



# Public Art Policy

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<b>Strategic Pillar</b>	Community Choice	
<b>Responsible Branch</b>	Community and Education	25 June 2020

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## 1. OUTCOMES

- 1.1 Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) is committed to the development of a tolerant, diverse and rich natural and cultural heritage.
- 1.2 The rationale for having in place a public art policy is:
  - (a) Council supports Public Art in the region, and believes in building a sense of place and local identity through appropriate and high quality art pieces.
  - (b) Public Art can enhance public spaces by reflecting local stories, community interests and themes.
  - (c) Public Art can be a local attraction which may result in strong economic benefit to the region.
  - (d) Public Art can also be a medium which grows community engagement, culture, and identity.
  - (e) Public Art is a visible consequence of community 'place-making'.
- 1.3 As the most visible and accessible art form, public art plays an important role in contributing to the life of the region and as such the key purpose of this policy is to integrate public art into the fabric of the region and to enrich the public domain.

## 2. POLICY

- 2.1 This policy guides the development of public art within the Queanbeyan-Palerang Local Government Area which also covers the acquisition, commissioning, placement, management, maintenance and decommissioning of public art work within the region.

## 3. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

- 3.1 This policy will guide and form the criteria for assessment of all public art:
  - (a) commissioned and managed by Council
  - (b) commissioned or developed by associations, property developers, businesses and individuals or groups within the community in partnership with the Council.
  - (c) donated or commissioned by external bodies (including government) for the benefit of the community.
- 3.2 This policy is supported by the 'Implementation Guidelines for Public Art' developed by the QPRC internal Public Art Working Party.
- 3.3 Unapproved graffiti, signage and art pieces on private property are **not** considered 'public art' and are not covered by this policy.

## 4. DEFINITIONS

*Public art* — refers to any art medium planned to be in a public place or precinct or building accessible to the general public. Pieces can be long-term (permanent intent) or temporary (such as pop-up installations, street art, projection art or similar). Art Concepts and design features in buildings and precincts can be classified as Public Art. It is **not** "functional" park equipment or seating, natural landscape features, most gardens, heritage items or historic memorials.

*Public spaces* — includes streets, public parks and facilities, civic buildings and precincts, foyers and spaces in public buildings, and outdoor spaces accessible from public buildings.

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## 5. LEGISLATIVE OBLIGATIONS AND/OR RELEVANT STANDARDS

- 5.1 All public art installations will comply with the relevant QPRC Plans, Strategies and Guidelines and Council building requirements along with any relevant Australian Standards, WHS and Intellectual Property legislation, and any relevant contract obligations.
- 5.2 The Public Art Policy aligns with two Strategic Pillars within its Community Strategic Plan:

*Strategic Pillar 1: Community*

- 1.1.1 *We build on and strengthen our community cultural life and heritage*

*Strategic Pillar 2: Choice*

- 2.1.1 *We will continue the ongoing revitalisation of the Queanbeyan CBD Suburban Centres and rural villages.*

## 6. CONTENT

### 6.1 ***Guidelines and criteria for public art***

Evaluation and approval of all proposed public artworks proposed for the Queanbeyan-Palerang Region will be based on the following criteria:

- 6.1.1 Relevance to the objectives and actions of the Community Strategic plan and other relevant Council planning and transformation strategies.
- 6.1.2 Standards of excellence and innovation.
- 6.1.3 The integrity of the work.
- 6.1.4 Relevance and appropriateness of the work to the context of its site.
- 6.1.5 Consistency with current planning, heritage and environmental policies, and Plans of Management.
- 6.1.6 Consideration of public safety and the public's access to and use of the public domain.
- 6.1.7 Consideration of maintenance and durability requirements.
- 6.1.8 Evidence of funding source and satisfactory budget including an allocation for ongoing maintenance.
- 6.1.9 Non-duplication of monuments commemorating the same or similar events.
- 6.1.10 Consideration for a holistic approach to public art in the City.

### 6.2 ***The QPRC Public Art Working Group***

- 6.2.1 Council will establish a Public Art Working Group to examine the feasibility of public art options within its place-making framework.

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6.2.2 The QPRC Public Art Working Party will include representatives from:

- (a) Urban Landscapes
- (b) Culture and Art (including community representatives)
- (c) Place-making
- (d) Development and Planning
- (e) Finance and Assets (when applicable)

6.2.3 This group will review the guidelines for implementing the Public Art Policy.

6.2.4 The working group will manage Council processes which may include installation, ongoing maintenance and repair and de-installation of public art works.

6.2.5 The working group will report to Council to seek endorsement of public art projects arising from its deliberations.

## 6.3 ***Funding New Public Art***

6.3.1 The QPRC Culture and Art team and Grants Officer will assist Council staff, community groups and individuals to apply for appropriate grant funding for Public Art Projects.

6.3.2 Council will proactively seek to include contributions toward the provision of public art when Local Infrastructure Policies and Fixed Levy Contribution Plans are being reviewed or a Local Planning Agreement is being negotiated as part of development proposals in key areas such as CBDs, town centres and special precincts within QPRC.

6.3.3 Donations and gifts of artworks intended for public places will be assessed in accordance with the policy by the QPRC Cultural Development and Public Art Committee.

## 6.4 ***Placement of Public Art***

6.4.1 QPRC will seek to incorporate visual arts components or design features in any new Council buildings, recreation facilities and parks throughout the region.

6.4.2 Council will endeavour to add to the identity of our towns and villages with visible art works as visitors enter or leave the areas.

6.4.3 Council will support public art programs which invigorate our public spaces.

6.4.4 Where possible, Public Art will tell a story reflecting the unique strengths, achievements and history of our region.

## 7. **REVIEW**

7.1 This policy will be reviewed every four years or earlier as necessary if:

- (a) legislation requires it, or
- (b) Council's functions, structure or activities change.