

D'Art question 15: Legal Services for the Creative Sector

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CONTEXT

As part of the work being undertaken for the Creative Industries Strategy, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise has approached Law firm Chapman Tripp (CT) to undertake an investigation into the need for a legal service for creative sector workers and organisations. This will include a review of what services exist already, what the barriers are to accessing those services, and options for future delivery of services. The scope is somewhat wider than the legal services currently provided by some countries for artists, as the current focus of the creative industries strategy has been defined as 'those industries which have their origin in individual creativity, skill and talent and which have a potential for wealth and job creation through the generation and exploitation of intellectual property.'

To help inform any model that may be proposed for New Zealand, CT has been asked to identify other models of government intervention that exist internationally (including those for individual artists such as Arts Law in Australia).

QUESTION

To this end we would like to know:

1. about existing models of government-subsidised legal services for the cultural sector/creative industries.
2. how those services operate.
3. what the parameters are for eligibility to receive the services (eg what 'creative sectors/cultural industries are included)? Are there any constraints (eg must be not-for-profit etc.)?
4. how much the services cost and how they are funded (eg: a mix of user-pays and subsidy; some freeshare on a website plus membership access; pro-bono legal advice).
5. how the services are evaluated and how effective users and others think these interventions are.

We would also like to know:

6. Where such interventions may have been considered but not implemented.
7. The reasons they were not implemented.
8. Past interventions that no longer exist and why.

We would be very grateful for any materials, weblinks, or other resources that could help us with these questions.