

Policy Owner/Responsible Officer	Manager Community Hubs
Department	Planning, Environment & Communities
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Policy Statement/Objectives

Kiama Municipal Council is committed to the sustainable development of a culturally rich and vibrant community, and recognises the important role of public art in actively engaging the community, creating a sense of place and enhancing the liveability of our region.

The policy provides a framework for integrating art and design into the public domain, and will act as a guide by which Council will commission, procure, approve, manage and preserve Public Art in the municipality.

The objectives of the policy are to:

- To facilitate the provision of high-quality, innovative and diverse public art within the Kiama Local Government Area (LGA);
- To provide a considered approach to the funding, procurement, acquisition and management of our current and future public art collection;
- To develop and celebrate Kiama’s history, and preserve our cultural heritage and assets for the enjoyment of future generations;

- To collaborate with artists and communities to create public art that inspires, builds identity and injects creativity;
- Integrate public art development into Council’s planning, development control and asset management process;
- To align with Council’s Community Strategic Plan (2022-2032), addressing the following pillars:

Pillar 1- We belong and contribute

Pillar 3- We create a strong and diverse economy

Pillar 4- We are part of a connected and liveable community

Scope

The key feature of the Public Art Policy is its proposal to continue to integrate art into the fabric of the city. Public art is part of our public history; our evolving culture and our collective memory.

The policy applies to:

- Public art proposals that are located on high profile sites that have public access;
- Public art proposals, whether publicly or privately funded, that are proposed for installation on Council owned or managed land;
- Public art proposals that are initiated by individuals, groups, businesses or organisations for installation on publicly-accessible land owned by entities other than Kiama Municipal Council.

This policy is supported by Council’s *Public Art Procedure and Implementation Guide*.

References

- Community Strategic Plan (CSP) 2022-2032
- NSW Government Public Art Toolkit
- [Arts Law Centre of Australia](#)

Consultations

- NIL

Definitions

Term	Definition
Art	For the purposes of this policy, art is not decorative art, and is meant to provoke an emotional reaction or intellectual response. Art in the context of this Public Art Policy should express the creator's imagination, conceptual ideas and/or technical skill. Art should encourage awareness and reflection; challenge ideas, enhance a sense of discovery, interaction and celebration of the social space.
Public Art	The Arts Law Centre of Australia defines public art as “artistic works situated in public spaces and accessible by members of the public, excluding artworks held in the collections of galleries and museums”. Public art can be ephemeral, temporary or permanent and can also include the conceptual contribution of an artist to the design of public spaces and facilities.

Deaccession	The process undertaken to remove a work of art from public display, or from a public collection.
Acquisition	The acquiring of art works through purchase, gift, donation, or bequest.
Permanent Public Art	Enduring, site-specific cultural assets designed by artists, which are often permanently located in a major infrastructure or landscape. The expected lifespan of a permanent work is 5 to 25 years.
Temporary or Ephemeral Public Art	Temporary art works are generally designed to last between 0-5 years and are sometimes as one-off event. These artworks may include performance, installation, façade treatments, light, sound and new technologies
Memorial	A memorial is an artwork that commemorates an individual, organisation, anniversary or event which may be commissioned from a professional artist.

Variation and review

Council reserves the right to review, vary or revoke this Policy. This policy will be reviewed every three years with ongoing monitoring to inform future decision making related to public art in Kiama Municipality.

Review History

Date reviewed	Date adopted/endorsed	Brief detail of amendments
	February 2016	New Policy
January 2024	19 April 2024	Placed on new template, revised & amended

POLICY

1. Principals

This policy sets out several key focus areas which will set the direction over the next three years for Council to realise opportunities for public art.

1.1. Recognise and Celebrate First Nations Stories

Ensure that the heritage and culture of Kiama's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and people from a range of cultural backgrounds are recognised, respected and celebrated in public spaces.

1.2. Manage and maintain Council's Public Art Collection

A public art collection register will be developed by Council for public artworks, including Council's permanent art collection. This will involve documenting, cataloguing and condition reporting all works.

1.3. Funding

Council will investigate a range of funding sources to develop and sustain public art. These may include private sector contributions; other government funding program; and/or philanthropic programs.

1.4. Public Art guidelines and processes

Commission, support and facilitate diverse, innovative and vibrant site-specific contemporary artwork; in line with the Council's commissioning approach, including Expression of Interest, Limited Competition and Direct Engagement, and procurement methodology.

1.5. Partnerships

In commercial developments of sufficient scale and public profile, Council encourages developers to integrate public art options that will enhance public spaces; create a cohesive sense of place and improve economic benefit for both the development and the community.

1.6 Commissions and Proposals

Should Council decide to commission a work of Public Art, this process will be undertaken as defined in Council's Public Art Procedure. All public art proposals, including commissions, proposed gifted works, memorials, temporary works and integrated design projects will be assessed at the concept stage using consistent and specific criteria (provided within the Public Art Procedure) before recommendations are made to Council.

1.7 Provide advocacy and support

Promote the development of high-quality public art and place-making strategies in private and commercial developments.

1.8 Implement engagement programs

A range of creative, education programs will aim to enhance appreciation and understanding of art and its role in the public domain. This may include artist talks, workshops, website information, activity sheets, app-based tours, and cultural asset mapping.

Related Forms/Documents

- Public Art Procedure (2024)
- Public Art Implementation Guide (2016)
- Art Collection Policy
- Community Strategic Plan (CSP) 2022-2032
- Local Government Art 1993
- Development Control Plan (DCP) 2020

Attachments

NIL

Authorisation

Name: Adopted by Council - Council Resolution No: 24/056OC

Date: 19/04/2024