27 August 2021

9(2)(a)

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Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

I refer to your email received on 30 July 2021, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), for the following information:

- *A breakdown of the consultation and involvement of people with lived experience of disability, and/or access support organisations in the lead up to the delivery of the fund.*

- *A list of other access issues that other participants identified, and were/were not delivered.*

In your email, you have also made a formal complaint regarding the non-delivery of a requested alternative format relating to the Te Tahua Aki Auahatanga Cultural Sector Innovation Fund. My colleague Nerissa Barber, Chief Legal Advisor, has been in touch with you and is handling the formal complaint. She will also elaborate on the complaints process, as you have requested.

Thank you for raising your concerns with Manatū Taonga. You have highlighted an area where we are now taking steps to improve accessibility for all participants.

I address your specific questions in turn below.

A breakdown of the consultation and involvement of people with lived experience of disability, and/or access support organisations in the lead up to the delivery of the fund.

There was no direct consultation of people with lived experience of disability or support organisations in the lead up to the delivery of the Cultural Sector Innovation Fund.

We appreciated the feedback you gave Simon Bowden when he called you on 29 April 2021 to discuss accessibility requirements. Your suggestion to have an access specialist on the panel was taken on board. As of June 2021, a member with lived experience who is an access advocate has joined the panel.

A list of other access issues that other participants identified, and were/were not delivered.

Accessibility is a key factor when selecting venues for the Cultural Sector Innovation Fund's Te Urungi events. We have chosen venues that offer wheelchair access and/or lifts, accessibility toilets, and break out areas so there are always a range of spaces on hand.

Accessibility is also addressed on a case by case basis. If a participant identifies accessibility requirements when registering, a Te Urungi team member will contact them directly to discuss how to best accommodate their needs. If any other needs

arise during Te Urungi events, the team ensures that the individual's needs are accommodated.

The following table describes accessibility requirements that have been identified so far, and the support Manatū Taonga has provided.

Accessibility requirement	Support for requirement
Wheelchair user	Venue is wheelchair accessible, with accessible toilet.
Audio Captions	Audio captions included with all audio-visual material for this event.
Walking stick/ cane user (2 participants)	Venues are accessible, with flat access and lifts/ramps as required.
Multiple Sclerosis management	Participant identified fatigue and visual disturbance due to Multiple Sclerosis. Participant noted this was usual and would be self-managed. The venues also have break out rooms available for participant use.
Seating (3 participants)	Seating provided for all parts of the event
Accessible toilet	Venue has accessible toilet

As you have mentioned, when registering, you and 9(2)(a)   requested Easy Read documents, which we could not provide in the available time. An Easy Read event workbook is being finalised to provide in the future.

We are working to provide resources in large print, braille, sign language, and audio formats. All documents are available in word format. Audio captions will be provided if we create further Te Urungi video content.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

As agreed with you, we will publish this letter, with your personal details removed, on the Manatū Taonga website.

Nāku noa, nā

Gordon McKenzie
Establishment Lead - Investment & Outcomes