



POLICY No: WSC026

POLICY FOR ART PURCHASES

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1	13/1/2009	D00897375
2	1/5/2014	D05367891

A. POLICY SUMMARY

- A1 Wyong Shire Council's art collection is considered a public collection and therefore requires clear principles, procedures and criteria regarding art purchases, display and management.

B. POLICY BACKGROUND

- B1 Through its strategic documents, programs and capital projects Wyong Council has a commitment to cultural development and performing, contemporary and public art.
- B2 It is the intent of Council to provide a creative and inspiring environment for the community, staff and visitors, stimulate the imagination, increase enjoyment and understanding of public art and support local artists who have achieved standards of excellence.
- B3 Subject to budgetary considerations, Council will annually purchase significant items of art to add to its art collection, display and provide information about the collection in areas viewable by the public and Council staff such as Council buildings, and store and care for the collection in an appropriate manner.

C. DEFINITIONS

- C1 **Annual Plan** means Council's management plan for the delivery of services to the community.
- C2 **Council** means the organisation established to administer Council affairs, operations, policy and strategies.

D. POLICY STATEMENTS

- D1 This policy covers all elected members of the Council, all personnel employed by Council, contractors, consultants, temporary and casual employees, other authorised personnel and members of the public.
- D2 This policy does not confer delegated authority upon any person.
- D3 It is the personal responsibility of all Council employees and agents thereof to have knowledge of, and to ensure compliance with this policy.
- D4 Council will consider acceptance of art gifts such as paintings, sculptures, ceramics, jewellery and photographs without limitations or conditions placed by the donor or artist and only in accordance with the Wyong Council Art Collection criteria.
- D5 Council will exhibit and rotate the art collection in a manner that enhances Council owned facilities with quality, innovative and meaningful art works owned by and accessible to the community and in a manner that is consistent with Council policies, needs and available space.
- D6 Council will manage, store and care for works in the art collection in a manner that is consistent with copyright and moral rights legislation.

- D7 From time to time Council may consider donating works of art to organisations or individuals as deemed appropriate.

E. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION – PROCEDURES

- E1 Any purchases for Council's Art Collection are required to be made in accordance with the three Wyong Shire Council Art Collection Criteria:
- **Supporting Local Culture:** The collection includes a balance of Central Coast amateur and professional, emerging and established artists' work with local defined to include Wyong Shire and Central Coast – the collection provides leadership in supporting and celebrating quality local arts and creative enterprise.
 - **Works of Integrity, Quality and Diversity:** A high standard, diverse and unique art collection will communicate corporate values of quality, integrity and innovation and reflects evolving corporate commitment to quality arts and creative industry as well as the diversity potential of local cultural expression.
 - **Investment:** Works purchased are expected to increase in monetary value and ensures the collection is part of Council's asset management system.
- E2 The Mayor and senior officers may select for purchase art work at Central Coast or other arts festivals, exhibitions and events in accordance with E1 from a sub-budget allocation within the Art Collection budget approved in Council's adopted Annual Plan.
- E3 Artwork can be purchased by the Property Services Unit within approved budgets, in consultation with Council's Cultural Planner and approval by the Manager Community Partnerships and Planning.
- E4 Artworks will be considered for acceptance or donation following consultation between Council's Cultural Planner, Manager Community Partnerships and Planning and/or General Manager and include consideration of the artist's track record including awards, exhibitions, critical recognition, social/heritage significance and arts peer advice.
- E5 Council will maintain an inventory of all works of art in its possession in accordance with its Asset Management Policy and Procedure.
- E6 Council will undertake an annual stock take and submit an audit report of the art work in its buildings.
- E7 The administration of the inventory and annual audits will be the responsibility of the Community Planning and Partnerships Unit.
- E8 Council will carry out appropriate maintenance and storage and display storage to its works of art as required.
- E9 Council will manage the Art Collection through appropriate care in storage, maintenance and repairs by suitably qualified and skilled restorers.
- E10 All public display of the Art Collection will be accompanied by information such as labels and fact sheets including the artist's name and work title at a minimum.
- E11 Offers of art work donation will be declined if it is considered the offered work is not consistent with the Wyong Shire Council Art Collection criteria.

- E12 Works in the Art Collection can be sold or donated to enable appropriate management of the whole collection.
- E13 Art work is not to be relocated or removed from buildings without the permission of the Civic Property Services Unit (Civic Centre Team Leader).

E.14 Associated documents

- Council's Annual Plan
- Council's Code of Conduct