

Policy 1.03 Arts and Culture

Directorate	Community, Environment and Planning
Responsible Officer	Manager Community and Cultural Services

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Record of Administrative Amendments

<u>Amendment Version No.:</u>	<u>Description of Administrative Amendment</u>	<u>Date Reviewed</u>
<u>4.2</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Placed on Public Exhibition 23 July 2025</u>	<u>July 2025</u>
<u>4.1</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Workshopped by Councillors on 18 June 2025</u>	<u>June 2025</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Adopted by Council (D22/87711)</u>	<u>21/09/2022</u>

1 Introduction Introduction

1.1

1.21.1 Scope

This policy prescribes the processes implemented to facilitate and encourage the development and continued delivery of arts and cultural services across the Bega Valley Shire.

The scope of this policy demonstrates direct commitment to the following strategic guiding principles:

- Accountable | Proactive consultation and engagement internally between business areas and externally with key stakeholders
- Transparent | Commitment to open communication; nurturing a trusting and supportive partnership with community, local businesses and funding partners
- Equitable and inclusive | Strong consideration of the needs of all stakeholders; commitment to building a connection with stakeholders upon trust and respect; nurturing a culture of collaboration, consultation and communication in council business practices and service delivery

1.31.2 Purpose

To recognise the importance of arts and culture in contributing to civic pride, belonging, community wellbeing, commemoration, celebration, sense of place, cultural tourism and social development of the community.

1.41.3 Definitions

Arts is a broad term that encompasses a range of traditional artforms such as visual arts (e.g. painting, sculpture, photography etc), music (both recorded and performed), performing arts (e.g. dance, theatre), literature (books and other written works), and craft and design, as well as creative industries such as film, television and radio, fashion design, software development and interactive digital content, and architecture.

Culture refers to the characteristics and knowledge of a particular group of people, defined by everything from language, kinship and religion, to cuisine, social habits, traditions and arts. It can be seen as the growth of group identity fostered by social patterns unique to the group. Culture, therefore, also embraces heritage and heritage-related assets and activity.

This policy recognises that the arts represent a creative expression that is influenced by culture, which in turn, helps to shape culture.

2 Legislation

Nil

3 Implementation

3.1 Policy statement

Bega Valley Shire Council ~~will~~ recognise the importance of arts and culture by:

- recognising and promoting the contribution made by the original custodians of the lands and waters to the arts and culture of the shire
- maintaining and enhancing the natural and cultural environments within the shire for the benefit of future generations
- developing and enhancing, through the organisation's cultural facilities (Regional Gallery / South East Centre for Contemporary Art, Bega Valley Libraries and Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre), a viable, accessible and relevant arts and cultural program
- contributing to South East Arts Inc as a peak industry organisation who advocates for and works closely with local professional creatives to provide development, economic and presentation opportunities
- optimising participation in cultural activities that are affordable, available and accessible to all within the community
- fostering social tolerance and facilitate shared community experience and expression
- encouraging excellence in cultural expression
- recognising and promoting the diverse cultural identity of the shire
- maintaining a range of community facilities such as halls and sportsgrounds that enable and support arts and culture activity across the shire
- implementing the adopted Arts and Culture Plan in line with resourcing and priorities
- recognising and promoting the contribution of creative industries and cultural tourism.

3.2 Responsibilities

3.2.1 Elected Council

The elected Council is responsible for determining the strategic direction of Council's arts and culture commitment.

3.2.2 The Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer ~~(CEO)~~ is responsible for ensuring relevant Council areas are resourced to manage community assets and programs that contribute to arts and culture, in line with the strategic direction of the elected Council.

3.2.3 Community and Cultural Services area

Manage the South East Centre for Contemporary Art and lead Council's arts and culture activities and programming, noting many areas of Council contribute to the arts and culture fabric of the shire.

4 Supporting documents

4.1 BVSC procedures that relate to this policy

Procedure No.:	Procedure Name	External or Internal Procedure
1.03.01	Public Art	External

4.2 BVSC policies that relate to this policy

Policy No.:	Policy Name
1.01	Community Wellbeing
2.01	Community Learning, Libraries and Education
3.01	Development Administration
5.01	Asset Management

4.2.1 Related strategies

Council's Arts and Culture Plan (adopted 2024) guides the strategic direction of Council's investment in arts and culture.

Sapphire Coast Vision and Platform for Growth

Note: Policy details may change from time to time. To ensure you are viewing the most recent version please view Council's adopted Policies and Procedures on the Council website: www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au.