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# Arts and Culture Policy 2023



September 2023

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# Arts and Culture Policy



## Council Policy

**Responsible director**

**Responsible officer**

**Functional area**

**Date adopted by Council**

**Review date**

Directorate of the CEO.

Coordinator Community Futures

Community Development Officer

4 September 2023

7 December 2024

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## Purpose

Northern Grampians Shire Council recognises that arts and culture enrich communities. Engaging in arts and culture activities builds a sense of community pride and identity, inspires a sense of place, creates a culture of inclusion, celebrates diversity; promotes health and wellbeing and enhances the liveability of the shire. It assists in the economic development of the shire and helps drive visitation to the region.

## Background

The adoption of an Arts and Culture Policy by Council is important as it provides the framework for how Council will support and promote arts and culture activities and initiatives in the shire.

## Policy

This policy aims to:

- Support to protect and preserve public arts and cultural assets - maintain community assets and the NGSC Historical Assets Register.
- Increase participation and access – supporting projects and activities that are inclusive, accessible, and encourage participation for a wide range of community members.
- Support local creative talent – creating more opportunities to produce and present creative works.
- Deliver wider economic and social impacts – supporting local organisations, businesses, and creatives to collaborate in the design and delivery of projects.
- Strengthen the creative industries – build capacity and support conditions for growth.

### **Public Art Guidelines 2023**

The Public Art Guidelines 2023 are to be read in conjunction with this policy.

### **Council Plan Objective/Strategy**

The objectives of the Arts and Culture policy align with the objectives of the *Council Plan 2021-25*, the *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25* and the *Arts and Culture Strategy 2020-24* as outlined below.

### **Council Plan 2021-25**

- Enhancing lifestyles and economic growth.

### **Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25**

- Providing increased opportunity for community participation in the arts and therefore providing - Community connection, access for all, inclusion, improved mental wellbeing.

### **Arts and Culture Strategy 2020-24**

- Participation - increase participation in and collaboration of the arts in the Northern Grampians Shire.
- Profile - improve the profile of the arts.
- Place - capitalise on the unique place where art is created.

### **Legislation and Standards**

*Local Government Act 2020*

*Heritage Act 2017*

*Planning and Environment Act 1987*

*Building Act 1993*

*Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*

*Copyright Act 1968*

### **Responsibilities**

The Strategy, Prosperity and Engagement Directorate is responsible for ensuring that the Arts and Culture Policy is implemented, and the Coordinator Community Futures is responsible for the policy to be reviewed every four years.

### **Stakeholders**

This policy applies to Councillors, staff, contractors, and consultants responsible for commissioning, for or on behalf of Northern Grampians Shire Council. The community is directly affected by the policy.

### **Review**

Monitoring and regular assessment of the policy are necessary to ensure the policy remains current with the Council's goals, processes, aims and requirements. Assessment of the policy will be undertaken every four years to align with the Council term to ensure it remains current with the Council's goals, processes, aims and requirements and as a means by which to reduce Council's exposure to risk.

### **Communication and implementation**

The policy will be communicated to all staff through the Electronic Document Records Management System and referred to in induction and/or training. The policy will be available to the community on the Council's website.

### **References**

Council Plan 2021-25

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25

Northern Grampians Shire Council - Arts and Culture Audit and Opportunities Report 2016

Northern Grampians Shire Council - Arts and Culture Strategy 2020-24

Creative State 2025

VicHealth - Arts and Wellbeing 2019

### **Compliance**

This policy requires relevant State Government legislative compliance with:

- ✓ *Local Government Act 2020*
- Local Government Act 1989*
- ✓ [Gender Equality Act 2020](#)
- Child Safety Act 2015*
- ✓ [Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014](#)
- Equal Opportunity Act 2010*
- Fair Work Act 2009*
- ✓ [Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006](#)
- Health Records Act 2001*
- Freedom of Information Act 1982*
- Other

### **Privacy and Data Protection compliance**

Development of the policy has considered the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and the *Victorian Protective Data Security (VPDSS) Framework* which adopts a risk-based approach to protective data security.

### **Gender Equality Act 2020**

Council must consider gender equality principles, rights, opportunities, responsibilities and outcomes and the promotion of gender equality in the policies, programs and services it delivers.

### **Charter of Human Rights compliance**

It is considered that this policy does not impact on any human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights & Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Review history**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Review details</b>	<b>Action</b>
11 November 2020	Policy drafted, presented to ELT	Approved
7 December 2020	Reported to Council for adoption	Adopted
4 September 2023	Policy reviewed; Public Art Guidelines separated out to forms new document. Presented to Council	
2 October 2023	Council adopted policy	Adopted