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Date of Review		

1. Statement

The City of Ipswich aspires to be a vibrant city that actively celebrates, promotes and values arts, heritage, culture and diversity. Council will direct its powers, services and programs to support harnessing the intrinsic and instrumental value of creativity, heritage and arts, foundations upon which vibrant, resilient and industrious communities are built.

2. Purpose and Principles

This policy is supported by the Arts and Cultural Strategy which takes a five year view to maximise growth in the arts and culture sector within the City of Ipswich.

By collectively collaborating delivery on the strategy, council can enhance the City of Ipswich's unique identity, connect our diverse communities, support each other to express ourselves creatively, improve our well-being, develop our city's economy and inspire others to live, work, study or play in the City of Ipswich.

The core principle's upon which this policy is founded includes:

- **Embracing and celebrating our cultural heritage and diversity**
Cultural heritage is fundamental in creating a 'Sense of place' for our community. We are rich in cultural heritage, from the stories of our traditional owners, to the new cultures that the migrants of yesterday and today carry with them.
- **Activating and engaging the whole of our city**
Culturally activated cities bridge age and cultural barriers to create connected communities.
- **Supporting and increasing engagement with our creative community**
Creative practice and creative thinking are not only at the heart of the arts, they are essential for business innovation, technological progress and a productive civic life.
- **Building creative capacity amongst our young people**
Beyond enhancing our city's cultural life, creative skills development will have social, civic and employment benefits, and strengthen opportunities for our young people.
- **Listening, communicating and providing leadership for our community**
Actively listening to the community will ensure programs and actions meet the needs and expectations of stakeholders.

3. Strategic Plan Links

This policy relates to:

- Strengthening our local economy and building prosperity
- Caring for the Community

4. Regulatory Authority

Local Government Act 2009

Related Document

City of Ipswich – Arts and Cultural Strategy 2018 – 2023 (Framing our city's future)

5. Scope

This policy applies to existing and future arts and cultural infrastructure, initiatives and programs within the City of Ipswich.

Council supports diverse and quality arts and cultural activities that promote local participation, strengthen the role of artists in shaping the future of the city and bring arts and cultural activities into the public realm. Council is committed to preserving the cultural heritage of the Traditional Owners of the land, their continued participation and future contribution to the arts and cultural life of the City.

By building on our existing creative assets within the community, forging new connections and partnerships, and encouraging professional development and skills-based training, council will aim to produce a thriving creative ecosystem that will see greater investment by artists and businesses and job opportunities throughout Ipswich.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

The Arts and Cultural Development Coordinator is responsible for the strategic management and implementation of the Arts and Cultural Strategy.

7. Key Stakeholders

Community, Cultural and Economic Development:

- Ipswich Art Gallery
- Marketing and Promotion
- Libraries and Customer Service
- City Events Team
- Community Development

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be implemented through the Arts and Cultural Strategy and will be evaluated on the following:

Opportunity

How many projects/events/activities council managed or supported.

Participation

The extent, reach and diversity of community participation.

Support

The number of active partners, sponsors or collaborators directly involved.

Community value

Contribution to social, cultural, civic, environmental and economic value to the community.

9. Definitions

Art	Refers to all physical results of our creative impulse. Our various 'art forms' represent an outlet for creative expression which is both influenced by our culture and, in turn, influences it. 'The arts' encompasses all branches, including performing arts, visual arts, screen and digital arts, literary arts and cultural heritage collections.
Artists	The term 'artists', 'creative practitioners' or 'creative people' are all used interchangeably to describe those engaged in arts and culture activity.
Council	Refers to Ipswich City Council.
Culture	Refers to all the values, ideas, customs, attitudes and physical artefacts of a particular people or society. Our culture is how we express who we are, as a member of a group. Through arts activities, festivals and events, through food and traditions, our culture makes us feel connected and welcome, and proud of our home and city.

10. Policy Owner

The General Manager (Community, Cultural and Economic Development Department) is the policy owner and the Manager (Destination Development) is responsible for authoring and reviewing this policy.