

Arts, Culture and Heritage Policy

Vision

Creative, cultural and heritage work is integrated within our communities in myriad innovative ways that empower people, spread happiness, and encourage intercultural appreciation and understanding.

Values and Principles

- *Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi*: The Crown has a responsibility to ensure the protection and return of taonga, including Māori arts, culture, intellectual property and heritage sites. The Crown must support and contribute to but not determine the revitalisation of toi Māori, tikanga Māori and te reo Māori.
- *Ecological Wisdom*: The arts change hearts and minds and should be supported to play a part in enabling the transition to a life-sustaining society. Mātauranga Māori as expressed through art and cultural practice is inextricably linked to the natural world.
- *Social Responsibility*: The arts foster community and have the ability to improve our daily well-being, empathy, social equality and cultural diversity, as well as contributing economically through export and tourism.
- *Appropriate Decision-Making*: Those involved in arts and cultural heritage work must be involved in development of guidelines for funding. Local communities must be given the ability to protect places, buildings and heritage collections that are important to them historically and culturally. The tino rangatiratanga of hapū and iwi over their taonga must be affirmed, through Matike Mai mechanisms.
- *Non-Violence*: All art forms practised and recognised in Aotearoa New Zealand are included in this policy and their interconnectedness is acknowledged. The art forms of marginalised cultures and groups should be equitably supported.
- *Resilience*: Government should help build resilience in the arts and cultural heritage in our communities and at professional levels. Our heritage is part of our national identity and must be protected.
- *Professional*: A vibrant and diverse professional arts sector contributes to all our lives, as well as the identity of Aotearoa New Zealand on the international stage.

Summary

The arts and cultural heritage have inherent value as well as economic value, and both contributions should be recognised and supported. The Green Party will adequately resource work in the arts, which requires effective communication between Government, funders, the industry, and other stakeholders including tangata whenua, who have the right to protect traditional and contemporary Māori art. We acknowledge that revitalising and celebrating toi Māori, tikanga Māori and te reo Māori is key to ensuring a thriving arts industry, and to uphold

our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Nurturing the talent in our communities requires educational opportunities in communities and schools, as well as media platforms to promote the arts. The arts have an important role to play in our economic and social development, and the Green Party supports the industry to develop to its highest standard.

Strategic Priorities

The Green Party's strategic goals include:

"People will be part of caring communities with a strong heritage fabric"

Actions in this policy that will help achieve this include:

- Review the arts and cultural heritage infrastructure and funding provisions and ensure they are sufficiently resourced, with a focus on increasing participation in community arts, arts and cultural heritage education and supporting the professional arts to reach the highest standard. (1.2)
- Support and promote the right of Māori to protect both traditional and contemporary Māori art and art forms via customary rights and Te Tiriti o Waitangi. (2.1)
- Develop and resource the implementation of an ongoing arts education strategy from early childhood to tertiary level, in recognition of the value of arts in our educational institutions. (3.4)
- Develop a network of Art Spaces and heritage equivalents in every community, accessible to all cultures and levels of ability, including portable programmes for hospital, old people's and women's refuge communities. (3.10)

Connected Policies

Providing platforms through [Broadcasting and Media](#) to celebrate the arts is important for arts, culture and heritage to thrive. Ensuring sufficient income for those working in the arts, cultural and heritage sectors is part of our [Household Livelihoods](#) and [Workforce](#) Policies. The Crown's responsibility to ensure the protection and revitalisation of natural and other taonga is explored in our [Conservation](#) and [Kaupapa Māori](#) Policies.

Policy Positions

1. Communication and Coordination

Issues

Work in the arts and cultural heritage is not adequately resourced. Effective communication and coordination between the Government and those undertaking that work is essential.

Actions

- 1.1. Collaboratively establish effective systems of communication and coordination between government ministries, funding agencies, local bodies, tangata whenua, community and other stakeholders involved in arts, culture and heritage.
- 1.2. Review the arts and cultural heritage infrastructure and funding provisions and ensure they are sufficiently resourced, with a focus on increasing participation in community

arts, arts and cultural heritage education and supporting the professional arts to reach the highest standard. In particular:

- 1.2.1. Improve funding of local arts amenities such as community galleries;
- 1.2.2. Support the establishment of local arts trusts comprised of a consortium of established professional or semi professional arts groups with a commitment to arts education and building resilience in the arts, especially where local arts are currently not well supported; and
- 1.2.3. Provide contestable funding for arts and cultural heritage organisations with a proven commitment to arts education to cover operational and management expenses.

2. Tangata Whenua and the Arts, Culture and Heritage

Issues

Traditional and contemporary Māori art has previously not been respected or protected. Māori images and other cultural practices, such as kapa haka, can currently be commodified by non-Māori without acknowledgement of them as Māori intellectual property. Recognising the unique nature of tangata whenua and the Treaty obligations of the Crown, the Green Party strongly supports the continued promotion of Toi Māori, te reo and tikanga.

Actions

- 2.1. Support and promote the right of Māori to protect both traditional and contemporary Māori art and art forms via customary rights and Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- 2.2. Establish the legal ownership by tangata whenua of taonga, crafted from natural materials, that sustain culture and tradition, and facilitate the return of whenua as places where taonga tuku iho¹ thrive.
- 2.3. Facilitate appropriate processes for Māori artists and arts practitioners when interfacing with government funding agencies, ministries and their agents.
- 2.4. Support Māori broadcasting and media services to be independent, secure and successful and to play a major role in revitalising language and culture that is the birthright of every Māori and the heritage of every New Zealander (see our [Broadcasting and Media](#) Policy).

3. Education, Community and the Arts

Issues

Not all young artists receive decent introductions to and training in the arts at schools and in their communities. We need to nurture and encourage the development of the arts at this level.

Actions

- 3.1. Maintain funding for diverse community arts and community arts organisations.

¹ *Taonga tuku iho* are the inherited treasures that have been handed down from previous generations in a continuation of mana, mātauranga and mauri. In this context, these taonga are displayed for future generations and created for continual usage, protection and mana of the uri (descendants) yet to come.

- 3.2. Develop and maintain vocational pathways for Tagata Moana artists and their collaborative initiatives (see our [Tagata Moana](#) Policy)
- 3.3. Develop mechanisms to support, promote and protect the arts of Pacific and new migrant communities.
- 3.4. Develop and resource the implementation of an ongoing arts education strategy from early childhood to tertiary level, in recognition of the value of arts in our educational institutions.
- 3.5. Provide secure funding for advisory services to schools in the performing arts, culture and screen arts.
- 3.6. Ensure young people have access to appropriate arts training, both within and external to school. Teachers, education providers and artists should have access to training to teach arts and cultural heritage to young people and encourage young artists.
- 3.7. Encourage participation in and consumption of the arts and crafts, culture, heritage, screen arts and broadcasting by increasing availability and access, with particular reference to children, young people and those on low incomes.
- 3.8. Support the purchase of artworks for public buildings, especially hospitals and schools, with an emphasis on locally-produced art.
- 3.9. Encourage the therapeutic use of the arts in hospitals and other appropriate facilities.
- 3.10. Develop a network of Art Spaces and heritage equivalents in every community, accessible to all cultures and levels of ability, including portable programmes for hospital, old people's and women's refuge communities.
- 3.11. Support the heritage collections of public museums and art galleries as research and design resources for education, artistic, creative and community history projects through public access, sound care, and management.
- 3.12. Support the purchase by public collecting institutions of nationally significant heritage objects and collections at risk of export.

4. Economic Development and the Arts

Issues

The arts have an undervalued role in our economic development. The Green Party is committed to supporting the arts industry to develop and secure the highest standards achievable by improving the status of artists and craftspeople, and by encouraging innovation and artistic development.

Actions

- 4.1. Reallocate resources within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to establish an arts and cultural promotion unit.
- 4.2. Support funding for research and development in the arts as a contributor to both the Aotearoa New Zealand economy and society.
- 4.3. Provide incentives for private sector investment in arts-based projects and initiatives, such as making donations to legitimate arts organisations tax deductible.

- 4.4. Support and promote local craft practitioners using local ingredients, recycling, and distributing products in sustainable ways.
- 4.5. Ensure that copyright of a commissioned work is retained by the artist by default, not the commissioner, and that, when negotiated otherwise, copyright of a redistributable work reverts to the artist when the commissioner of a work ceases to distribute it.
- 4.6. Continue to support the Public Lending Right in recognition of the fact that it is one of the few sources of regular income for authors, and regularly review the Public Lending Right to ensure that it provides adequate compensation to authors for the free public access New Zealanders have to their works through public libraries.
- 4.7. Reinststate an income support scheme for arts and cultural employment (see also our [Household Livelihoods](#) policy).
- 4.8. Ensure the state sector pays a living wage to employed and contracted artists and encourage organisations employing artists to develop policies to pay them a living wage (see our [Workforce](#) Policy).

5. Protecting and Preserving our Heritage

Issues

Preserving heritage is a key component of developing a unique and sustainable Aotearoa New Zealand culture, but the cost to do so is often prohibitive. This includes landscapes, historic buildings and sites (and their surroundings), cultural sites including wāhi tapu, historic areas, and heritage collections. Preserving heritage places and collections improves our understanding of Aotearoa's unique culture.

Actions

- 5.1. Establish national direction for heritage, requiring local authorities to place more weight on recognising and supporting heritage places in district plans.
- 5.2. Support central and local government funding schemes for owners of heritage buildings, to recognise that these owners are in effect custodians of a resource that is valuable to the whole community, but are expected to fund their upkeep themselves.
- 5.3. Establish a well resourced national funding scheme for the earthquake strengthening of heritage buildings so that owners are not forced to pull down buildings because of the cost of compliance with building legislation.
- 5.4. Investigate funding support for small tourism ventures, including Māori businesses, which wish to use the promotion of the heritage and culture of Aotearoa New Zealand as a basis.
- 5.5. Improve Te Papa's National Services ability to provide effective assistance, training and other services to local museums and art galleries in the care and management of heritage collections.
- 5.6. Ensure recognition, protection, and restoration of significant heritage and cultural landscapes, including within urban areas.

- 5.7. Resource artistic and community activities that seek to challenge entrenched toxic narratives and enhance understanding of a positive, sustainable and climate-safe future.
- 5.8. Prioritise areas of cultural value to communities, whānau, hapū and iwi when resourcing climate change adaptation; including the return of whenua as an adaptation solution as well as promotion of cultural heritage.