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NEW ZEALAND MEDIA COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT | 2019



New Zealand Media Council

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OFFICERS FOR 2019

Sir John Hansen KNZM	Independent Chair, Retired High Court Judge (until June 30)
Hon Raynor Asher	Independent Chair, Retired Court of Appeal Judge (from 1 July)
Mary Major	Executive Director

Representing the Public

Liz Brown	Independent Consultant, Horowhenua
Tiumalu Peter Fa'afiu	Business Consultant, Auckland (to September)
Christina Tay	Lawyer, Restorative Justice Facilitator
Jo Cribb	Independent Consultant
Ben France-Hudson	Law lecturer Otago University (from April)
Marie Shroff	Independent Consultant, Wellington (Full member from October)
Pravina Singh	Lawyer, Auckland, alternate member (from October)

Representing editors, nominated by the Newspaper Publishers Association

Craig Cooper	Editor Hawke's Bay Today (from April)
Tracy Watkins	Political Editor, Stuff (until August)
Jonathan MacKenzie	Editor Waikato Times (from September)

Representing Magazines, nominated by the Magazine Publishers Association

Jenny Farrell	Editor, Kia Ora Air New Zealand inflight magazine, Auckland (Until April)
Rosemary Barraclough	Deputy Editor and Journalist (from June)

Representing Journalists, nominated by E Tu

Hank Schouten	Former journalist
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Representing Digital Media and Broadcasters

Tim Watkin	Editor, blogger and journalist. Also Executive Director Podcasts, RNZ.
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NEW ZEALAND MEDIA COUNCIL

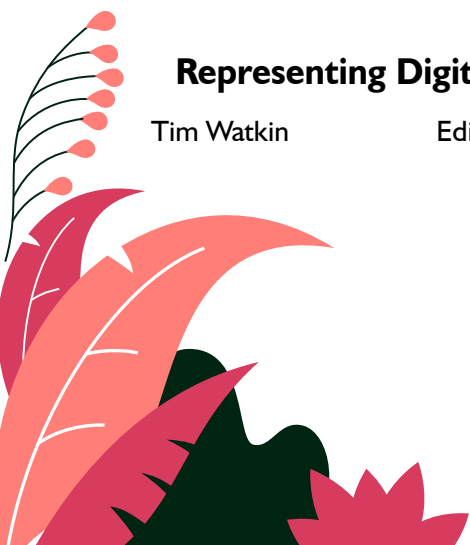


Table Contents

New Zealand Media Council.....	4
An Analysis - 2019.....	6
Statistics - 2019.....	7
Decisions - 2019.....	8-10
Financial Statements 2019.....	11-23

New Zealand Media Council



Left to right: Marie Shroff, Christina Tay, Tim Watkin, Liz Brown, Jo Cribb, Mary Major, Tiumalu Peter Fa'afiu, Tracy Watkins, Craig Cooper, Sir John Hansen (Chair) Hank Schouten.



An Analysis - 2019

Of the 116 complaints that were considered by the Media Council in 2019 12 were upheld in full; six were upheld by a majority; eight were upheld in part; seven were part upheld by a majority; five were not upheld by a majority; and 58 were not upheld. Twenty-one complaints were ruled insufficient grounds to proceed. A further 18 complaints were resolved informally.

Forty-five complaints were against daily newspapers; three were against weekend newspapers; six were against community newspapers; 37 were against online news sites; one was against magazines and 24 were against broadcasters.

Most complaints going to adjudication are considered by the full Council. However, on occasions, there may be a complaint against a publication for which a member works, has had some input into the complaint or has some link. On these occasions the member takes no part in the consideration of the complaint. Likewise, occasionally a Council member declares a personal interest in a complaint and leaves the meeting while that complaint is under consideration. In 2019 there were 18 occasions where a member declared an interest and left the room while the complaint was considered. There were also eight occasions when an industry member was required to stand down to maintain the public member majority.

Debate on some complaints can be quite vigorous and while the majority of Council decisions are unanimous, occasionally one or more members might ask that a dissent be simply recorded, or written up as a dissenting opinion. In 2019 18 cases involved a dissent (Cases 2764, 2765, 2773, 2775, 2796, 2797, 2798, 2799, 2800, 2804, 2805, 2808, 2809, 2810, 2811, 2814, 2825, 2855)

Media Council complaints are generally considered on the papers. However if a complainant requests the opportunity to make a submission in person they are generally given that opportunity. In such cases the editor is also invited to attend. No new material ie that has not already been presented to the editor for a response may be introduced at this stage. This year one complainant asked to attend the meeting.

The Media Council does not encourage legal representation, the Council is after all dealing with ethical issues not legal ones, but occasionally complainants do attend with or are represented by their lawyers. One lawyer appeared in 2019 on Case 2854.

The Media Council has a fast-track process which is mostly used around the time of General or Local Body Elections. However it can be utilised at any time if the Chair determines a complaint would benefit from a quick resolution. The Council received 144 complaints about a cartoon published in the Otago Daily Times on December 3. Had the complaint followed the usual process it would not have been considered until February the following year. With co-operation from the editor the Council was able to consider five representative complaints at the December meeting and the ruling, upholding the complaints, was released just before Christmas.



Statistics - 2019

MEDIA COUNCIL COMPLAINT STATISTICS

Year ending 31 December	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Complaints Determined	61	77	85	98	115	134
Decisions issued	49	68	73	86	104	116
Upheld	2	20	13	7	15	12
Upheld by majority	2	1	3	7	2	6
Part upheld	1	2	3	2	1	8
Part Upheld by majority			1	1	1	7
Not Upheld by majority	5	6	2	8	5	5
Not upheld	40	39	51	61	50	58
Mediated/resolved	12	9	12	12	11	18
No Grounds to Proceed					29	21
Complaints received and not determined	95	96	99	118	144	316
Withdrawn	3	2	3	4	7	2
Withdrawn at late stage		1				
Not followed through	38	62	53	61	93	114
Out of time	3	5	3	4	4	6
Not accepted	15	4	17	19	11	5
Outside jurisdiction	22	14	17	23	27	20
Not Progressed, similar ruling					2	
In action at end of year	14	8	6	7	4	5
Mosque massacre complaints*						25
Measles Cartoon complaints **						139
Total complaints	156	173	184	216	248	450

Decisions - 2019

Complaint name	Publication	Adjudication	Date	Case No
Eddie Clark	NZ Herald	Upheld in Part	January	2746
Mark Hanna	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	January	2747
Adam Horne	Taranaki Daily News	Not Upheld	January	2748
John Hurley	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	January	2749
Andy Espersen	Health Central	No Grounds	February	2750
Shaun Reilly	NZ Herald	No Grounds	February	2751
Pedro Silva	RNZ	No Grounds	February	2752
Grant Anson	RNZ	Not Upheld	March	2753
Ross Horsburgh	Stuff	Not Upheld	March	2754
Chris Batten	Stuff	Not Upheld	March	2755
Christchurch Boys High School	The Press / Stuff	Not Upheld	March	2756
Sandra Coney	Mediaworks NewsHub	Upheld	March	2757
Duncan Eddy	The Spinoff	Not Upheld	March	2758
Robin Harrison	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	March	2759
Craig Innes	Hutt News	Not Upheld	March	2760
Jenn Ireland	Star Media	Upheld	March	2761
Phillip Roberts	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	March	2762
Vicky Sarin	Manawatu Standard	Upheld	March	2763
Javin Sidhu	NZ Herald	Not Upheld with Dissent	March	2764
X	The Press / Stuff	Upheld with Dissent	March	2765
Shirley van Essen	Stuff	No Grounds	April	2766
David Shelley	Stuff	No Grounds	April	2767
Mark Armstrong	Stuff	Not Upheld	April	2768
Dave Carroll	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	April	2769
Grant Lowe	Otago Daily Times	Not Upheld	April	2770
Complaint	Manawatu Standard	Not Upheld	April	2771
Denis O'Reilly	Stuff	Not Upheld	April	2772
Hugh Prichard	NZ Herald	Not Upheld with Dissent	April	2773
Matthew Thredgold	Manawatu Standard	Not Upheld	April	2774
Gary Howat	Stuff	Upheld with Dissent	April	2775
Cameron Mottus	Stuff	Upheld in Part	June	2777
Hayley Cumming	Stuff	Upheld in Part	June	2778
Mandy Flavel	Stuff	Upheld in Part	June	2779
Marc Macleod	Stuff	Upheld in Part	June	2780
Stephen McNallen	Stuff	Upheld in part	June	2781
Josef Williams	Stuff	Upheld in Part	June	2782
Edward Aretino	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	June	2783
Federated Farmers	Stuff	Not Upheld	June	2784
Ben Goodale	RNZ	Not Upheld	June	2785
Wallace Haumaha	Stuff	Not Upheld	June	2786

Complaint name	Publication	Adjudication	Date	Case No
Gavin Millar	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	June	2787
Doug Taylor	Stuff	Not Upheld	June	2788
Clark Thomborson	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	June	2789
Louisa Wall	Stuff	Upheld in Part	June	2790
Jin Wan	Stuff	Not Upheld	June	2791
Terence Collier	Dominion Post	No Grounds	July	2792
Max Smith	Stuff	No Grounds	July	2793
Joe Rozenwajg	Stuff	No Grounds	July	2794
Brian Ashby	Stuff	Not Upheld	August	2795
Alison Blair	Otago Daily Times	Upheld in Part c dissent	August	2796
Alison Blair	RNZ	Upheld in Part c dissent	August	2797
Alison Blair	NZ Herald	Upheld in Part c Dissent	August	2798
Bridie-Rose O'Leary	Otago Daily Times	Upheld in Part c Dissent	August	2799
Jonathan Moss	RNZ	Upheld in Part c Dissent	August	2800
Bob Boardman	Rotorua Daily Post	Not Upheld	August	2801
Gregory Cooper	Mediaworks NewsHub	Not Upheld	August	2802
Susan Godinet	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	August	2803
Gopal Harlow	NZ Herald	Upheld with dissent	August	2804
Kia Mau	Gisborne Herald	Upheld in Part c Dissent	August	2805
Chris Lee	Maori Television	Not Upheld	August	2806
Melody Legge, Roxane Fisher & Christopher Fisher	Sunday Star-Times	Not Upheld	August	2807
Linwood Rugby League F C	The Press/Stuff	Upheld with dissent	August	2808
George Lusty	Waikato Times	Part Upheld c Dissent	August	2809
Anny Ma	NZ Herald	Not Upheld with Dissent	August	2810
Sam Buckman	NZ Herald	Not Upheld with Dissent	August	2811
Gavan O'Farrell	Stuff	Not Upheld	August	2812
Porirua City Council	DomPost, Kapimana	Not Upheld	August	2813
Julie Thoms	Sunday Star-Times	Upheld with Dissent	August	2814
Mary Wilton	Stuff	Not Upheld	August	2815
Robin McCarthy	The Press	No Grounds	September	2816
Susan Bailey	NZ Listener	No Grounds	August	2817
Jennifer Gottschalk	RNZ	No Grounds	August	2818
Noeline Hay	Rodney Times	No Grounds	August	2819
David Tilson	Stuff	No Grounds	August	2820
Patrick Clifford	The Press	Not Upheld	September	2821
Wendy Cook	Stuff	Not Upheld	September	2822
Joris de Bres	Herald on Sunday	Not Upheld	September	2823
Steve Dickie	Stuff	Not Upheld	September	2824
Jenny Kirk	Mediaworks Newshub	Not upheld with Dissent	September	2825

Complaint name	Publication	Adjudication	Date	Case No
Oranga Tamariki	RNZ	Upheld	September	2826
Marshall Ren	TVNZ	Not Upheld	September	2827
Lily Kay Ross, David Nickles & Monique Mulholland	Otago Daily Times	Not Upheld	September	2828
Mark Atkin	Stuff	Not Upheld	October	2830
Dallas Barnett	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	October	2831
Geoffrey Churchman	RNZ	Not Upheld	October	2832
Eric Crampton	RNZ	Not Upheld	October	2833
Beth Hamilton	Stuff	Not Upheld	October	2834
Lawyers for Climate Action	Mediaworks Newshub	Not Upheld	October	2835
Joseph Williams	Mediaworks Newshub	Not Upheld	October	2836
Miriam Meyerhoff	Stuff	Not Upheld	October	2837
Rob Paterson	Waatea News	Upheld	October	2838
Gerald Rooney	The Press	Not Upheld	October	2839
Barbara Seddon	Dominion Post	Not Upheld	October	2840
C	RNZ	Not Upheld	October	2841
Allan Grant	Stuff	No Grounds	November	2842
Curtis Nixon	Stuff	No Grounds	November	2843
Right to Life NZ Inc	Newsroom	No Grounds	November	2844
Greg Rzesniowiecki	Mediaworks Newshub	No Grounds	November	2845
Aaron Scoble	Stuff	No Grounds	November	2846
Benny Bennetts	Hauraki Herald	No Grounds	November	2847
John Hurley	The Press	No Grounds	November	2848
Liz Sewell	TVNZ	No Grounds	November	2849
Ray Avery	Newsroom	Not Upheld	December	2850
Ross Barber	Manawatu Standard	Not Upheld	December	2851
Katrina Biggs	Mediaworks Newshub	Not Upheld	December	2852
Kay Brereton	Stuff	Not Upheld	December	2853
Friends of Williamson Park	Coastal News	Not Upheld	December	2854
Andi Liu	RNZ	Upheld with Dissent	December	2855
Right to Life NZ Inc	The Spinoff	Not Upheld	December	2856
Liam Venter	NZ Herald	Upheld	December	2857
Tony Wilson	RNZ	Upheld	December	2858
Vanessa Hawken	Otago Daily Times	Upheld	December	2859
Sarah McLean-Orsborn	Otago Daily Times	Upheld	December	2860
Vanisha Mishra-Vakaoti	Otago Daily Times	Upheld	December	2861
Dianne Sharma-Winters	Otago Daily Times	Upheld	December	2862
Jenny Tutu	Otago Daily Times	Upheld	December	2863



NEW ZEALAND MEDIA COUNCIL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | 2019

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated
For the year ended 31 December 2019

Prepared by The Tax Lady Wellington Limited





CORNISH
ACCOUNTING

cornish.co.nz

24 June 2020

To Whom it May Concern

The New Zealand Media Council

We have reviewed the accounts of The New Zealand Media Council for the period ended 31 December 2019 (12 Months).

In our opinion:-

- Proper accounting records have been kept by the organisation as far as appears from our examination of those records, and the organisations 2019 Financial Statements.
- The accounts comply with generally accepted accounting practice and give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 December 2019 and financial performance and cashflows for the year ended on this date of the organisation.

Our review was completed on 24th June 2020 and our unqualified opinion is expressed at this date.

CORNISH ACCOUNTING LTD.

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TABLE CONTENTS

COMPILATION REPORT	14
FINANCIAL CA LETTER	15
DIRECTORY	16
APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT	17
PROFIT AND LOSS	18-19
BALANCE SHEET	20
DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE	21
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	22-23

COMPILATION REPORT

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2019

Scope

On the basis of information provided and in accordance with Service Engagement Standard 2 Compilation of Financial Information, we have compiled the financial statements of New Zealand Media Association Incorporated for the year ended 31 December 2019.

These statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to these financial statements.


Responsibilities

You are solely responsible for the information contained in the financial statements and have determined that the Special Purpose Reporting Framework used is appropriate to meet your needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

The financial statements were prepared exclusively for your benefit. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the financial statements.

Audit or Review Engagement

Our procedures use accounting expertise to undertake the compilation of the financial statements from information you provided. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. These accounts have been subject to a financial review by ~~Cornish and Associates Limited~~.

Cornish Accounting Limited 

Disclaimer

We have compiled these financial statements based on information provided which has not been subject to an audit or review engagement. Accordingly, we do not accept any responsibility for the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the compiled financial information contained in the financial statements. Nor do we accept any liability of any kind whatsoever, including liability by reason of negligence, to any person for losses incurred as a result of placing reliance on these financial statements.

The Tax Lady Wellington Limited

Dated: 1 March 2020



FINANCIAL REVIEW LETTER

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated
For the year ended 31 December 2019

DIRECTORY

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2019

Nature of Business

The *New Zealand Media Association Incorporated* is a Non Governmental Organisation which exists to uphold standards in the New Zealand print media and promotes freedom of speech in New Zealand.


Registered Address

79 Boulcott Street,
Wellington 6143

IRD Number

013969663

Chairman

~~Sir John Hanson~~ Hon Raynor-Asher 

Accountant

The Tax Lady Wellington Limited

Bankers

BNZ Bank

Auditor

~~Cornish and Associates Ltd~~ Cornish Accounting Ltd. 



APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated
For the year ended 31 December 2019

The Directors are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of The New Zealand Press Council for year ended 31 December 2019.

APPROVED

For and on behalf of the Board.

Chair

Date

PROFIT AND LOSS

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2019

	2019	2018
Trading Income		
Associate Membership	35,246	33,498
Community Newspapers	11,870	11,360
Magazines Contribution	18,875	18,875
NPA Contribution	200,000	220,000
Union	2,700	2,700
Total Trading Income	268,691	286,433
Gross Profit	268,691	286,433
Other Income		
Interest Income	1,916	2,000
Total Other Income	1,916	2,000
Expenses		
Travel and Accommodation	18,474	22,609
Accident Compensation Levy	274	259
Accounting & Xero Fees	2,208	2,163
Advertising & Promotion	2,385	2,076
Annual Leave Owing	2,244	261
Audit Fees	1,200	1,000
Bank Fees	25	25
Board Fees	34,400	33,424
Chairmans' Expenses	9,697	3,103
Chairmans Honorarium	65,000	62,500
Cleaning	400	125
Computer Expenses	2,956	3,183
Contractors	1,575	7,465
Depreciation	3,727	4,747
General Expenses	4,186	4,601
Insurance	3,477	3,350
Office Relocation Expenses	642	3,173
Postage & Courier	1,293	335
Power & Telephone	1,140	1,311
Printing & Stationery	3,477	2,746
Rent - Carpark	1,920	1,920
Rent - Office	5,051	5,461
Salaries	101,198	98,204
Total Expenses	266,948	264,039
Net Profit (Loss) Before Taxation	3,658	24,394



	2019	2018
Taxation and Adjustments		
Income Tax Provision	250	49
Total Taxation and Adjustments	250	49
Net Profit (Loss) for the Year	3,409	24,345

BALANCE SHEET

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated As at 31 December 2019

	31 DEC 2019	31 DEC 2018
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and Bank		
Business First Oncall Account	54,663	67,756
Non Profit Org Account	17,150	31,640
NZPC - Term Deposit	58,427	55,126
Total Cash and Bank	130,240	154,522
Trade and Other Receivables	45,275	23,246
Other Current Assets	244	1,707
Total Current Assets	175,759	179,476
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	8,846	12,573
Total Non-Current Assets	8,846	12,573
Total Assets	184,605	192,049
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	9,797	23,288
GST Payable	13,334	12,956
Income Tax Payable	575	288
Employee Entitlements	782	2,852
Total Current Liabilities	24,488	39,385
Non-Current Liabilities		
Other Non-Current Liabilities	8,798	4,753
Total Non-Current Liabilities	8,798	4,753
Total Liabilities	33,286	44,138
Net Assets	151,320	147,911
Equity		
Retained Earnings	151,320	147,911
Total Equity	151,320	147,911



DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated
For the year ended 31 December 2019

NAME	COST	OPENING VALUE	PURCHASES	DISPOSALS	DEPRECIATION	CLOSING VALUE	PRIVATE USE AMOUNT
Furniture & Fittings							
Boardroom Furniture (share of)	2,482	1,203	-	-	192	1,010	-
Crestline Desk	1,598	896	-	-	116	779	-
Dexion Storage Unit	4,455	2,874	-	-	287	2,587	-
Side Chairs x 2	878	14	-	-	2	11	-
Total Furniture & Fittings	9,413	4,986	-	-	599	4,388	-
Office Equipment							
Computer	2,345	537	-	-	269	269	-
Computer	2,467	37	-	-	18	18	-
HP Elitebook 1040 G4 I5 cpu 8GB memory 256GB SSD, Dock, Monitor, Wireless Keyboard & Mouse	4,047	3,035	-	-	1,518	1,518	-
Printer	876	-	-	-	-	-	-
Website	7,335	879	-	-	439	439	-
Website	14,670	1,375	-	-	688	688	-
Total Office Equipment	31,740	5,863	-	-	2,932	2,932	-
Office Fitout							
Office Fitout	22,397	1,724	-	-	196	1,527	-
Total Office Fitout	22,397	1,724	-	-	196	1,527	-
Total	63,550	12,573	-	-	3,727	8,846	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2019

1. Reporting Entity

The New Zealand Press Council is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, and is a Non Governmental Organisation which exists to uphold standards in the New Zealand print media and promote freedom of speech in New Zealand.

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Special Purpose Framework for use by For-Profit Entities (SPFR for FPEs) published by Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand.

The financial statements have been prepared for taxation purposes.

Basis of Preparation for the 2019 Year

For periods up to and including the 2019 financial year, The New Zealand Press Council prepared its financial statements in accordance with approved Financial Reporting Standards (FRSs) and Statements of Standards Accounting Practice (SSAPs) as appropriate for entities that qualified and applied for New Zealand differential reporting concessions. The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 have been prepared in accordance with SPFR for FPE which is not New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP).

Historical Cost

These financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis. The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (NZ\$) and all values are rounded to the nearest NZ\$, except when otherwise indicated.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.

Depreciation

Account	Method	Rate
Furniture & Fittings	Diminishing Value (100%)	10% - 18%
Office Equipment	Diminishing Value (100%)	48% - 50%
Office Fitout	Diminishing Value (100%)	11.4%

Income Tax

The Income Tax liability is limited to Interest Revenue only, less a \$1,000 exemption granted by Inland Revenue. The liability is charged to the Profit and Loss statement in accordance with the income tax return to Inland Revenue.

Goods and Services Tax

All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.



Notes to the Financial Statements

	2019	2018
2. Equity		
Current year earnings	3,409	24,345
Retained earnings/Accumulated funds	147,911	123,566
Total Equity	151,320	147,911
	2019	2018
3. Property, Plant and Equipment		
Plant and Equipment		
Plant and machinery owned	31,740	31,740
Accumulated depreciation - plant and machinery owned	(28,808)	(25,876)
Total Plant and Equipment	2,932	5,863
Furniture and Fittings		
Furniture and fittings owned	31,810	31,810
Accumulated depreciation - furniture and fittings owned	(25,895)	(25,100)
Total Furniture and Fittings	5,915	6,710
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	8,846	12,573

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NEW ZEALAND MEDIA COUNCIL

