

GOVERNANCE POLICY					
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ISSUING AUTHORITY	TRUST BOARD	ISSUE DATE:	03/05/07	REFERENCE	S1.2

1. Purpose

To establish how the Museum will use permanent, special, temporary and touring exhibitions to further its statutory objectives and fulfil its mission to share knowledge for the enjoyment and enlightenment of Aucklanders and their visitors.

2. Definitions

Special Exhibitions are large exhibitions which will almost exclusively be housed in the Exhibition Hall, attract a separate admission charge, have a fully developed budget and require Trust Board approval.

3. Policy

3.1 Changing Exhibitions

The Museum will present changing exhibitions that will vary in size and scope from small temporary exhibitions operated from annual budget allocations at no charge to visitors, to special exhibitions each having a stand alone budget for which an entry fee will generally be charged.

3.2 Special Exhibitions

Programme Content

The Museum will present a stimulating and balanced programme of Special Exhibitions. The programme will relate to the collections where possible, but will also move beyond the scope of those collections. It will provide intensified foci on topics of cultural or scientific interest. It will also include the importing of material from international sources to provide the Auckland public with a "window on the world". The Museum will maintain an indicative programme of exhibitions extending three years ahead.

Balance

The Special Exhibitions programme will seek to achieve balance in discipline, target audiences, themes and subjects recognising the diverse collections and varying responsibilities of the Museum. Although external factors and programming constraints / opportunities may vary the mix of exhibitions from year to year, the Museum will strive to mount at least one child or family oriented exhibition per year, one cultural exhibition per year and one science exhibition every second year. No fewer than three special exhibitions will be prepared each year.

Controversial material

When the Museum is contemplating exhibiting or publishing any material which may be considered offensive or confrontational to values held by significant sectors of the Community, the Director will seek advice from agencies or individuals regarded as appropriate and authoritative in the areas of concern, and recommend such actions as considered appropriate

to the Trust Board in timely fashion so that the Board can provide appropriate advice to the Director.

Financial considerations

The Museum will set financial targets for Special Exhibitions as set out in the Funding Policies, recognising the differing motivations and risks involved in each exhibition but with the general intention of achieving a break even or better financial result in each year's programme. Financial targets for Special Exhibitions will be set in the Annual Plan (or at the time of commitment if planning is outside the Annual Planning process).

The Museum will establish a Special Exhibition Reserve for retaining Special Exhibition profits (including any interest accruing), to be used to partially fund some exhibitions and underwrite Special Exhibitions risk. The Board will review the Special Exhibition Reserve upper limit annually.

The Trust Board will, from time to time, set an upper limit on the amount to be held in the Exhibition Reserve and direct any surplus funds to general purposes.

Financial, quality and visitor satisfaction performance of Special Exhibitions will be reported promptly to the Trust Board on completion.

3.3 Temporary Exhibitions

At least three exhibitions should be exhibited per year for each of the Tamaki and Pictorial Galleries. These exhibitions will be generally, but not exclusively collection based. These exhibitions may combine collection-based material with external loans. One temporary exhibition of Maori and/or Pacific content will be mounted each year.

3.4 Touring Exhibitions (incoming and outgoing)

As appropriate within our resources it is Auckland Museum's intention to provide small temporary exhibitions to Councils and galleries in our TLA funding areas.

Also it is our aim to foster the interchange of exhibitions amongst museums across Australasia, and accordingly we will use our best endeavours to both receive and generate exhibitions that travel nationally and to Australia and thereby serve the best interests of Auckland Museum and an audience wider than within the Auckland region.

From time to time as appropriate, Auckland Museum will also create major exhibitions to tour internationally; and receive major international touring exhibitions that provide our region with a 'window on the World'.

3.5 Exhibitions containing taonga and / or a Maori dimension

To ensure Maori values associated with any Museum exhibition or display that contain taonga or a significant Maori dimension are upheld, the Board will seek advice from the Taumata-a-lwi before confirming any significant new Museum exhibition proposal that is likely to impact on Maori values.

The Board will seek advice from the Taumata-a-lwi before confirming any significant new offsite public display of Museum-held taonga.