



PEOPLE, ARTS AND COMMUNITY PANEL

Open Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday 19 March 2026

Time: 1.00pm – 1.30pm

Venue Large Exhibition Hall
War Memorial Centre
Marine Parade
Napier

Present **Alternating Chair:** Councillors Chrystal (*in the Chair*) and Mawson

Members: Councillors Brownlie, Isaac-Sharland, Morley, Raihania and Simpson

In Attendance Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete)
Manager Arts, Culture and Heritage (Elizabeth Caldwell)

Administration Governance Advisor (Carolyn Hunt)

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Karakia

The meeting opened with the Council karakia.

Apologies

Councillor Lawrence was not present at the meeting.

Conflicts of interest

Nil

Announcements by the Chairperson

Nil

Announcements by the management

Nil

Confirmation of minutes

There were no minutes to confirm as this was the inaugural meeting of the People, Arts and Community Panel for the new 2025-2028 Triennium.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. ELECTED MEMBER PORTFOLIO REPORTING

<i>Type of Report:</i>	Information
<i>Legal Reference:</i>	N/A
<i>Document ID:</i>	1900779
<i>Reporting Officer/s & Unit:</i>	Anna Eady, Governance Manager

1.0 Executive Summary - Te Kaupapa me te Whakarāpopototanga:

- 1.1 The purpose of this cover report is to provide updates from Elected member Portfolio holders outlining key updates, achievements, current work, opportunities and future focus areas.
- 1.2 Under the People, Arts and Community Panel Terms of Reference portfolio holders will provide written updates every six months.

At the meeting

The Chair, Councillor Chrystal introduced the item highlighting that the Portfolio Holder role is intended to:

- Provide the community with a clear point of contact on matters of high public interest.
- Strengthen connections between elected representatives and the community.
- Support a consistent and coordinated approach to community engagement.
- Give Councillors an area of interest to follow closely, contribute insights to, and advocate for - not an area of formal responsibility or authority.
- Operate as an Elected Member construct, helping Councillors organise their own focus areas, understand who is leading engagement on particular topics, and coordinate interactions with community groups and stakeholders.

Councillors Chrystal (Arts, Culture and Heritage); Isaac-Sharland (Climate and Urban Resilience and Biodiversity, Regenerative Governance); Mawson (Age-Friendly and Accessibility) and Simpson (Community Resilience) each provided a brief summary of their portfolio updates to the Panel.

Councillor Lawrence's (Multicultural) portfolio update was taken as read in her absence.

.In response to questions the following was clarified:

- Dr Cloete advised the Panel on the evolving approach to Civil Defence resilience and the role Elected members can play in supporting and directing the community during an emergency. The Community Services Team continues to make incremental progress in this area.
- Dr Cloete advised that Emergency Management is working with the Community Resilience Team to develop community-run Emergency Hubs. The programme aims to establish 20

hubs, with 6–8 currently in place. In addition, there are three designated Civil Defence Centres in Napier, managed by Council.

- Once the Emergency Hubs are fully implemented, their locations will be published on the Council website to ensure visibility and accessibility for the community.
- Marae are being incorporated into the welfare planning framework as key community partners.
- Officers noted that while the nature of future events cannot be predicted, they are preparing as thoroughly as possible with the information and resources currently available.

Councillor Morley advised that he would provide a written update at the next meeting and further noted that he had been elected as Deputy Chair of the Omarunui Refuse Joint Landfill Committee.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Councillors Mawson / Brownlie

The People, Arts and Community Panel:

- a) **Receive** the report titled Elected Member Portfolio Reporting dated 19 March 2026.
- b) **Notes** the updates from Portfolio holders Councillors Chrystal, Isaac-Sharland, Lawrence, Mawson and Simpson for the period November 2025 to March 2026.

Carried

Minor matters

There were no minor matters to discuss.

The meeting closed with a karakia at 1.30pm

Approved and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Chairperson

Date of approval