

Arts and Culture Policy Adopted

South Gippsland Shire Council adopted the Arts and Culture Policy at its Council meeting this week. The policy commits to supporting a culturally vibrant municipality.

The policy provides clear objectives for Council's arts and cultural services, programs and a focus for where Council can support improvements to facilities in South Gippsland. It will support a range of artistic activity to be embedded in the community and drive economic activity in the sector across South Gippsland.

To develop the new policy, Council undertook broad consultation with the Arts sector and established a working group that received and considered feedback, provided forums and network meetings and directly assisted staff with writing the policy.

Council also consulted widely with the sector and sought input from other Gippsland municipalities through the Creative Gippsland Network.

Now that the Policy is in place, Council will progress development of an Arts and Creative Industries Strategy. The Strategy will consider:

- Supporting the development of an Arts Alliance
- Supporting the continuation of a Council-facilitated South Gippsland Arts Network
- Developing a plan for equitable funding between physical recreation activity and arts and cultural development
- Identifying Council teams to contribute to implementation of the policy
- Participating in joint projects with neighbouring municipalities
- Participating in joint projects with the wider recreation and civic communities of South Gippsland
- Collaborating with the tourism sector to promote cultural tourism opportunities
- Collaborating with emerging creative industries cluster to promote innovation in the sector
- Expanding and maintaining public art across South Gippsland
- Developing an Arts Facilities and Venues Plan to improve access to exhibition spaces
- Establishing an annual South Gippsland arts prize.

Any individuals wishing to view the Arts and Culture Policy or any other Council policy can visit Council's website.

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