

L A I N E
THEATRE ARTS

VALUE FOR MONEY
POLICY
2024-2025

VALUE FOR MONEY POLICY

Value for Money (VfM) is the term used to assess whether an organisation has obtained the maximum benefit from the goods and services it acquires and/or provides within the available resources. It not only measures the cost of goods and services but also takes account of the mix of quality, cost resource use, sustainability, fitness-for-purpose, timeliness, and convenience to judge whether, when taken together, they constitute good value. Achieving value for money may be summarised in terms of the 'three Es': economy, efficiency, and effectiveness:

- Economy: doing less with fewer resources (spending less)
- Efficiency: doing the same with fewer resources (spending well)
- Effectiveness: doing better with the same or fewer resources (spending wisely)

Drivers for value for money include responding to cuts in income, meeting the expectations of students and staff, delivering a high-quality service, and accountability for public funds.

POLICY STATEMENT

Laine Theatre Arts recognises its responsibility to achieve Value for Money (VfM) from all its activities, however they may be funded. Laine Theatre Arts is committed to the pursuit of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness as an integral part of its strategic planning and management and will seek to adopt good practice and incorporate VfM principles in all its activities.

VALUE FOR MONEY OBJECTIVES

To achieve Value for Money (VfM) we will:

- integrate VfM principles within existing management, planning, review, and decision-making processes.
- adopt recognised good practice where this makes sense.
- undertake VfM studies on areas of activity identified as worthy of review.
- benchmark the College's activities against other similar activities and organisations where this is considered achievable and useful.
- respond to opportunities to enhance the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of activities.
- promote a culture of continuous improvement by seeking to challenge existing practices to ensure that they are achieving VfM.
- demonstrate actively to both internal and external observers that the achievement of VfM is sought in all activities undertaken.
- ensure that all staff recognise their continuing obligation to seek VfM for the College as part of their routine activities.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING

The Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for ensuring VfM at Laine Theatre Arts and is supported by the Audit and Risk Committee.

The Audit and Risk Committee has an oversight role in assuring that appropriate arrangements are in place to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

The Audit and Risk Committee gives an annual opinion to the Board of Directors on the arrangements for promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness (value for money). The Committee forms its opinion on the basis of its own enquiries, on advice taken from Internal and External Audit, and on available evidence from management.

INTERNAL AUDIT

VfM considerations will be routinely included in the annual internal audit programme commissioned by the Audit and Risk Committee which may also include specific Value for Money studies.

POLICY REVIEW

The Value for Money Policy will be reviewed every three years by the Audit and Risk Committee which will make recommendations for enhancements to the Policy to the Board of Directors.

Date of next review - May 2025