronomical and cultural event.

Surf Life Saving Northern Region

Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) is an emergency rescue service whose mission is preventing drowning and injury on the region's beaches. SLSNR coordinates the activities of the 17 clubs within the region from Raglan in the south to Far North Rescue in the North. The 10 Auckland based clubs cover an area from Kariaotahi in the south to Omaha in the North and include patrols at 16 beaches.

The activities undertaken include Lifesaving, Club Development, Education, Sport and Leadership Development. Each of these activities supports the core business of public safety and emergency services.

Over 1300 active lifeguards will patrol 16 beaches within the Auckland region and will perform over 150 lifeguard weeks and will be patrolling up to 27 weekends of volunteer patrols from Labour weekend to ANZAC weekend. With visitor numbers to these beaches expected to be well over half a million people during the busy summer period the service provided by these lifeguards is absolutely vital and ensures that the hundreds of thousands of visitors and surrounding communities can enjoy the many beaches within the Auckland region. Last year there were over 640 rescues at Northern Region beaches, 789 first aid treatments provided and 34,711 beach-goers removed from danger.

The funding provided to SLSNR ensures that world-class lifesaving services are provided to the residents and visitors of the Auckland region with over 10,000 school children having access to subsidised Surf Education programmes. The provision of an operational grant to the 10 surf lifesaving clubs within the Auckland region ensures these clubs have in place capability and lifeguard training and retention programmes so they can provide the vital community service of patrolling Auckland beaches.

The funding provided will also guarantee the most comprehensive weekday lifesaving service in New Zealand in the 2014-15 year - up to 15 weeks patrolling at the busiest Auckland beaches. This service is only made possible through the regional funding received and ensures that an essential rescue service is provided at the favourite playground of so many, the beach, and can be enjoyed seven days a week over the summer period.

The value of the lifeguarding services on the beaches of the region is beyond measure and the resulting product of saved lives and safe beaches is an irreplaceable community asset that will never depreciate.

WaterSafe Auckland

WaterSafe Auckland leads, coordinates and delivers water safety education to meet the needs of our diverse Auckland Region.

Auckland is unique. It has 180 different ethnic groups - a growing and youthful population with almost 50% not born here - greatest percentage of residents to coastline - three wonderful and accessible harbours and the greatest percentage of boaties. Despite these facts, Auckland still has one of the lowest per capita drowning rates nationally. This is one of the most indicative measures of the success of our multilateral collaborative approach to water safety education - it is about transforming water safety thinking – developing a water safety consciousness, self-awareness and safer decision making.

WAI's multilateral collaborative partnership initiatives with Council, local boards, aquatic, health, safety and injury prevention organisation has seen water safety education delivered into various areas: to schools; at community events both local and region wide; Pacific men in their workplaces; families through Early Childhood centres and swim schools; trainee teachers at tertiary institutions.

Results of these initiatives include more than 400,000 direct water safety education outputs; 11,500 lifejacket sessions for schools; water safety material to all schools region wide; support to learn to swim; leading home pool safety education and numerous targeted workshops and trainings for our diverse populations.

Looking ahead, WAI will continue to focus on reducing the region's drowning rate, but it will also focus on the social, environmental and cultural benefits of using aquatic education as developmental or transformational tool. WAI has already seen these gains in the evaluations of the WAI Wise youth focused project. By thinking 'outside the square' WAI is looking to produce residents and students in particular, with a love of things aquatic - interested in making a contribution to the technical, scientific and engineering areas of the marine industry, maritime trades and allied industries together with aquatic based tourism; all areas of future growth for Auckland.

In line with the Council, WAI is committed to delivering on 'A fair, safe and healthy Auckland'. In line with the Recreation and Sport area of the Auckland Plan, WAI will

continue to 'accelerate the prospects of Auckland's children and young people' through safer opportunities to participate more safely in aquatic sport. Examples include the professional development and learning for pre- and in-service teachers and the region-wide Whanau Nui – a free learn-to-swim and water safety initiative across low decile areas of the region in partnership with Council pools and swim schools.

Education around lifejacket wearing has seen an increase in the wearing rate of lifejackets by land based fishers and continued reduction in rock fishing drowning deaths. Home pool compliance in Auckland is higher than across the rest of the country – WAI continues to be very active in this area safety for the under-fives.

WAI staff are experts and qualified in their fields be it education, community health and safety, Maori and Pacific cultural approaches or meeting the aquatic learning needs of the NZ Curriculum providing best practise which is adopted by other bodies nationwide. Research and evidence will always drive WAI policies and practices towards the ultimate goal of preventing drowning.

Directory of Specified Amenities

Organisation	Charities Commission** number(s)	Website
Auckland Festival Trust	CC22145	http://aucklandfestival.co.nz/
Auckland Philharmonia Trust	CC23611 & CC23607	http://www.apo.co.nz/
Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust	CC21935 & CC46529	http://www.rescuehelicopter.org.nz/
Auckland Theatre Company Limited	CC23655 & CC23653	http://www.atc.co.nz/
Coastguard Northern Region Incorporated	CC30031	http://www.coastguard.org.nz/
New Zealand Opera Limited	CC22724 & CC21944	http://www.nzopera.com/
Stardome - Auckland Observatory and Planetarium Trust Board	CC20451	http://www.stardome.org.nz/
Surf Life Saving Northern Region Inc	CC21256 & CC23043	http://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/northern
Voyager – NZ Maritime Museum Trust Board	CC10056	http://www.maritimemuseum.co.nz/
Watersafe Auckland Incorporated	CC11454	http://www.watersafe.org.nz/

** <http://www.charities.govt.nz>

Submissions on the Draft 2014-2015 Funding Plan

The Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board published the draft 2014-2015 Funding Plan on 20 January 2014. Public submissions on the plan closed at 5PM on 21 February 2014.

At the closing time, seven written submissions had been received. A further two submissions were received by the close of the next business day. These late submissions were treated as if they had been received within the prescribed time.

The submissions related to four main themes:

- i. Reinstatement/increase in funding for the Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust to \$1.35 million
- ii. A request from Watersafe Auckland Incorporated for its original funding request to be approved in full
- iii. A request from NZ Opera Ltd for its original funding request to be approved in full
- iv. General support for the Funding Plan as published.

The Funding Board met on 11 March 2014 and received verbal submissions from all three parties wishing to present directly to the board.

The Funding Board subsequently undertook extensive discussion on the written and oral submissions received and gave due consideration to the issues raised within each of the submissions.

Directory

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Charities Commission Number: CC38181

Governing Legislation: Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act 2008

11 March 2014