

ADOPTED	
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## Objective

To provide a set policy for Council's art collection, including works commissioned, purchased, acquired or gifted to Council.

## Legislative requirements

Nil.

## Related policies and plans

- Public Art Policy.
- Public Art Plan.

## Policy

### Scope of policy

This policy relates to Council's art collection displayed or stored indoors. It does not relate to public art works displayed or installed at external locations, such as parks, gardens, squares and other public areas.

For art works displayed or installed at external locations, reference should be had to Council's Public Art Policy.

### Role of the collection

Council holds its art collection on behalf of the Mid-Western Regional Council community.

### Benefits of an art collection

Council recognises the following benefits of an art collection:

- 1 It identifies the region's heritage.
- 2 It honours creative work in a range of media.
- 3 It assists in building a community identity.
- 4 It regularly exposes the community to quality art.
- 5 It reflects the culture and interests of the community.
- 6 It provides an educative function.
- 7 It is a valuable drawcard for cultural tourism.

## Cultural Development Committee

The Cultural Development Committee is a section 355 committee of Council that is charged with providing advice to Council on matters relating to arts and cultural development, including the commissioning, selection, maintenance, protection and de-accessioning of collection items.

### Gifts and donations

Whilst Council recognises that, from time to time, works are offered as gifts to it with the intention that they be placed on permanent public display, this is not always possible and offers of gifts are not always to be accepted. In the circumstance of an offer of works as a gift (both bequests and donations), the Cultural Development Committee will provide advice on acceptance (see below – Selection guidelines).

Conditional gifts are discouraged and should be refused where unreasonable or inappropriate restrictions are placed on either the display or storage of the proposed gift.

### Selection guidelines

The Cultural Development Committee will consider works (whether commissioned, purchased, acquired or gifted) as appropriate for inclusion in the collection having regards to the following factors:

- 1 The work shows aesthetic merit, quality and skill.
- 2 The work shows competence in the use of materials.
- 3 The work will fill a gap or build upon strengths within the existing collection.
- 4 There is an appropriate Council location for the work to be displayed or stored.
- 5 Council has an existing, and anticipates an ongoing, budget suitable for the storage, maintenance, conservation, security and insurance of the work.

### Other factors

- 1 The work and/or artist may emphasise some regional reference.
- 2 The work collected may be of regional, national and/or international significance.
- 3 Selection should also consider the value of proposed work in relation to the existing collection.

### Collection catalogue

Work collected must be documented by way of an art register in order to:

- 1 Safeguard aspects of the collection.
- 2 Encourage greater understanding of the collection.
- 3 Develop an educational role for the collection.

The art register will be maintained through Council's Corporate Asset Management System.