

13 February 2023

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

I refer to your request received on 2 January 2023, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), for the following information:

***This OIA request regards the funding which the Ministry is responsible for, specifically funding given to the Royal New Zealand Ballet, New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, and Te Matatini.***

- 1. Please confirm if the Ministry approves funding for these groups from the same budget source and (if so) at what level decision making for funding occurs (i.e. Ministerial, CE, DCE).***

Decisions on what will be funded through each Government Budget (broken into 'Votes') are made by Cabinet Ministers as part of the annual Budget process. You can read more about the annual Budget process in the link below.

<https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/guide/guide-budget-process>.

Votes are the responsibility of a particular Minister or Ministers. The RNZB, NZSO and Te Matatini are funded through *Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage (Vote ACH)*, in the Performing Arts appropriation. Hon Carmel Sepuloni is responsible for Vote ACH, as the current Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage.

***For each of the groups I mentioned above, please provide any relevant information relating to:***

- 2. What measures the Ministry undertakes in order to determine the levels of funding it provides including its rationale***

Manatū Taonga supports the Minister for *Vote ACH* when considering the needs of the entities funded from the Vote and proposing potential Budget initiatives to be considered by Cabinet.

The rationale behind the level of funding each entity receives is determined according to each entity's specific functions and requirements. As part of the Government's support to the sector through the Budget process, performing arts organisations have received additional funding in recent years.

You can find more information on funding received through *Vote ACH* in Budget 2022 on the Manatū Taonga website in the link below.

[https://mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/projects/budget\\_2022-sustainable\\_cultural\\_sector.pdf](https://mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/projects/budget_2022-sustainable_cultural_sector.pdf)

In addition to the fact sheet above, Te Matatini has received a \$1 million baseline increase through Budget 2022. This investment will strengthen the ability of Te Matatini to grow kapa haka as part of the Government's ongoing focus on Ngā Toi Māori and ensure all New Zealanders can continue to access a wide range of arts, culture, and heritage services.

### **3. How much funding has been provided over the past 5 years**

I invite you to view the following publicly available documents:

- [Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage – Estimates 2018/19](#)
- [Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage – Estimates 2019/20](#)
- [Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage – Estimates 2020/21](#)
- [Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage – Estimates 2021/22](#)
- [Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage – Estimates 2022/23](#)

### **4. If the Ministry is aware of participation numbers involved with the event/organisation**

The RNZB, NZSO and Te Matatini have different legal structures and organisational functions. The NZSO's function (as an autonomous Crown entity) is outlined in Section 9 of the [New Zealand Symphony Orchestra Act 2004](#), while the RNZB and Te Matatini (as Non-Governmental-Organisations) are required to provide services as agreed in the Outcome Agreements between Manatū Taonga and the funded entity.

Services delivered by each entity reflects the entity's different purposes, structures, and operating models. For instance, in 2022, the RNZB focused on its community outreach programme engaging 70,000 New Zealanders across 105 schools, community centres, and online at its workshops, dance classes and young dancers mentoring programmes. The RNZB also performed live in 11 centres nationwide reaching a total audience of 38,483.

In 2022, the NZSO focused on the delivery of online content, which has since gained over 850,000 views. It also held in-person performances across 10 regional centres nationwide to a total audience of 14,383.

Participation numbers for Te Matatini vary according to events or festivals held. During its 'off-year' (as at 30 June 2021), Te Matatini focused on supporting 12 Rohe whakangahau, ensuring rohe were prepared to deliver their events effectively, while successfully reaching a total audience of 476,851 through television and online broadcasts.

Pre-COVID, the organisation's biggest recent event (Te Matatini Festival 2019) reported (as at 30 June 2019) a total of 41,997 ticket holders, 11,694 spectators at Te Matangirua (Finals) day, 1,350,573 online views of Kapa Haka performance over four days, and 1,840 participating Kapa Haka performers.

Participation numbers between 2020 and 2022 were lower than anticipated due to the impact of COVID-19. Further information on events and participation numbers can be found in previous annual reports that are available on each organisation's website.

**5. What stipulations or requirements exist in order to access the funding and the reasons for them; and**

As mentioned above, the operational models of the RNZB, NZSO and Te Matatini are different. Hence funding for each entity will be determined by its specific functions and requirements and will require different accountability reporting.

The NZSO, as a Crown entity, is required to provide Manatū Taonga with a series of accountability documents which report its strategic direction and planning as well as financial and non-financial performance outputs. These include a Statement of Intent, Statement of Performance Expectations, quarterly and annual performance reports and a Governance Report, as well as providing other information as requested by Manatū Taonga.

The RNZB and Te Matatini, as Non-Government Organisations, have an Outcome Agreement with Manatū Taonga, which requires each entity to provide quarterly, and annual performance reports, and any further information and reports as required.

**6. If no stipulations/requirements exist, why that is the case**

Not applicable.

**7. Additionally, if the Ministry has plans to review/has begun to review its processes around funding for any of these organisations, please provide the rationale for this."**

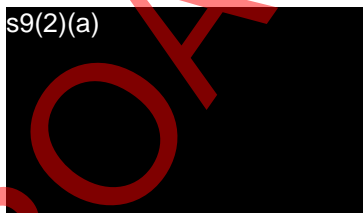
Manatū Taonga has no current plans to review its processes regarding funding for the RNZB, NZSO and Te Matatini.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we may publish this letter with your personal details removed on the Ministry's website.

Nāku noa, nā

s9(2)(a)



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