



LGSA Policy - Cultural planning and development

Local Government recognises culture encompasses our diverse heritage and avenues of expression in the environment, leisure, work and daily life, architecture, arts, history, language and education which people use to express their fundamental character and aspirations.

Local Government:

- recognises creating liveable communities is fundamental to Australia's social well being, long-term ecological sustainability, and economic prosperity
- acknowledges that innovation and creativity are critical to the sustainability and growth of communities
- recognises the right of individuals and communities to determine their own cultural identity by promoting consultation and encouraging participation
- supports the development, integration and promotion of cultural expression within communities to protect against the homogenising effects of globalisation
- recognises strategic cultural planning is a key initiative enabling local communities to respond to changing social, environmental and economic needs, and to address the increasing demand for cultural resources
- fosters local economic development by promoting a community's cultural strength and uniqueness
- identifies, provides or facilitates the provision of facilities, services and programs which meet the cultural needs of communities
- recognises that access to cultural experiences should not be impeded by geographical location or on the basis of gender, marital status, sexuality, language, culture, race, religion, disability, status or age, and that those groups at the margins of society require special assistance to prevent their further disenfranchisement
- recognises Indigenous Australians are the custodians of their cultures, and as such, only they have the right to make decisions about the use and reproduction of their cultures and such decisions should occur with the full and informed consent of the relevant custodians, and where appropriate, be informed by customary law and traditional practice
- understands that local creative practice and pursuits by artists and others in communities is central to cultural policy making

Local Government seeks:

- Commonwealth and State Government acknowledge the significant commitment Local Government has in funding, planning, managing and supporting cultural development in NSW
- Commonwealth and State Government provide significant ongoing funding to enhance regional and local cultural development, and cultural facilities, services and programs

The Associations:

- advance and promote the value of local distinctiveness to State Government and member councils, particularly as it applies to tourism, arts and cultural initiatives