



Office of Honourable Maggie Barry ONZM

MP for North Shore

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Minister of Conservation

Minister for Senior Citizens

- 8 MAR 2016

Rt Hon Wyatt Creech
Chair
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
PO Box 2629
WELLINGTON 6140

Dear Wyatt

LETTER OF EXPECTATIONS

This letter sets out my expectations for Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (Heritage NZ) in 2016/17. Its purpose is to assist the Board to develop its 2016/17 Statement of Performance Expectations (SPE) and other strategic planning documents.

I acknowledge the excellent ratings Audit New Zealand has given your management and financial systems and controls for 2013/14 and look forward to a similar assessment for your performance information. I also acknowledge the upcoming assessment of Heritage NZ is due to commence and anticipate the need to update my expectations once the assessment is completed.

The Government has the following overarching expectations for all Crown-funded agencies in 2016/17:

Performance improvement – the Government expects Crown-funded agencies to continue looking for ways to deliver higher-quality public services and value-for-money.

Focus on achieving results – agencies should be able to demonstrate what difference they are making to their customers and stakeholders. This will include efforts to improve the quality of performance measures included in public accountability documents.

Collaboration – agencies should continue to look for new and better ways of working together. Given the Government's ongoing commitment to fiscal restraint, arts, culture and heritage agencies should also continue to seek partnerships with the private and philanthropic sectors to leverage alternative funding streams.

Openness and transparency – the Government expects Crown-funded agencies to publish non-sensitive performance information - including this letter - on their websites in a timely manner¹. I expect you to inform me of any new information before publishing it on your website, consistent with the 'no surprises' policy.

¹ This was an enduring expectation first communicated to statutory Crown entities by the Ministers of Finance and State Services in July 2012 – refer to <https://www.ssc.govt.nz/expectations-letter-crown-entities-july12>

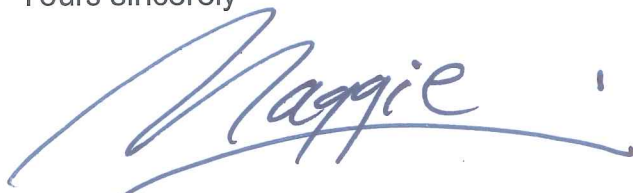
My specific expectations for Heritage New Zealand in 2016/17 are as follows:

- 1 *Heritage NZ assessment:* I expect your Board and management to work collaboratively with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) and the independent assessor on the assessment of Heritage NZ's operational effectiveness. This will include cooperating fully on several related initiatives, currently under way, which will feed into this assessment:
 - the separate review of management and ownership arrangements of the property portfolios of Heritage New Zealand, Department of Conservation and MCH
 - your Volunteer Strategy
 - the review of the National Heritage Preservation Incentive Fund.
- 2 *Appointment of new Chief Executive:* I expect your Board to progress the appointment of a new chief executive and advise me of the outcome in advance of media publication.
- 3 *Special Adviser's role:* I expect your Board to work closely with the Special Adviser on the Heritage NZ assessment and the appointment of your new Chief Executive.
- 4 *National Historic Landmarks:* I expect your Chief Executive to continue to work in partnership with the DOC Director-General and MCH officials to implement the engagement strategy for the National Historic Landmarks List, incorporating DOC Icons.
- 5 *Heritage recovery:* I expect Heritage NZ to continue to provide advice to heritage owners in Christchurch (and throughout New Zealand) and to manage the administration of grants made by the Canterbury Earthquake Heritage Buildings Fund.

I expect you to engage with Ministry officials once you receive this letter to discuss my expectations in more detail.

I look forward to working with you, your Board and the Māori Heritage Council over the coming year, and to seeing the expectations outlined above reflected in your planning documents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maggie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Hon Maggie Barry ONZM
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

cc: Sue Powell, Acting Chief Executive, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga