



POLICY – 4.16 – Art Acquisition Display and Management Policy

Relevant Delegation

N/A

Objective

To provide guidance on the effective acquisition, management and decommissioning of the Shire's art collection.

By developing and adopting this Art Acquisition Display and Management Policy, Council acknowledges that artists and art contribute to the Shire's cultural development through diversity in artistic and cultural expression.

The Shire will acquire the work of artists who have an identifiable association with Shire of Menzies to establish and build a collection which reflects the history, people, place and diverse cultural identity of the Menzies communities.

Implementation of the Policy will:

- Ensure acquired artworks reflect our Shire's unique character, history, values and aspirations,
- Guide and facilitate a coordinated and strategically planned approach to the acquisition and management of an art collection,
- Encourage and ensure the acquisition of high quality, innovative artworks that are meaningful, relevant, diverse in character and aesthetically pleasing,
- Ensure that acquired artworks are appropriately recorded, maintained and where necessary, restored.

Definitions

Art - Public Art Artistic works designed and created from many different materials and forms, which may include (but not be limited to): paintings, sculpture, mosaic, stained glass, textiles, ceramics, photography, prints and mixed media.

The types of art covered under this policy are public art, community art and Temporary art.

Public Art - Artistic works designed or created by an artist(s) and situated in an accessible place of the public and memorials for public spaces in the Menzies municipal district.

Community Art - Artistic works involving the active participation of community members, in the design or creation, and are often facilitated by an artist(s) or a community arts worker.

Temporary Art - Artistic works designed and created for a short life span.

Policy Scope

The policy applies to all movable and public artworks accessioned into the Shire Art Collection.

Policy Statement

The Shire recognises the importance art has in contributing to a culturally rich environment and considers that high quality and meaningful artwork can enrich the community and strengthen community connectedness.

Art acquisitions

The Council will determine each acquisition on a case-by-case basis, ensuring all decisions align with this policy and budget considerations.

The Council will determine an annual allocation, as part of the Annual Budget, to fund acquisitions of art, and all proposed acquisitions will require sufficient funding to be available, or proposed, before formal offers to acquire may be made.

Art acquisition criteria

The following criteria will be used to determine the suitability of any art being considered for acquisition by the Shire:

- A preference for artworks designed or created by artists living, working in, or who have a strong connection to the Shire,
- A preference for artworks with themes relating to the Shire,
- A preference for artworks intended to excite the imagination of the public and increase the understanding and enjoyment of art,
- A preference for artworks designed or created through processes of group or community artistic expression,
- The condition and overall artistic merit of the artwork,
- The cost (initial and ongoing) and community value and of the artwork.

Decommissioning

Works from the collection may be considered for removal from the collection if they are in poor condition, damaged or deteriorated beyond reasonable repair, duplicate other elements of the collection and/or do not meet the requirements of this policy.

Any removal is to be undertaken based on the following priority basis:

- The Shire may, at its absolute and sole discretion, remove any art from the collection for the purposes of selling, gifting, donating, storing, or otherwise disposing of the art, provided that the Shire provides the relevant artist prior notice of its intentions.
- In providing the relevant artist prior notice of its intentions, the Shire shall also provide the artist the opportunity to purchase the art at a price that could be realised if it was to be sold privately, or such other agreement reached with the artist that is acceptable to the Shire.

The decommissioning process and decisions will be consistent with the decision-making options described in this Policy.

– *End of Policy*

ADOPTED: 26 SEPTEMBER 2024