

## Answers to supplementary questions: A New Approach

**Question 1. How would your organisation improve the performance indicators included in NSW Treasury's Consultation Paper, including to ensure:**

- i. **The right number of indicators are included to capture a holistic, integrated set of outcomes?**
- ii. **Both lead and lag indicators are included, and that there is an appropriate balance between the two?**

ANA's comment relates to the outcome 'Communities are diverse, engaged and cohesive'.

ANA suggests additional indicators of cultural and creative *participation*, to complement the proposed *attendance* indicators. The key national data available - the [Australian Bureau of Statistic's Cultural Participation and Attendance](#) collection - collects data on both participation and attendance as two distinct forms of creative and cultural engagement. Cultural and creative *participation* extends beyond *attendance* at venues and events to a wide range of activities such as working and volunteering, practice and learning, and creating works. As our Insight Report *Transformative* shows, cultural and creative participation is relevant to wellbeing because

- engaging with cultural activities strengthens our communities
- arts and culture enhance individual development and contributes to societal development, and
- arts and culture help sustain urban and regional development.

Relevant indicators of cultural and creative participation already exist, and they meet the selection criteria for performance indicators (Purposeful, Comparable, Timely, Relatable and Measurable) set out in the NSW Treasury's consultation paper. NSW can draw on the following existing sources for these indicators:

- Results from the [Australian Bureau of Statistic's Cultural Participation and Attendance](#) collection. This is an annual survey of over 20,000 respondents, conducted as a topic on the Multipurpose Household Survey, with breakdowns for NSW.
- Results from Creative Australia's National Arts Participation Survey. This is a three-yearly survey with over 9,000 respondents. NSW could obtain state-based breakdowns, as some jurisdictions already do.

ANA considers that both cultural and creative participation and cultural and creative attendance are lead indicators of engaged and cohesive communities.

**Question 2. How would your organisation structure the indicators and/or metrics in a hierarchy to effectively measure wellbeing in NSW?**

As Australia's national arts and culture think tank, ANA has suggested cultural and creative indicators and highlighted the current evidence of their broad impacts across a range of wellbeing topics. We consider the people of NSW are best placed to speak to the relative importance of specific indicators in a hierarchy. Views may vary between NSW and other places, and indeed within NSW. This is why the OECD Better Life Index explicitly enables individuals to rate the importance of different aspects of wellbeing to provide customised weightings for wellbeing topics and indicators.

**Question 3. What should the NSW Government do to ensure that there is appropriate consultation and continuous feedback on the themes, indicators and outcomes in the Consultation Paper?**

ANA welcomes this consultation and encourages the NSW Government to plan for further consultation, evaluation and adjustment of the framework once in place. Incorporating the wellbeing framework into the NSW Budget will be a meaningful step to prioritise wellbeing, including the contribution of arts and culture, in NSW Government decision making.

ANA also encourages the NSW Government to consider and pursue further opportunities to bring wellbeing into policy development, decision-making, implementation and evaluation. For example, wellbeing impacts could be incorporated into NSW requirements for Better Regulation Statements and Regulatory Impact Statements for proposed regulation. This would bring these statements in line with the Social Impact Assessment Guideline for major projects.

**Question 4. Does your organisation have any other feedback or comments on the Consultation Paper?**

No, but thank you again for the opportunity to share our perspectives with the Committee.