

# POLICY

## Public Art



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### Purpose

Art in public places creates distinctive, safe and vibrant environments. It promotes community identity and wellbeing and increases the liveability of the Shire.

Council plays a key role in the development of public spaces and as such holds the key to including public art in its many forms, whether through direct commissions or in partnership with business and other tiers of government, or through community driven initiatives.

This policy guides Council in ensuring our communities have access to high quality, visual artworks in the public realm. This policy provides direction to Council with a clear and transparent process for assessing and making decisions about the design, placement and conservation of public art spaces in the Hindmarsh Shire, with the aim of ensuring artworks are:

- Placed strategically.
- Relevant to our community
- Supported by our community
- Appropriate to their context, with consideration given to Indigenous or other heritage within the community, if applicable.
- High aesthetic value and of excellent quality
- Pose no danger to our environment or to people.

### Scope

This policy applies to all areas of public art including:

- Council commissioned or acquired art.
- Art proposed by community groups or individuals.
- Art proposed for public spaces within Council or private developments.
- Permanent pieces.
- Temporary installations.

## Definitions

*Public Art* – Public art may include, but is not limited to, site-specific sculptures, murals, architectural design elements, installations, lighting effects, town entry or streetscape features and decorative paving.

Public art is accessible to a broad audience, and responds to the social, historical, environmental or physical context of a site outside of the traditional gallery system.

*Professional Artist* – identifies themselves as such on the basis of skills or experience; is accepted as a professional by their peers or the arts industry.

*Public space* – includes public buildings, public building forecourts, parks, gardens, reserves, sporting grounds, road reserves and other public spaces.

## Policy

In supporting and developing public artwork for the shire, Hindmarsh Shire Council (Council) will follow these guiding principles:

- Design and Placement – Consideration will be given for the design and placement of public art. Council will respect local history, Indigenous and other heritage, and aim to enhance people’s experience of the shire’s public space. Public art will not be detrimental to the amenity or environment.
- Respect – Art is subjective, and may not have an outcome everyone agrees with. Respect for all parts of the community will be taken into account when considering the artwork design.
- Value for money – Consideration will be given to ensuring the project has an adequate budget to ensure quality of the design and implementation. Consideration will be given to the maintenance and repair costs of the artwork into the future.
- Quality product – Ensuring a high quality product is the result of a well-planned process, of excellent workmanship and high aesthetic value. Consideration will be given to the location to ensure reflective materials are not used if the public artwork is located within a road reserve.

Funding for art in public spaces project may be sourced through the following mechanisms:

- Council’s recurrent budget and capital works program.
- External funding from grants and philanthropic sources.
- Contributions by developers.
- Private businesses and property owners.

## **Consideration, Consultation and Assessment**

The process for considering and assessing public artwork within the shire has three stages.

### *Stage 1. Proposal consideration and assessment*

Council's Manager Economic and Community Development (MECD) will be the first contact for Individuals, community groups or external parties who wish to propose a public artwork. Council's MECD will consult with Council departments, including Local Laws, Risk Management, Asset Management and Planning to determine if any permits are required, and other authorities that may need to be consulted.

Council will consider all public art pieces. Prior to consideration by Council, where necessary, the individual, community group or external party must provide written evidence of 'in-principle' support from the landowner to use the site.

Projects funded by Council, will invite artists to submit proposals in response to a detailed brief.

Priority will be given to a professional, experienced artist who has the requisite skills and capacity to deliver a high quality, durable piece of art that will contribute to the enjoyment and understanding of the public space, and align with the principles of this policy.

Council's MECD will work closely with a range of stakeholders including local community members, and land owners/land managers if not Council prior to the final decision being made.

### *Stage 2. Community Consultation*

After consideration by Council, consultation will occur with the Community. Council may place a public notice in the local newspaper notifying the community of the proposed public artwork.

Designs will be placed on Council's website and Facebook page with Community members having an opportunity to make a submission. Where multiple designs are being considered, the community may have the opportunity to vote on the proposals.

### *Stage 3. Decision*

Councillors will make the final decision, taking into consideration community submissions, on the public art.

The decision taken by Council will be published on Council's website, Facebook page and local media. Community members who made a submission, proposers of the art, and artists will be notified of the outcome in writing.

## **Contract arrangements**

The commissioning of public art will utilise a standard contract, with modifications where required, to incorporate the following requirements:

- Terms and conditions of delivery, presentation and installation timelines;

- Budget and payment schedule;
- Copyright and intellectual property;
- Intended life of the artwork;
- Insurance;
- Occupational Health and Safety;
- Maintenance schedule;
- Ownership;
- Signage acknowledging the artist and funding body (if required);
- Repairs and Damage, and
- Building permits and Town Planning Permits where required.

### Decommissioning

A work may be considered for removal when:

- An artwork is deemed to be beyond repair or less value than the cost of repair;
- The cost of ongoing maintenance is prohibitive;
- The artwork is unsafe or presents a danger to the public, and
- The artwork is being replaced with a new piece of artwork that has been identified to be more suitable to the site.

### DOCUMENT CONTROL

Public Art		<b>Policy Category</b>	Council
<b>Version Number</b>	1.0	<b>Policy Status</b>	Approved
<b>Approved/Adopted By</b>	Council	<b>Approved/Adopted on:</b>	15 August 2018
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Corporate & Community Services		
<b>Version History (inc. administrative updates)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Description</b>
	July 2018	1.0	Policy creation
	August 2018	1.1	Policy adopted