



# CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

## Agenda and Reports

for the meeting on

Tuesday, 1 October 2024

at 6.00 pm

in the Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

© 2024 City of Adelaide. All Rights Reserved.

Our Adelaide.  
**Bold.**  
**Aspirational.**  
**Innovative.**

CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURE COMMITTEE  
Meeting Agenda, Tuesday, 1 October 2024, at 6.00 pm

Members – The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith  
Councillor Giles (Chair)  
Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Snape (Deputy Chair)  
Councillors Abrahamzadeh, Couros, Davis, Elliott, Hou, Li, Martin, Noon and Dr Siebentritt

## Agenda

Item	Pages
<b>1. Acknowledgement of Country</b>	
At the opening of the City Community Services and Culture Committee meeting, the Chair will state:	
‘Council acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.	
And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.’	
<b>2. Apologies and Leave of Absence</b>	
On Leave -	
The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith and Councillor Abrahamzadeh	
<b>3. Confirmation of Minutes - 3/9/2024</b>	
That the Minutes of the meeting of the City Community Services and Culture Committee held on 3 September 2024, be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.	
View public <a href="#">3 September 2024 Minutes</a> .	
<b>4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest</b>	
<b>5. Deputations</b>	
<b>6. Workshops</b>	
Nil	
<b>7. Reports for Recommendation to Council</b>	
7.1 Community Grants Operating Guidelines	3 - 23
7.2 Draft Discussion Paper – <i>Culture the Life of our City</i> - for Public Consultation	24 - 50
<b>8. Reports for Noting</b>	
Nil	
<b>9. Closure</b>	

## Community Grants Operating Guidelines

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Public

Tuesday, 1 October 2024

City Community Services and  
Culture Committee

**Program Contact:**

Jennifer Kalionis, Associate  
Director City Culture

**Approving Officer:**

Ilia Houridis, Director City  
Shaping

---

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to note revised Operating Guidelines for Community funding programs, comprising the Arts and Cultural and the Community Impact grant streams.

The City of Adelaide (CoA) Funding Programs Policy (the Policy) ([Link 1](#)), adopted on 11 June 2024, provides the framework for how CoA manages funding to individuals and organisations applying for support through CoA and its subsidiaries. The Policy covers eight Funding Programs defined as Grants, Strategic Partnerships, Incentives and Sponsorships delivered through Park Lands Policy and Sustainability, the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) and City Culture programs.

In response to the KPMG Grants Management 2023 Audit action, all CoA funding programs, including those administered by AEDA, must align their Operating Guidelines with the Policy by the end of December 2024.

This report focuses on the City Culture grant programs which are consistent with the Policy.

The implementation of these Operating Guidelines will enable the Funding Programs to be open for community application by the end of October 2024. These programs will deliver on CoA Strategic Plan 2024-2028 outcomes, in accordance with the funding allocations approved as part of the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget.

---

## RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 8 October 2024 for consideration

THAT THE CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL  
THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the revised Arts and Cultural Grants Program Operating Guideline, Attachment A to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the City Community Services and Culture Committee held on 1 October 2024, for promotion and implementation.
2. Notes the revised Community Impact Grants Program Operating Guideline, Attachment B to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the City Community Services and Culture Committee held on 1 October 2024, for promotion and implementation.
3. Notes that the following Funding Programs will open by the end of October 2024, as per the 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget:
  - 3.1. Arts and Cultural Grants Program
  - 3.2. Community Impact Grants Program.

## IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	<p><b>Strategic Alignment – Our Community</b></p> <p>Vibrant, connected and inclusive</p> <p>Our Objective is to support our communities to thrive, create fun, lively and interesting experiences, celebrate and honour community and cultures.</p>
Policy	<p>In June 2024, Council approved the City of Adelaide (CoA) Funding Programs Policy (the Policy) as an overarching grants policy to support diversity in arts, culture, community development, recreation and wellbeing.</p> <p>The Policy requires each funding program to develop Operating Guidelines outlining operational and administrative requirements.</p>
Consultation	Consultation on Operating Guidelines is not required under the Policy.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Preparation of these Operating Guidelines responds to the KPMG Grants Management 2023 Audit action which requires a review and update of the Operating Guidelines under each City of Adelaide funding programs by the end of December 2024.
Opportunities	Clear and consistent Operating Guidelines ensure a transparent and equitable approach to distributing funding through grant programs to external organisations to co-deliver the CoA Strategic Plan 2024-2028.
24/25 Budget Allocation	<p>Arts and Cultural Grants Program: \$268,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major Round Arts and Cultural Grants \$167,000</li> <li>• Quick Response Arts and Cultural Grants \$60,000</li> <li>• First Nations Arts and Cultural Grants \$41,000</li> </ul> <p>Community Impact Grants Program: \$240,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiyear commitments \$210,000 pre-committed for 2024/25</li> <li>• Available grant funds for distribution this financial year \$30,000</li> </ul>
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The Arts and Cultural Grants and the Community Impact Grants Programs support community cultural activities and community development programs in 2024/25.
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Other grant funding contributors, co-contributions, and in-kind support from applicants will be included in grant applications where applicable and reported on through acquittals.

# DISCUSSION

1. For over twenty years, the City of Adelaide (CoA) has offered grants in support of community-led cultural, social, and recreational activities. These grants have enabled individuals, groups, organisations, and CoA to deliver on Council’s strategic objectives and respond to community needs.
2. In 2024/25 these grants will be delivered under the title CoA Strategic Plan (2024-2028) aspiration ‘Our Community’, Community Grants.

Community Grants	
Arts and Cultural Grants Program	Community Impact Grants Program

3. In 2024/25, these funding programs will invest a total of \$508,000 in community creativity, culture, and community development across grassroots, small-scale projects. This complements the investment that CoA makes through its subsidiary Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) in events, initiatives, and marketing that drive Adelaide as a destination and enhance the visitor economy.
4. All CoA funding programs, including those administered by AEDA, must align their Operating Guidelines with the CoA Funding Programs Policy (the Policy) which was adopted by Council on 11 June 2024, by the end of December 2024. This report presents the Operating Guidelines for the two funding streams of Community Grants, which have been revised and aligned with the Policy, for the City Community Services and Culture Committee’s review and endorsement.
  - 4.1. All incentive schemes administered by the Park Lands Policy and Sustainability portfolio were approved by Council at the same time as the Policy.
  - 4.2. AEDA funding programs sought approval from their Board on 19 September 2024.
5. The revised Operating Guidelines for the Arts and Cultural Grants Program (**Attachment A**) and the Community Impact Grants Program (**Attachment B**) are consistent with the Policy.

## Community Grants Background Information

6. The following section provides contextual information in relation to the focus of delivery for the CoA’s Community Grants, through its Arts and Cultural Grants Program and Community Impact Grants Program.

## Arts and Cultural Grants Program

7. Delivered as the Arts and Cultural Grants Program since 2013, these grants have enabled arts and cultural activities and experiences to connect the community and visitors to our City. These grants have been an important pathway for Council to enable community-led music (as Australia’s first and only UNESCO Creative City of Music), public art and First Nations Arts and Cultures increasing social connection and participation.
8. The focus of the Arts and Cultural Grants Program is to foster a year-round program of cultural activities that are accessible and low-cost for the community to participate in the life of the city. The program prioritises applicants who demonstrate a strong connection to the city (residents, business owners, ratepayers, students, workers), small to medium-scale community-led projects and events that contribute to the city’s cultural vibrancy, connectedness and inclusiveness.
9. In its investment focus, the Arts and Cultural Grants Program has a unique role in enabling the local community to activate the city through one-off support to deliver projects that directly engage our community and utilise the Adelaide Park Lands, city spaces and venues. This is distinct from and complementary to other existing funding mechanisms through AEDA and the State Government that include significant multi-year funding opportunities.
  - 9.1. AEDA provides funding for large-scale events and festivals that drive economic growth and promote tourism.
  - 9.2. The State Government’s arts and cultural investment focuses on broad artistic development across the State, including growing the careers of South Australian artists and operational support for key arts organisations, market development and export.
10. The Arts and Cultural Grants Program has been significantly oversubscribed annually, with funding requests exceeding the amount of funding available.
  - 10.1. Of the 174 applications processed in 2023/24, 68 projects (39% of applications) were funded. A list of all 2023/24 funding recipients is available via the CoA Website ([Link 2](#)).

10.2. Over 50 community enquiries have been received since 2023/24 funding was fully expended.

- 11. The Arts and Cultural Grants Program Operating Guidelines are provided in **Attachment A**.
- 12. The program has been reshaped to align with the CoA Strategic Plan 2024-2028 and adhere to the Funding Programs Policy.

**Community Impact Grants Program**

- 13. The Community Impact Grants Program was established in 2021/22 merging Community Development and Recreation and Sport Grant Programs into one larger funding program, incorporating elements of both programs. In merging these programs, there was a commitment to continue to ensure a fair split between community-based and recreation and sport-based projects.
- 14. Due to budget restrictions and previous multiyear commitments totalling \$210,00 of the \$240,000 only Community Impact Quick Response Grants (\$30,000) will be delivered as part of the Community Impact Grants Program in 2024/25.
- 15. Previously committed multiyear Community Impact Grants (\$73,000) and Strategic Partnerships to the value of \$137,000 will be administered through existing funding agreements, alongside the \$30,000 in Quick Response grants.
- 16. Community Impact Quick Response Grants have been available since the inception of the Community Impact Grants Program in 2021/22 and were designed as \$2,000 quick turnaround (15 working days) grants for small-scale community initiatives.
  - 16.1. On average 53 Community Impact Quick Response Grants are submitted annually with between \$50,000-\$60,000 of the overall Community Impact Grants Program funding allocated to this category.
  - 16.2. This category is designed to be the simplest process for receiving grant funding, 78% of applicants were successful in 2023/24, an increase from 65% in 2022/23 and on par with 80% in 2021/22.
  - 16.3. The average amount of funding received per application over the three years the program has been running is \$1,410.
  - 16.4. In 2023/24, the number of applications received within this category increased by 17%, which coincides with an 18% decrease in the number of applications that received the full amount of funding they requested. A list of all Quick Response 2023/24 funding recipients is available at [Link 3](#).
  - 16.5. Since the first year of the program where 48% of applications were recreation and sport-based, there has been a steady decline in applications received for these categories, 44% in 2022/23 and 37% in 2023/24 respectively.
  - 16.6. The budget allocated for Community Impact Quick Response Grants in 2023/24 was fully expended by March 2024, meaning that no funding has been available to the community through this grant for the last seven months. Over this period and more frequently since the beginning of the financial year, almost 70 enquiries have been received.
- 17. The Community Grants Operating Guidelines are provided in **Attachment B**.
- 18. The program has been reshaped to align with Council's Strategic Plan 2024-2028 and adhere to the Funding Programs Policy ([Link 2](#)).

**Operating Guidelines Criteria Additional to the CoA Funding Programs Policy**

- 19. The table below highlights conditions that have been included in the Operating Guidelines in **Attachment A** and **Attachment B** that are additional conditions to the Policy, and the rationale for their inclusion:

Community Grants Funding Program Criteria	Rationale for Including Additional Criteria In Operating Guideline	Proposed Additional Criteria In Operating Guideline
Arts and Cultural Grants ( <b>Attachment A</b> ) Additional Project Ineligibility Criteria	It is proposed that these ineligibility criteria be included in the Arts and Cultural Grants Operating Guideline, in addition to the ineligibility criteria under the CoA Funding Programs Policy. These criteria have been part of the ineligibility criteria of these grants since the establishment of the Arts and Cultural Grants Program in 2013 to avoid Council funds	The funding request is for reimbursement of funds already spent.  Training or education in government or private institutions, activities that will be offered for assessment in such institutions, and training and development of paid staff.

<b>Community Grants Funding Program Criteria</b>	<b>Rationale for Including Additional Criteria In Operating Guideline</b>	<b>Proposed Additional Criteria In Operating Guideline</b>
	supporting project costs that do not contribute directly to the vitality of the City and North Adelaide.	<p>Applications for conferences, tradeshows, award ceremonies and interstate or overseas travel expenses.</p> <p>The application is for projects or events that denigrate or exclude any groups in the community.</p> <p>The application is for general fundraising activities.</p> <p>The application is for large capital expenditure – i.e. purchase or lease of real estate, renovation, repair or maintenance of buildings or purchase of major equipment or material goods such as office furniture, computers and playground etc.</p> <p>The application is for projects or events that are private or invite-only or virtual or online only.</p>
<p>Community Impact Grants Program <b>(Attachment B)</b> Additional Project Ineligibility Criteria</p>	<p>It is proposed that these ineligibility criteria be included in the Community Impact Grants Program Operating Guideline, in addition to the ineligibility criteria under the CoA Funding Programs Policy. These have been specific conditions of the Community Impact Grants since they were established and ensure that Council funds are contributing to appropriate activities.</p>	<p>The application is for requests for reimbursement of funds already spent.</p> <p>The application is for reimbursement of costs including lease and licence fees.</p> <p>The application is for requests associated with the training and development of paid staff.</p> <p>The application includes requests for conferences, tradeshows, award ceremonies.</p> <p>Travel application includes expenses that are for overseas, interstate and intrastate travel.</p>
<p>Community Impact Grants Program <b>(Attachment B)</b> Organisational Eligibility</p>	<p>It is proposed that these ineligibility criteria be included in the Community Impact Grants and Strategic Partnerships Program Operating Guideline, in addition to the ineligibility criteria under the CoA Funding Programs Policy. This is a condition approved by Council in August 2023 to ensure that commercial organisations are not receiving funding for business-as-usual activities. Commercial organisations must be delivering for the benefit of the community.</p>	<p>Commercial organisations with an annual revenue &lt;\$250k will only be considered when delivering a program outside of their usual business that can demonstrate a significant benefit to the City Community and focuses on community participation rather than expected profit basis.</p>
<p>Community Impact Grants Program <b>(Attachment B)</b> Organisational Eligibility</p>	<p>It is proposed that these ineligibility criteria be included in the Community Impact Grants Program Operating Guideline, in addition to the ineligibility criteria under the CoA Funding Programs Policy. This is a condition approved by Council in August</p>	<p>State or Local Government departments, Private enterprises and Commercial organisations with an annual revenue of &gt;\$250k will not be considered.</p>

Community Grants Funding Program Criteria	Rationale for Including Additional Criteria In Operating Guideline	Proposed Additional Criteria In Operating Guideline
	2023 to ensure that Council funds are distributed to organisations that need support rather than organisations that could cover the cost of the projects themselves.	

### Next Steps

20. The Arts and Cultural Grants Program 2024/25 and the Community Impact Quick Response Grants 2024/25 will be promoted to the community via the Community Grants web page which will include simplified public-facing guidelines available in English and Mandarin.
21. For the remainder of the 2024/25 financial year, the Arts and Cultural Grants Program 2024/25 and the Community Impact Quick Response Grants 2024/25 will be administered in accordance with the approved Operating Guidelines and the City of Adelaide Funding Programs Policy.
22. A summary report will be provided to Council in Q4 2024/25 detailing:
  - 22.1. Performance against identified key performance indicators
  - 22.2. Contribution towards Strategic Plan outcomes
  - 22.3. List of all successful applicants and the amounts of funding received
  - 22.4. Outcomes achieved for the previous financial year (based on the project acquittals received in the previous 12 months).

---

## DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**Link 1** – [Funding Programs Policy](#)

**Link 2** – [2023/24 Arts and Cultural Grants Program Funding Recipients](#)

**Link 3** – [2023/24 Community Impact Quick Response Recipients](#)

---

## ATTACHMENTS

**Attachment A** – 2024/25 Arts and Cultural Grants Program Operating Guidelines

**Attachment B** – 2024/25 Community Impact Grants Operating Guidelines

---

- END OF REPORT -



# 2024/25 Arts and Cultural Grants Operating Guideline

*Date this document was adopted on 8 October 2024 by Council*

**PARENT DOCUMENT:** [City of Adelaide Funding Programs Policy](#)

## PURPOSE

The Arts and Cultural Grants Program provides funding to the community to deliver fun, lively, and interesting arts and cultural experiences with presentation outcomes in the city that enable a vibrant, connected and inclusive community in line with the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

These grants enable a diverse year-round program that connects the community and visitors to the city.

## OPERATION

### Strategic Context

The Arts and Cultural Grants Program aligns with the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028. Although it impacts across all strategic pillars, strategically it fits within the **'Our Community'** pillar. The program specifically contributes to the following strategic outcomes from the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028:

- An interesting and engaging place to live, learn and visit.
- An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging.
- A sustainable city where climate resilience is embedded in all that we do.
- Adelaide's unique experiences and opportunities attract visitors to our city.
- Encourage bold, interesting and purposeful development that supports the changing needs of our community and city.
- Create safe, inclusive and healthy places for our community.
- Achieve a critical mass of jobs and investment and attract and retain businesses by growing a dynamic, holistic economy
- Adelaide's unique experiences and opportunities attract visitors to our city.

The City of Adelaide plays a leadership role as a Capital City in supporting the cultural epicentre for South Australia, and as a designated UNESCO Creative City commits to placing culture at the heart of planning for sustainable development. The City of Adelaide fosters Adelaide's cultural life by creating an interesting and lively place where people want to live, work and visit, and by facilitating opportunities for the community to participate in and practice cultural activities and traditions.

**Program Priorities and Key Performance Indicators**

The table below outlines the Arts and Cultural Grants Program priorities for which applications must demonstrate support and contribution towards the delivery of Council’s Strategic Plan.

Priority	Description
<b>Our Community</b>	Arts and cultural projects that amplify Adelaide’s designation as a UNESCO City of Music.
	Arts and cultural projects that elevate Adelaide’s reputation for exceptional and unique cultural experiences.
	Arts and cultural projects that champion Reconciliation and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures and celebrate Kaurna culture and connection to Country.
	Arts and cultural projects that encourage inclusive participation opportunities for creatives and audiences from diverse backgrounds and ages in the cultural life of the City
<b>Our Environment</b>	Arts and cultural projects that lead and educate our community on a climate resilient future.
	Arts and cultural projects that advocate for the protection and restoration of native habitats in our city.
	Arts and cultural projects that promote the environmental value, productivity, quality and biodiversity of the Park Lands, squares, open space, and streetscapes.
<b>Our Economy</b>	Arts and cultural projects that activate key and emerging precincts stimulating local, interstate, and international visitation to the City and support the growth of the local economy.
	Arts and cultural projects that improve employment opportunities and foster long-term and sustainable careers in the creative sector.
<b>Our Places</b>	Arts and cultural projects that elevate Adelaide’s heritage and culturally significant places.

Key performance Indicators for the program include:

- Demonstrated benefit to the general community in accessing an arts, cultural or multicultural experience in the City
- Number and diversity of applicants
- Number and diversity of funded projects
- Percentage of applications received that are from new applicants
- Total number of attendees at all funded projects
- Funded applicants achieve stated outcome
- Funded projects are successfully completed and acquitted

**Eligibility Framework**

The Arts and Cultural Grants Program follows the eligibility framework set out in the Funding Programs Policy.

**Ineligibility**

The Arts and Cultural Grants Program follows the eligibility framework set out in the Funding Programs Policy.

In addition, applications will not be considered for funding in the administration of this program if:

- The funding request is for reimbursement of funds already spent;
- Training or education in government or private institutions, activities that will be offered for assessment in such institutions, and training and development of paid staff;
- Applications for conferences, tradeshows, award ceremonies and interstate or overseas travel expenses;
- The application is for projects or events that denigrate or exclude any groups in the community;
- The application is for general fundraising activities;
- The application is for large capital expenditure – i.e. purchase or lease of real estate, renovation, repair or maintenance of buildings or purchase of major equipment or material goods such as office furniture, computers and playground etc.
- The application is for projects or events that are private or invite only or virtual or online only.

#### Arts and Cultural Grants Funding Categories

Funding Category	Quick Response	First Nations	Major Round
Funding available	\$500 (min) - \$5,000 (max)	\$500 (min) - \$5,000 (max)	\$5,000 (min) - \$15,000 (max)
Funding pool	\$268,000 (for FY 24/25)		
Duration of funding	1 year		
Timeframe	Available all year-round until funds are expended. Applications must be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to the project taking place.		One competitive round per year
Process time	6 weeks		8 weeks after the round closes
Examples of Projects Supported	Performances, exhibitions, cultural events, festivals, concerts, public artworks.	Cultural events, festivals and exhibitions led by and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and creatives.	Performances, exhibitions, cultural events, festivals, concerts, public artworks.
Acquittal	Within 8 weeks of the project concluding		Within 12 weeks of the project concluding

**Assessment Criteria and Weightings**

Criteria	Consideration	Weighting
Strategic Plan Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alignment with Arts and Cultural Grants Program funding priorities and principles in line with the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024–2028</li> <li>▪ Locally led arts and cultural activities – preference for applications from City of Adelaide based applicants</li> <li>▪ Champion Reconciliation and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures</li> <li>▪ Support an inclusive and welcoming community that recognises diversity and enables people of all abilities living, working and visiting the city and ensuring our services and projects are accessible and inclusive for all</li> <li>▪ Support a low carbon emissions city</li> </ul>	50%
Cultural and Creative value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Celebrate and elevate our community cultures and the profiles of multicultural communities through welcoming programs and services</li> <li>▪ Demonstrated collaborations and increased social connections</li> <li>▪ Exceptional and unique arts and cultural experiences</li> <li>▪ Opportunities for city communities and visitors to expand knowledge, learn and master new skills</li> </ul>	30%
Project viability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Applicant’s track record in delivering projects</li> <li>▪ Project plan including key delivery milestones</li> <li>▪ Marketing strategy</li> <li>▪ Feasible budget</li> </ul>	20%

**Administration**

The Arts and Cultural Grants Program will be administered in line with the Council’s Funding Programs Policy.

**Application Process**

**Assessment Process:** Once submitted, an application will be assessed according to:

- The eligibility criteria
- Assessment criteria
- Available funding.

All questions in the application form must be answered and any required attachments provided in order for the application to be assessed.

Applicants who meet eligibility and assessment criteria are not guaranteed funding. The success of an application is determined by merit against the assessment criteria, applications are assessed in competition with other submissions.

**Notification Process:** All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application. All successful applicants will be required to:

- Enter into a funding agreement with City of Adelaide detailing the terms and conditions of the grant.

**Required Documents:** prior to receiving funding all successful applicants will be required to:

- Provide a copy of their Public Liability Insurance "Certificate of Currency" (minimum \$20 million)
- Provide a copy of their Return-to-Work SA certificate of registration, or similar employee insurance policy, if paid staff are employed
- Provide a tax compliant invoice for the agreed amount of funding plus GST (if applicable)

**Acquittal Process:** All successful applicants will be required to provide a detailed written report on all outcomes and applicable Key Performance Indicators relating to the project funded by City of Adelaide.

A link to an acquittal form will be provided via SmartyGrants prior to the conclusion of the project. Acquittal information required will include:

- Itemised financial statements evidencing expenditure of Council Funds
- Attendance data
- Feedback from participants
- Professional Photographs with all rights, licences and permissions for publication
- Examples of marketing materials acknowledging City of Adelaide

**Roles and Responsibilities –** Council's role is outlined in the Funding Programs Policy.

Council administration's role is to:

- Administer and deliver the Arts and Cultural Grants program

**Decision Making/Delegations** - Final funding recommendations are made through the appropriate Council Financial Delegation for approval to proceed with notifying successful applicants. All funding recommendations will be approved through Manager Delegation.

Funding Programs can be highly competitive resulting in a high number of applications that can't all be supported. The success of an application is determined by merit against the assessment criteria and in competition with other submissions. Part funding may be recommended. This decision is carefully considered with the view of maintaining the integrity of the application.

**Canvassing and Lobbying** - Councillors are in regular contact with community members about Council matters. To ensure the fair and equitable distribution of grants in the community, applicants should refrain from communicating with any City of Adelaide employee or Councillor during the Assessment process of their submitted funding application, in any way that may provide an unfair advantage to their application.

### Monitoring and Reporting

The performance of the Arts and Cultural Grants Program will be monitored through the administrative and financial systems of Council. An annual report will be provided to Council detailing:

- Performance against identified key performance indicators
- Contribution towards Strategic Plan outcomes
- Summary of funding distributed
- List of all successful applicants and the amounts of funding received
- Outcomes achieved for the previous financial year (based on the project acquittals received in the previous 12 months)

### OTHER USEFUL DOCUMENTS

#### Related Documents

- Funding Programs Policy
- City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028
- Annual Business Plan and Budget
- Caretaker Policy
- Children and Vulnerable Persons Policy
- Children and Vulnerable Persons Operating Guideline
- City Boundary Map
- Use of Public Spaces
- Adelaide Events Guidelines
- Disability Access and Inclusion Considerations
- STRETCH Reconciliation Action Plan
- Sustainable Event Guidelines
- Development Applications and Approvals

#### Relevant Legislation

- Local Government Act 1999 (SA)
- City of Adelaide Act 1998 (SA)
- Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016
- Environment Protection Act 1993
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992

### GLOSSARY

A full glossary of terms is included in the Funding Programs Policy. Additional terms that have been used and are defined as:

**Arts:** Includes visual arts, craft, music, dance, performance, literature, film, comedy, theatre, fashion design and video game design.

**Child(ren) or Young Person(s):** a person who is under 18 years of age

**Creatives:** A person(s) who devotes a reasonable portion of their time to making art and culture, promotes their work as art, and intends their work to be seen and read as art.

**Culture:** encompasses the arts, cultural, and creative expressions, the cultural practices and knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their expressions of identity, shared experience and the practices of diverse, multicultural communities.

**Terms and Conditions:** are the special and general arrangement, rule, requirements, standards etc. Forming integral parts of a contract or agreement.

**Vulnerable Persons:** refers to people who may be at risk of exploitation due to their dependency on others.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

As part of Council's commitment to deliver the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan, services to the community and the provision of transparent information, all policy documents are reviewed as per legislative requirements or when there is no such provision a risk assessment approach is taken to guide the review timeframe.

In line with the Funding Programs Policy, this Operating Guideline will be reviewed every four years unless legislative or operational change occurs beforehand. The next review is required in 2028.

### Review history:

Trim Reference	Authorising Body	Date/ Decision ID	Description of Edits
ACC2010/5992	City Strategy Committee	14/12/2009	Outlined in 1.3 of the document
ACC2010/216574	Council	31/1/2011	Outlined in 2.3 of the document
COCO2013/304	Council	29/1/2013	Outlined in clause 2 & 3 of the document
2014/00177	Administration	24/1/2014	Outlined in clause 2 & 3 of the document
ACC2015/260736	Administration	26/2/2016	Outlined in clause 2 & 3 of the document

### Contact:

For further information contact:  
Culture@cityofadelaide.com.au

City of Adelaide  
25 Pirie Street, Adelaide, SA  
GPO Box 2252 ADELAIDE SA 5001  
+61 8 8203 7203  
city@cityofadelaide.com.au

# 2024/25 Community Impact Grants Program Operating Guideline

*Date this document was adopted on 8 October 2024 by Council*

**PARENT DOCUMENT:** [City of Adelaide Funding Programs Policy](#)

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Community Impact Grants Program is to provide financial support to eligible clubs, groups, educational institutions, organisations and residents to ensure the outcomes of the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan (2024–2028) are realised.

## OPERATION

### Strategic Context

The Community Impact Grants Program aligns with the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024–2028. Although impacting across all pillars, strategically it fits within the **‘Our Community’** aspiration. The program specifically contributes to the following strategic outcomes from the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024–2028:

- An interesting and engaging place to live, learn and visit.
- An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging.
- A sustainable city where climate resilience is embedded in all that we do.
- The status, attributes and character of our green spaces and the Park Lands are protected and strengthened.
- Adelaide’s unique experiences and opportunities attract visitors to our city.
- Encourage bold, interesting and purposeful development that supports the changing needs of our community and city.
- Create safe, inclusive and healthy places for our community.
- Drive affordable, safe and quality housing outcomes that attract and retain residents in our city.

All proposed projects must demonstrate benefits to the City of Adelaide community within the context of this operating guideline. Proposed projects must show adequate consideration and alignment with the aspirations identified in Council’s Strategic Plan.



### Program Priorities and Key Performance Indicators

There are five Community Impact Grants Program priorities that projects should support and contribute towards to enable Council's Strategic objectives to be met. These priorities are:

Priority	Description
<b>Welcoming and Inclusive</b>	Celebrate and elevate the profiles of multicultural communities and create welcoming programs, services and opportunities for newcomers to be welcomed into their neighbourhood.
<b>Social Inclusion</b>	Deliver inclusive responses to meet the needs of isolated and marginalised groups.
<b>Participation</b>	Enable community-led services that provide ways for our community to participate in active leisure, recreation and sport.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Champion Reconciliation and recognition of First Nations peoples and cultures by identifying opportunities to celebrate and protect Aboriginal and Kaurna culture and connection to Country.
<b>Foster Connection, Learning and Wellbeing</b>	Create opportunities for people to connect with each other and for people to expand their knowledge and skills.

Key Performance Indicators for the Community Impact Grants Program include:

- Alignment of funding with the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028, specifically themes outlined in the assessment criteria
- The submission rate of applications (number of applications started that were submitted)
- Number of applications submitted
- Type of projects approved – breakdown of successful projects between community and recreation and sport projects
- Acquittal submission rates for successful projects
- Number of participants reached
- Number of residents reached

### Eligibility Framework

The Community Impact Grants Program will follow the eligibility framework set out in the City of Adelaide Funding Programs Policy however the following eligibility criteria will be applied in the administration of this program:

- Individuals will only be considered in the Community Impact Grants category if they have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and evidence of previous delivery of similar programs.
- Commercial organisations (For Profit) with an annual revenue <\$250k will only be considered when delivering a program outside of their usual core business

activities that can demonstrate a significant benefit to the City Community and focuses on community participation rather than expected profit basis.

- State or Local Government departments, private enterprises and commercial organisations with an annual revenue of > \$250k will not be considered eligible.

In addition, applications will not be considered for funding in the administration of this program if:

- The application is for requests for reimbursement of funds already spent.
- The application is for reimbursement of costs including lease and licence fees.
- The application is for requests associated with the training and development of paid staff.
- The application includes requests for conferences, tradeshow, award ceremonies.
- Travel application includes expenses that are for overseas, interstate and intrastate travel.

#### Funding Category\*

\*Available in 2024/25 Financial Year

Funding Category	Quick Response Grant	Quick Response Grant Equipment & Uniform
Funding Available	\$500-\$2,000	\$500-\$1,000
Funding Pool	\$20,000	\$10,000
Duration of Funding	1 Year	1 Year
Timeframe	One competitive round October/November 2024	Open and assessed year-round from 1 November 2024
Process Time	15 Working days	15 Working days
Examples of Projects Supported	<p>Activities, events or programs that encourage residents and community groups to actively participate in their local community</p> <p>Training, education and accreditation for volunteers, coaches' officials, and administrators such as first aid training</p> <p>Subsidies to support participation by vulnerable community groups</p>	<p>Sporting equipment (e.g. cricket balls and pads) for sports, recreation or community clubs/groups</p> <p>Sporting uniforms for a new or specific team for sports, recreation or community clubs/groups</p>

## Assessment Criteria and Weightings

### Community Impact Quick Response Grants

Criteria	Consideration	Weighting
<b>Community Benefit</b>	The application identifies a clear benefit for the community, encouraging residents to access, engage and actively participate and learn in their local community	50%
	The application demonstrates evidence and /or clear reason for why the project was developed	
	A clear plan for identifying the target group is outlined	
<b>Strategic Alignment</b>	The application identifies a clear outcome/s, which is aligned to the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan (2024–2028)	25%
	The application achieves at least one of the five Community Impact Grants Program Priorities	
	The application demonstrates consideration of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental sustainability (see Our Environment Outcomes in the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028)</li> <li>• Inclusiveness of all members of our community and accessibility for all</li> <li>• Low or no cost for disadvantaged groups</li> </ul>	
<b>Impact</b>	The application outlines measures that will be used to evaluate the impact the project has on the community	25%
	The application outlines a strategy for supporting participants to continue their participation beyond the project/program	
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

**Administration**

The Community Impact Grants Program will be administered in line with the Council's Funding Programs Policy.

**Application process** - Applications may be redirected to an alternative City of Adelaide or Adelaide Economic Development Agency funding program during the assessment process if it is deemed more appropriate for the nature and scale of the project proposed. If this occurs the applicant may be required to submit a new application to meet the priorities of the identified funding program.

Separate applications must be submitted by organisations applying for multiple projects i.e. one application per project.

Organisations who auspice applications, may auspice more than one application per financial year.

**Supporting Documentation** - The following documentation will be required as part of the application process:

- The applicant organisations ABN and GST Status where applicable
- A copy of the organisation's Public Liability Insurance 'Certificate of Currency' (minimum \$20 million) for the applicant to deliver the proposed project\*
- A copy of Return-to-Work SA certificate of registration or similar employee insurance (if paid staff are employed)
- A copy of the organisation's Child Protection Policy/Vulnerable Persons Policy or outline of the organisation's intention to comply with relevant legislation
- A certificate of incorporation for the applicant organisation (not required for Quick Response Grants)
- A clear project budget with income and expenditure forecasts
- Certified copies of the applicant organisation's most recent audited financial statements or other documentation to demonstrate the financial viability of the organisation

The following documentation is recommended but not essential in support of an application:

- Written evidence of all confirmed partners and other contributions
- Evidence of venue bookings
- Quotes for works, equipment purchase/hire, instructors/Welcome to Country or any other projected expenses included within the project budget.

\*Where an applicant intends to use City of Adelaide funding to cover the cost of purchasing insurance, a quote must be obtained, and the cost clearly identified in the project budget expenditure.

**Use of public spaces** – Where applicable, applicants are required to make a tentative booking with the City of Adelaide Events Team prior to submitting their funding application.

If funding is approved, the applicant is responsible for confirming the venue booking and for organising all infrastructure required to deliver the project.

**Fees and Charges** - City of Adelaide will not waive its own fees associated with projects e.g. road closures, cleaning, waste, site fees.

City of Adelaide will not provide in-kind support in addition to funds approved.

**Assessments Process** - Once submitted, an application will be assessed according to:

- The eligibility criteria
- Assessment criteria
- Available funding

All questions in the application form must be answered and any required supporting documents provided for the application to be assessed.

Applicants who meet eligibility and assessment criteria are not guaranteed funding. The success of an application is determined by merit against the assessment criteria, applications are assessed in competition with other submissions.

**Notification Process** - Upon completion of assessment and approval processes, all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application in writing via email or will receive an electronic funding agreement.

**Funding Conditions** - Successful applicants will be required to:

- Enter into a funding agreement with City of Adelaide which may detail benefits in return for the investment as well as mutually agreed Key Performance Indicators (KPI's).
- Adhere to the Community Impact Grants Program funding conditions.
- Provide copies of any outstanding documents
- Provide a tax compliant invoice for payment/s
- Acknowledge and promote City of Adelaide on any marketing and communication materials including social media.
- Work with City of Adelaide as required to facilitate additional promotion opportunities.
- Ensure all people working or volunteering with children as part of a project have a valid Working with Children Check.
- Notify City of Adelaide of any changes to the project for which a project change request form may be required to be completed.

**Acquittal Process** - All successful applicants will be required to provide a detailed written report on all outcomes and applicable KPIs relating to the project funded City of Adelaide.

A link to an acquittal form will be provided via SmartyGrants at the conclusion of the project. Acquittal information required may include:

- Signed, itemised financial statements evidencing expenditure of Council funds
- Attendance data
- Feedback from participants
- Case studies
- Photographs
- Examples of marketing materials acknowledging City of Adelaide

Acquittal reports will be required within no more than 12 weeks from the conclusion of the project.

**Roles and Responsibilities** – Council’s role is outlined in the Funding Programs Policy. Council administration’s role is to:

- Administer the Community Impact Grants program as set out in this Operating Guideline and in the Funding Programs Policy.

**Decision Making/Delegations** - Final funding recommendations are made through the appropriate Council Financial Delegation for approval to proceed with notifying successful applicants. All funding recommendations will be approved through Manager Delegation.

Funding Programs can be highly competitive, resulting in a large number of applications that cannot all be supported. The success of an application is determined by its merit against the assessment criteria and in competition with other submissions. Part funding may be recommended. This decision is carefully considered to maintain the integrity of the application.

**Canvassing and Lobbying** - Councillors are in regular contact with community members about Council matters. To ensure the fair and equitable distribution of grants in the community, applicants should refrain from communicating with any City of Adelaide employee or Councillor during the Assessment process of their submitted funding application, in any way that may provide an unfair advantage to their application.

#### **Monitoring and Reporting**

The performance of the Community Impact Grants Program will be monitored through the administrative and financial systems of Council. An annual report will be provided to Council detailing:

- Performance against identified key performance indicators
- Contribution towards Strategic Plan outcomes
- Summary of funding distributed
- List of all successful applicants and the amounts of funding received
- Outcomes achieved for the previous financial year (based on the project acquittals received in the previous 12 months).

---

#### **OTHER USEFUL DOCUMENTS**

##### **Related documents**

- [Funding Programs Policy](#)
- [City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028](#)
- [Annual Business Plan and Budget](#)
- [Caretaker Policy](#)
- [Children and Vulnerable Persons Policy](#)
- [Children and Vulnerable Persons Operating Guideline](#)
- [City Boundary Map](#)
- [Use of Public Spaces](#)
- [Adelaide Events Guidelines](#)
- [Disability Access and Inclusion Considerations](#)
- [STRETCH Reconciliation Action Plan](#)
- [Sustainable Event Guidelines](#)
- [Development Applications and Approvals](#)

**Relevant legislation**

- Local Government Act 1999 (SA)

**GLOSSARY**

A full glossary of terms is included in the City of Adelaide Funding Programs Policy. Additional terms that have been used and are defined as:

**Child(ren) or Young Person(s):** a person who is under 18 years of age

**Terms and Conditions:** are special and general arrangements, rules, requirements, standards etc. Forming integral parts of a contract or agreement.

**Vulnerable Persons:** refers to people who may be at risk of exploitation due to their dependency on others.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

In accordance with Section 91A of the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999* and the City of Adelaide's Caretaker Policy, during the caretaker period for Local Government elections, no Funding Programs will seek applications or award funding unless there is a specific resolution of Council to enable that to occur.

Should Council resolve that this can occur, funding can then be distributed under delegation. Funding Programs will adjust delivery parameters to allow for this.

As part of Council's commitment to deliver the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028, services to the community and the provision of transparent information, all policy documents are reviewed as per legislative requirements or when there is no such provision a risk assessment approach is taken to guide the review timeframe.

In line with the Funding Programs Policy, this Operating Guideline will be reviewed every four years unless legislative or operational change occurs beforehand. The next review is required in 2028.

**Review history:**

Trim Reference	Authorising Body	Date/ Decision ID	Description of Edits
ACC2021/74758	Council	08/06/2021	Endorsement of new operating guidelines
ACC2022/127262	Council	12/07/2022	Endorsement of updates to operating guidelines
ACC2023/160370	Council	12/09/2023	Endorsement of updates to operating guidelines

**Contact:**

For further information contact the Community Impact Grants Program  
 City of Adelaide  
 25 Pirie Street, Adelaide, SA  
 GPO Box 2252 ADELAIDE SA 5001  
 +61 8 8203 7203  
 city@cityofadelaide.com.au

## Draft Discussion Paper – *Culture the Life of our City* - for Public Consultation

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Tuesday, 1 October 2024

City Community Services and Culture Committee

**Program Contact:**

Jennifer Kalionis, Associate Director City Culture

**Approving Officer:**

Ilia Houridis, Director City Shaping

Public

---

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present a revised Discussion Paper, **Culture – The Life Of Our City (Attachment A)**, for the purpose of community engagement to inform the development of a City of Adelaide (CoA) Cultural Policy.

This report, and the Discussion Paper, have been prepared to address a key action in the CoA Strategic Plan 2024-2028 to, *'Develop a Cultural Policy by 2024 that promotes and supports the City's unique cultural identity and opportunities.'*

Administration has revised the Discussion Paper presented to the City Community Services and Culture Committee on [3 September 2024](#) to incorporate Council Member feedback.

Community consultation on the Cultural Policy Discussion Paper is proposed to commence in late October 2024 and conclude in late November 2024.

A consolidated consultation summary on the Discussion Paper, **Culture – The Life Of Our City** engagement will be presented to the City Community Services and Culture Committee through Quarter 3 of the 2024/25 financial year.

---

## RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 10 September 2024 for consideration

THAT THE CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT COUNCIL

1. Approves the draft City of Adelaide Cultural Policy Discussion Paper contained in Attachment A to Item 7.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Community Services and Culture Committee held on 1 October 2024, for the purpose of public consultation.
  2. Notes the proposed City of Adelaide Culture Round Table to be held as part of the engagement on the City of Adelaide Cultural Policy Discussion Paper, to be chaired by the Lord Mayor.
  3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to make minor, formatting, typographical or syntactical updates to the documents contained in Attachment A to Item 7.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Community Services and Culture Committee held on 1 October 2024, for the purpose of finalising the documents for public consultation.
-



# IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	<p><b>Strategic Alignment – Our Community</b> Vibrant, connected and inclusive</p> <p>Our Objective is to support our communities to thrive, create fun, lively and interesting experiences, celebrate and honour community and cultures. An indicator of success for the ‘Our Community’ outcome of “An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging” is: <i>Develop a Cultural Policy by 2024 that promotes and supports the City’s unique cultural identity and opportunities</i></p> <p>The draft Cultural Policy is also designed to support these pillars of Council’s Strategic Plan: Our Environment, Our Economy and Our Places.</p>
Policy	<p>Council does not currently have a Cultural Policy.</p> <p>It is proposed that Council’s Cultural Policy will operate from 2025 to 2036 to help set strategic directions for the City of Adelaide and its subsidiaries.</p>
Consultation	<p>Internal consultation has been conducted across August 2024.</p> <p>If this draft Cultural Policy Discussion Paper is endorsed for the purpose of consultation, targeted stakeholder, sector and broad community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council’s Community Consultation Policy.</p>
Resource	<p>Development and Consultation of the Discussion Paper, <b>Culture – The Life Of Our City</b> is through existing resources.</p>
Risk / Legal / Legislative	<p>Community feedback on the Discussion Paper will inform the development of a Draft Cultural Policy for the City of Adelaide. A Cultural Policy delivers on the strategic objectives of the City of Adelaide as outlined in the Strategic Plan 2024-2028.</p> <p>A Cultural Policy will provide a framework to ensure that Council’s priorities are embedded across operational decision making.</p>
Opportunities	<p>The development of a Cultural Policy will define the role, goals and priorities of Council and its subsidiaries with respect to celebrating and supporting the richness and diversity of its community and reinforcing the City’s status as reinforce the City of Adelaide as the heart of the state’s civic, cultural and commercial life.</p>
24/25 Budget Allocation	<p>\$15,000 is allocated from the Arts and Cultural budget for documentation design and marketing materials associated with the development of Council’s Cultural Policy.</p>
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	<p>Funding to implement Council’s Cultural Policy is subject to, and needs to be considered in the context of, the prioritisation of projects, initiatives and service enhancements for the development of the 2025/26 budget, and within the parameters of the Long-Term Financial Plan to ensure long-term financial sustainability.</p>
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	<p>The draft City of Adelaide Cultural Policy has a project life from 2025 to 2036.</p>
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	<p>Not as a result of this report</p>
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	<p>Not as a result of this report</p>
Other Funding Sources	<p>Not as a result of this report</p>

## DISCUSSION

1. The purpose of this report is to present a draft City of Adelaide (CoA) Cultural Policy Discussion Paper, **Culture - The Life Of Our City (Attachment A)**, for the purpose of public consultation.
2. As a key action in its Strategic Plan 2024-2028, Council has committed to, 'Develop a Cultural Policy by 2024 that promotes and supports the City's unique cultural identity and opportunities.' This will extend to all areas of Council and its subsidiaries.
3. The rationale for setting a Cultural Policy now includes, as a UNESCO Creative City, enabling all people to participate in and contribute to the cultural life of our city, celebrate and honour our diverse and multicultural communities, and invest in Adelaide's distinctive heritage and creative sector.
4. Council does not currently have a Cultural Policy. In the absence of a Cultural Policy, delivery of cultural activity in the City remains aligned to Council's previous cultural strategy, '*Cultural Strategy A city designed for creativity 2017–2023*', which had a strong focus on arts and festivals.
5. Council has endorsed the development of a new Arts and Cultural Strategy, to elevate and activate arts and culture in conjunction with precinct and event activations.
6. The draft Cultural Policy Discussion Paper, **Culture - The Life Of Our City** has been developed to engage the community on the development of a Cultural Policy for Adelaide. Consultation feedback will inform the development of the Policy document, and a summary of the feedback will be presented to Council to ensure that the voices and views of our community are heard.

### Cultural Policy Development – Informing and Future Work

7. To enable delivery on the key strategic action outlined in para 1, direction was sought from Council in relation to a draft Cultural Policy for the City of Adelaide at the City Community Services and Culture Committee meeting held 6 February 2024.
8. Feedback from that meeting included the importance of:
  - 8.1. Being clear about our definition of culture
  - 8.2. Understanding that a Cultural Policy encompasses, however is not limited to investment in the arts
  - 8.3. Undertaking a cultural stocktake to assess our strengths and weaknesses in the context of a changing landscape
  - 8.4. Celebrating cultural traditions through festive events and social practices
  - 8.5. Considering our vision for Adelaide as a cultural capital in 2036 – what will our City 'feel like'?
  - 8.6. Acknowledging the contribution of the arts to our City's cultural and economic vitality
  - 8.7. Reflecting on Adelaide's reputation and what makes our City distinctive
  - 8.8. Culture and sustainability underpinning everything we do
  - 8.9. Reflecting our multicultural community and supporting the expression of heritage, traditions and culture
  - 8.10. Ensuring we engage a diversity of individuals in the development of the Cultural Policy
  - 8.11. Amplifying our UNESCO Creative City of Music status and supporting local artists
  - 8.12. Strengthening our ongoing partnership with the Kaurana community
  - 8.13. Strengthening our relationships with specific community groups, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) peoples and young people.
9. Internal consultation on the draft Cultural Policy Discussion Paper was conducted across the organisation during August-September 2024 to refine the policy statements and priorities.
10. At its meeting on 10 September 2024, in response to the draft Discussion Paper, Culture – The Life Of Our City, Council provided the following direction for a subsequent version of the document:
  - 10.1. Requested that Administration to review the Cultural Policy Discussion Paper with a view to reflect and emphasise the following:
    - Significant memorial days in the Council calendar
    - Council's sponsorship of significant events
    - Multiculturalism

- Clarifying the City of Adelaide's unique role in the evolution of the city's culture
- Recognise the role of Local Government as distinct from Federal and State Government
- Consolidation opportunities in relation to existing policies
- Clearly articulate and build a unique City of Adelaide culture.

### **Draft Cultural Policy Statements and Priorities**

11. In considering direction for the development of a Cultural Policy and incorporating feedback received from Council Members, it is proposed that the City of Adelaide's definition of culture includes:
  - 11.1. Adelaide's cultural, creative, arts, and heritage industries
  - 11.2. The heritage, knowledge and cultural practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
  - 11.3. The expressions of identity, shared experience and aspirations of our diverse and multicultural communities, that have shaped our society from the period of colonisation of South Australia, through a long history of migration, to the present day
  - 11.4. Historic and current cultural practices and events that reflect contemporary Adelaide and its broad and diverse community.
12. The revised draft Discussion Paper, **Culture – The Life Of Our City** sets out six themes and priorities for a future Cultural Policy that aim to support a culturally vibrant, socially inclusive and equitable city. These will be refined through community consultation on the draft Discussion Paper and subsequently presented to Council for consideration and adoption.
  - 12.1. *People are at the Centre of our City and its Culture*  
Nurture the ability for the community to connect with culture and express their creativity. Improve our city's appeal, liveability and global profile, through accessible and high-quality cultural experiences, including public art, events and festivals that reflect Adelaide's unique heritage and stories.
  - 12.2. *Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Continuous Culture*  
Honour and strengthen awareness of Kaurna culture and connection to Country as central to Adelaide's identity and future.
  - 12.3. *Celebrating Multiculturalism and Respecting Diversity and Traditions*  
Observe, fund and facilitate Adelaide's cultural and civic traditions including festive events and other social practices. Provide inclusive and respectful opportunities for people of all cultures, backgrounds, ages and abilities to participate in the cultural life of the city.
  - 12.4. *Adelaide is Australia's Cultural and Creative Capital*  
Provide a city-wide approach to embed music, culture and heritage preservation in policy, place and community. Amplify Adelaide's UNESCO City of Music designation and our leadership as Australia's creative and cultural capital.
  - 12.5. *The City's Culture is Connected to our Built and Natural Heritage*  
Respect, protect and strengthen our world class architecture, cultural assets, collections, and environment. Ensure our cultural identity is easily accessible by the community through engaging and discoverable interpretation and digital resources.
  - 12.6. *Creativity and Culture Drives our City's Future*  
Advance the role of culture in enriching the life of the city, our people and the environment. Raise our profile as a creative and cultural capital for the development of the city into the future and the wellbeing of local communities.

### **Council's Role and Responsibilities**

13. The draft Discussion Paper, **Culture – The Life Of Our City**, contained in **Attachment A** reflects Council's responsibilities to its local communities, and its leadership role as the Capital City Council for all South Australians, and as a globally recognised UNESCO Creative City.
  - 13.1. Lead  
Lead the integration of creativity and culture in all aspects of the city's sustainable development to ensure Adelaide is a diverse, inclusive, resilient and joyful society.
  - 13.2. Advocate

Use our influence as a creative capital to advocate for the role of culture in enriching the life of the city, our community and our economy, leveraging opportunities, and uplifting others.

- 13.3. Safeguard  
Protect our tangible and intangible cultural heritage through enabling policy and regulation, and by investing in our cultural infrastructure and assets including our City collections.
  - 13.4. Engage  
Empower our communities to engage in democratic, local decision making and action supporting social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing.
  - 13.5. Enable  
Enable all people to contribute to and participate in the cultural life of the city by funding and facilitating inclusive programs at our venues and in our Park Lands.
  - 13.6. Facilitate  
Facilitate street closures, safety, traffic and public performances to support community events, festivals, activations and other forms of cultural expression across the city's public spaces and Park Lands.
  - 13.7. Partner  
Partner with government, non-government organisations, the private sector and the community to leverage expertise, attract new resources and sustain the city's cultural development into the future.
  - 13.8. Champion  
Celebrate what makes Adelaide distinctive and promote its abundant creative culture to enhance our City's appeal and profile.
14. Through the draft Discussion Paper, **Culture – The Life Of Our City** we will seek community and expert stakeholder feedback on policy statements and priorities for the city's cultural future linked to the City of Adelaide's Strategic Plan 2024-2028, including opportunities to:
- 14.1. Vision, Purpose and Strategy
    - 14.1.1. Deliver a bold, innovative and aspirational vision for the City of Adelaide's cultural life.
    - 14.1.2. Create an enabling environment that elevates the centrality of culture in Adelaide.
    - 14.1.3. Articulate a shared understanding of culture and outline Council's vision, goals, priorities and outcomes relevant to Council's roles in delivering and amplifying cultural outcomes for the City.
    - 14.1.4. Honour, protect and celebrate what is distinctive about our City and support our community and economy to thrive.
    - 14.1.5. Identify key projects that centre community and culture as key drivers for local businesses.
  - 14.2. Partnering and Engagement
    - 14.2.1. Be developed with, be owned by, and serve our communities.
    - 14.2.2. Identify opportunities for strategic collaboration with community and all levels of government on a long-term plan for investment in the cultural infrastructure and creative economy in Adelaide through effective and relevant policy settings.
    - 14.2.3. Provide platforms for the ongoing discourse regarding the whole-of-cultural-and-creative-industries agenda for Adelaide.
  - 14.3. Governance and Reporting
    - 14.3.1. Provide a framework to drive Council's strategic objectives and ensure these principles are embedded across operational decision making.
    - 14.3.2. Identify how Council will evaluate and communicate the impact of its investment and efforts towards a culturally vibrant, socially inclusive and equitable city.
    - 14.3.3. Inform the review and consolidation of complementary plans and guidelines designed to assist the City of Adelaide in responding to the changing expectations of Adelaide as a cultural capital.

### **Strategic Alignment and Benchmarking**

15. The draft Cultural Policy Discussion Paper and the statements and priorities contained within have been benchmarked against the cultural policies of other capital cities in Australia, all which have their own respective Policies, Strategies and Action Plans which address Culture and Creativity linked below:  
City Community Services and Culture Committee – Agenda – Tuesday, 1 October 2024

- 15.1. City of Sydney: [Creative City Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2024](#)
- 15.2. City of Perth: [Cultural Development Plan 2029](#)
- 15.3. City of Melbourne: [Creative Strategy 2018-2028](#)
- 15.4. City of Brisbane: [Creative Brisbane Creative Economy Strategy](#)
- 15.5. City of Hobart: [Creative Hobart Strategy](#)
- 15.6. City of Darwin: [Creative Strategy 2024-2030](#)
- 15.7. City of Canberra: [Canberra: Australia's Arts Capital Arts, Culture and Creative Policy 2022-2026](#)
16. International cultural policy is informed by best practice principles set by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which stands for cultural diversity as a source of enrichment for all of humanity. Adelaide is designated as a UNESCO Creative City of Music. The Creative Cities Network is at its core a program of UNESCO which aims to foster mutual international cooperation with and between member cities committed to invest in creativity as a driver for sustainable urban development, social inclusion and cultural vibrancy.
17. The Australian Federal Government's national Cultural Policy, Revive: A Place for Every Story, a Story for Every Place, is structured around five interconnected pillars:
  - 17.1. First Nations First: Recognising and respecting the crucial place of First Nations stories at the centre of Australia's arts and culture.
  - 17.2. A Place for Every Story: Reflecting the breadth of our stories and the contribution of all Australians as the creators of culture.
  - 17.3. Centrality of the Artist: Supporting the artist as worker and celebrating artists as creators.
  - 17.4. Strong Cultural Infrastructure: Providing support across the spectrum of institutions which sustain our arts, culture and heritage.
  - 17.5. Engaging the Audience: Making sure our stories connect with people at home and abroad.
18. The State Government's Cultural Policy is currently in development and Administration has been engaged with counterparts in State Government on their process.
19. The Australian Local Government Association has an endorsed [Arts and Culture Policy Position](#) since 2020 which outlines that the creative sector is essential to the liveability and economic sustainability of all communities.
20. Developing the City of Adelaide's Cultural Policy in alignment with national and local policies will recognise the importance and benefits of working in partnership for the social and cultural vitality of South Australia.

#### **Inputs to the Discussion Paper, Culture – The Life Of Our City**

21. Activity undertaken across the City of Adelaide which has informed the development of the draft Cultural Policy Discussion Paper includes:
  - 21.1. Review of Live Music Action Plan 2017- 2020
  - 21.2. Review of Public Art Action Plan 2019 – 2022 including Public Art Roundtable feedback on Public Art Action Plan and Cultural Strategy
  - 21.3. Mid-point review and refresh of the Cultural Strategy 2017 - 2023
  - 21.4. Draft City of Adelaide Cultural Policy (August 2022 - did not proceed to consultation due to Council Elections)
  - 21.5. Annual Cultural Dashboard update for 2022/23
  - 21.6. Cultural Infrastructure Assessment conducted by Intermethod (2023)
  - 21.7. Social Infrastructure Assessment conducted by Intermethod (2023)
  - 21.8. City of Adelaide submission to the Australian Government's Cultural Policy REVIVE (March 2023)
  - 21.9. City of Adelaide inputs to State Government's draft Cultural Policy (July 2023 – present)
  - 21.10. Public Art Review and Benchmarking Study by Barbara Flynn, Art Advisor (August 2023 – present)
  - 21.11. Consultation with City of Sydney: Arts & Cultural Manager, Cultural and Creative Sector Advisory Panel Member (CBRE Asia Pacific)
  - 21.12. Arts and Cultural Grants and Funding Review and Alignment with Council's Grants Policy

- 21.13. Cultural Dashboard / Cultural Strategy Impact 2020-2024 (May 2024)
- 21.14. Contribution to the UNESCO City of Music 4-year review, survey and Action Plan (June 2024)
- 21.15. Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028 (Adopted by Council June 2024)
- 21.16. Draft Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 (endorsed by Council for community consultation June 2024)
- 21.17. Night Time Entertainment Economy Roundtable (May 2024; Report endorsed by Council July 2024)
- 21.18. City User Profile Survey 2023 Results and Review (July 2024)
- 21.19. Draft Economic Development Strategy (final draft presented to the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee Tuesday 3 September 2024).
- 21.20. 2023-24 Resident Survey completed (August 2024)
- 21.21. MusicSA report on the Economic Contribution of the Music Industry to South Australia 2022/33 prepared by BDO (August 2024).

### Next Steps

- 22. Pending decision by Council, consultation on the draft Discussion Paper, **Culture – The Life Of Our City** will be undertaken as outlined in **Attachment A**. Consultation is planned to commence in late October 2024 and conclude in late November 2024.
  - 22.1 Broad community engagement will be conducted and will include opportunities to provide feedback at Council owned cultural and community venues and in the public realm, as well as an online Our Adelaide survey.
  - 22.2 Engagement activities are proposed to include a Culture Roundtable hosted by the Lord Mayor and additional facilitated cultural sector workshops, including hosting a Live Music Industry Forum in partnership with the Live Music Office to canvas the challenges, opportunities and strategies for growth of the local live music ecology.
  - 22.3 Council’s key Advisory Boards and Committees will be engaged as key stakeholders, including members of the Reconciliation Committee, Kadatilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority, Disability, Access and Inclusion Panel, Adelaide Central Market Authority Board, and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency Board.
  - 22.4 A consolidated consultation summary will be presented to the City Community Services and Culture Committee and a Draft Cultural Policy will be formalised and presented to Council for the purposes of public consultation and adoption through Quarter 3 of the 2024/25 financial year.
  - 22.5 Once adopted, the Cultural Policy will provide a framework to drive Council’s strategic objectives. As culture is embedded in everything we plan and do for our communities, the Cultural Policy will ensure these principles are embedded across operational decision making.

---

## DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – [Cultural Dashboard](#)

Link 2 – [Council Agenda – 23 July 2024](#) (Night Time Entertainment Economy report)

Link 3 – [Council Agenda – 13 February 2024](#) (draft Cultural Policy Discussion paper)

Link 4 – [Council Agenda – 10 September 2024](#) (draft Cultural Policy Discussion paper)

---

## ATTACHMENTS

**Attachment A** – Draft City of Adelaide Cultural Policy Discussion Paper

- END OF REPORT -

## Culture: The Life of Our City

Draft Discussion Paper to inform a Cultural Policy for the City of Adelaide 2025-2036

DRAFT

## Acknowledgement of Country

City of Adelaide acknowledges that we are meeting on the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, water and seas. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

DRAFT



## Contents

Culture: The Life of Our City.....	1
Acknowledgement of Country .....	2
A Cultural Policy for Adelaide.....	4
Defining Culture .....	5
How Culture Contributes to the Life of a City.....	5
Who We Are .....	7
What Our Community Is Saying About Culture .....	8
Our Adelaide / Tarntanya .....	10
City of Adelaide's Role in Cultural Life .....	12
Cultural Policy Themes and Priorities .....	18
Engagement Strategy .....	19
General Consultation Questions .....	19
Questions on the Draft Policy Themes and Priorities .....	19

DRAFT

## A Cultural Policy for Adelaide

Cultural activity in Adelaide occurs with the acknowledgement that the Kaurna people are the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains and that their cultural heritage and beliefs continue to form a foundational part of the life of the city. Adelaide's cultural identity is built on generations of people, from all over the world, who have made Adelaide / Tarntanya their home.

Culture and creativity are fundamental to this place and its people. We are the beneficiaries of cultural and community leaders who have come before us, and together we have an opportunity to build on that legacy, to shape the future, of who we are.

Culture and creativity are critical to Adelaide's future growth and success, and the City of Adelaide is a custodian of this future.

Adelaide's cultural, arts and creative practitioners and community make vital contributions to the fabric of our society. They strengthen the vibrancy and the economic growth of our city, through their passion, talent, expertise, resilience, connectivity and adaptability. The sustainable development of our city depends on the neighbourhoods, networks, jobs, employment, and opportunities they create.

Council's Strategic Plan 2024-2028 includes a commitment to develop a Cultural Policy that promotes and strengthens the City's unique cultural identity and opportunities. A Cultural Policy will provide the framework for Council's future decisions in relation to culture.

This discussion paper is designed to stimulate critical thinking and seek the thoughts and views of residents, community and cultural organisations and groups, creative practitioners, organisations and businesses. It encourages consideration of some priorities to further enrich community life through the creation and expression of culture and creativity in the City of Adelaide. We encourage all readers to engage with the topic and share with us your considered opinions and unique perspectives.

Once developed, the City of Adelaide's Cultural Policy will be aligned with the pillars of Council's Strategic Plan 2024-2028:

- *OUR COMMUNITY - Vibrant, connected and inclusive*
- *OUR ENVIRONMENT - Resilient, protected and sustainable*
- *OUR ECONOMY – Growing, innovative and responsive*
- *OUR PLACES - Interesting, purposeful and safe*
- *OUR CORPORATION – high performing, customer-centric and bold*

A Cultural Policy for Adelaide might include:

- An integrated vision for culture and creativity in the City of Adelaide with clear priorities
- A clear articulation of the City of Adelaide's unique culture
- A comprehensive strategic plan to deliver on Council's vision in partnership with cultural, creative and community stakeholders
- A proposed governance model to ensure that the policy is responsive to major developments and community needs.

The development of a Cultural Policy must have the community it serves at its core. Culture, just like the city, is about people, therefore the Cultural Policy will be developed through stages of consultation and planning. It will enable a long-term vision for culture as a key factor underpinning Adelaide's future prosperity, sustainability and wellbeing, enabling a vibrant, connected and inclusive community.

## Defining Culture

Culture is an integral part of our universal and indivisible human rights. In its breadth and depth, it enriches our lives and expands our horizons, fosters creative expression and innovation, and celebrates who we are. Culture, in its broadest sense incorporates social meaning, values and aspirations of the community through empowerment, intercultural appreciation and understanding, enrichment and joy.

Culture is our way of living together, our beliefs and value systems, traditions, the spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features of our society, and our art, literature, languages and creativity. Culture also means the arts, cultural, creative and heritage industries, institutions, facilities, organisations and individuals who protect, produce, and present culture. It is expressed through food, festivals and events, song, music, visual arts, craft and design, performing arts, film and video, radio and television, gaming and digital arts, architecture and publishing, languages, literature, live and experimental art, our built environment and more.

In Adelaide, culture is created, protected and experienced in many places and spaces, through galleries, museums, archives, libraries, heritage places and collections, in cafés, markets, pubs and churches, in our City Squares, Adelaide Park Lands, precincts and neighbourhoods. For the purposes of its Cultural Policy, it is proposed that the City of Adelaide's definition of culture includes:

- Adelaide's cultural, arts, creative and heritage sectors
- The knowledge and cultural practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- The expressions of identity, shared experience and aspirations of our diverse, multicultural communities, that have shaped our society from the period of colonisation of South Australia, through a long history of migration, to the present day
- Historic and current cultural practices and events that reflect contemporary Adelaide and its broad and diverse communities.

## How Culture Contributes to the Life of a City

### ▪ *Identity and Character*

A city's unique identity is shaped by culture, which is an integral and inseparable part of our lives. The traditions, memorial days, festivals, languages, foods, expressions, artworks and historical landmarks of the community contribute to a sense of place and belonging for city residents and visitors.

### ▪ *Community, Multiculturalism and Diversity*

Cultural activities bring people together, fostering a sense of community, connection and tolerance. Public spaces, museums, theatres, and cultural festivals are often places where diverse groups interact, share experiences and build social bonds.

### ▪ *Quality of Life*

Access to cultural venues and facilities such as theatres, museums, galleries, and live performances enhances the quality of life for residents. It provides opportunities for leisure, learning, social connection and personal growth.

### ▪ *Place Making and Social Infrastructure*

Cultural initiatives and investments in cultural infrastructure often breathe new life into neighbourhoods and precincts, enhancing strong community identity and making them more attractive to residents and visitors alike.

- *Attracting Talent*

Cities known for their vibrant cultural life often attract creative and talented individuals, which can drive innovation and contribute to the city's reputation, cultural participation and economic growth.













- *Economic Impact*

Cultural industries, including tourism, arts, entertainment, and heritage sites, are significant contributors to a city's economy. They create jobs, attract investment, and boost local businesses.

DRAFT

## Who We Are

# Our Community

			
390,000 Daily visitors	27,901 residents	projected 50,000 residents by 2036	
			
47% aged between 18 and 34	20% aged 60 and over	1.4% of the population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	
			
45% born overseas	12% born in China - our largest population group 5% born in the UK 3% born in India - our fastest growing population group		
			
36% speak a language other than English at home	26% of CoA residents study at TAFE or University	50%+ of the population have no religion	50%renting

Adelaide is diverse, young and growing, with 27,901 people currently calling our city home, and an aspiration to grow this to 50,000 residents by 2036. Our daily population of workers, visitors and tourists is 390,000.

Currently, the City of Adelaide has two distinct demographic areas with North Adelaide and the southeast corner of Adelaide polarised in age structure with the young and old. In Central Adelaide twenty somethings are double the proportion of that demographic in Greater Adelaide.

Statistics suggests the City of Adelaide acts as a demographic hub, importing people from overseas and distributing people overseas, interstate and to the inner suburbs of metropolitan Adelaide. Between 2016 and 2021, 73.9% of the City of Adelaide's population turned over with one in four migrating from overseas and 4 in 10 migrating from elsewhere in Australia.

People migrating to Adelaide bring with them personal possessions and intangible cultural heritage which connects them to their countries of birth within the context of their new home in Australia, socially and culturally.

This presents an opportunity for those people travelling through Adelaide to become cultural ambassadors for our city, and if their experience of the cultural life of the city is positive, are likely to consider returning to and settling in Adelaide.

Of all South Australia local governments, the City of Adelaide has the highest percentage of population born overseas (45%). Multiculturalism, interculturalism and diversity support our open, cohesive and equitable city, where cultural, linguistic and religious diversity is understood and valued.

Adelaide is a place that embraces the communities that have shaped our city and the new communities that are living here today. Here, culture and creativity are nurtured in a culturally rich and diverse community. Adelaide's cultural uniqueness lies in its complexities and constraints which often present as contrasting factors:

- Adelaide is ancient and new
- Adelaide is innovative and traditional
- Adelaide is diverse and distinctive.

## What Our Community Is Saying About Culture

In the City of Adelaide, the importance of culture is strongly emphasised by our residents, who see it as a key element in creating a vibrant and engaging city. The Resident Survey 2022 results revealed that:

- A significant majority of residents (84%) believe that arts, culture, and events bring energy and interest to the city.
- Live music is valued by 76% of residents as an essential part of city life, underscoring the cultural activities' role in enhancing the overall liveliness of the city.
- Residents also consider culture crucial for making the city a welcoming place. 73% agree that the city is welcoming to people from diverse cultural backgrounds, highlighting the role of cultural diversity in fostering a sense of community and inclusivity.

Moreover, culture is not only important for community wellbeing, it is also vital to the city's identity. Many residents express a desire to preserve the city's cultural vibrancy for future generations, with 18% emphasising the importance of activities, events, and entertainment as critical elements they want to see maintained. This suggests that cultural activities are not only enjoyed by the current population, they are also seen as integral to the city's future prosperity.

The 2023 City User Profile highlights that both residents and visitors value Council's arts, culture, and events services with residents providing an 88% rating and visitors a 92% rating. Despite Council meeting the expectations of city users, the perceptions of the City of Adelaide as a welcoming and dynamic city with rich and diverse experiences remain modest. Although the overall mean rating is 7.5, only 57% of respondents gave a high-level agreement which is consistent with 2022, however slightly below 2021. Our residents view the city most positively, with a mean rating of 7.7 and 61% giving high ratings, while workers are less enthusiastic, with a mean of 7.3 and only 50% rating it highly.

Between 2017-2023, the City of Adelaide tracked the benefits of cultural participation using the national Cultural Outcomes framework. As reported in the [Dynamic City: Arts and Culture Dashboard](#) residents and visitors highly value their participation in cultural activities, recognising that cultural participation plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of life, and wellbeing by:

- Stimulating creativity, spark imagination, curiosity and original ideas
- Experiencing pleasure, challenge, captivation, feelings of being moved, awe, joy or wonder
- Gaining new knowledge through critical reflection, creative thinking and intellectual stimulation
- Appreciate the diversity of cultural expression including from peoples from diverse cultural backgrounds, life experiences and interests.
- Build a sense of belonging to one's cultural history, heritage and experience of cultural identity and values that is shared with others.

Cultural Outcome scores have rated 9 out of 10 annually since surveying commenced in 2018.

DRAFT

## Our Adelaide / Tarntanya

Adelaide is the Capital City of South Australia and the cultural heart of our State.

Located on the Traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains, Adelaide / Tarntanya is centrally positioned between the hills and sea, with the River Torrens / Karrowirra Pari winding through it. For over 60,000 years, Tarntanya has been a place of celebration and song, land management, trade and knowledge sharing.

Adelaide is the world's only city surrounded by Park Lands, thanks to the vision of Colonel William Light, for a city that enriches its people's quality of life. His vision has been described as genius of place and plan, from a theory dating back to Roman Times, *Genius Loci*, in which the spirit of place combines with the built urban form in order for people to live authentically and in balance with nature.

Adelaide's cultural vision, history of social reform, and its thriving arts sector and festivals are regarded as some of South Australia's strengths. The state enjoys an impressive reputation for creative achievement and vibrant artistic activities.

Consistently ranked as one of the most liveable cities in the world and named the world's most beautiful city in 2024 by *Architectural Digest*, Adelaide is a safe, open and democratic society, and an official Refugee Welcoming Zone.

Our renown as a creative city is sustained by a diversity of cultural venues and collections, civic events, live music pubs, bars and dining experiences that enliven city laneways. Our world class architecture and public art adds vibrancy to the city and reflects local histories.

Our places, including our National Heritage Listed Adelaide Park Lands and Squares, in our National Park City, provide gathering places for people to celebrate festive events and to practice and exchange cultural traditions.

The Adelaide Town Hall has been the city's premier venue for concerts, civic receptions and public gatherings since 1866. The Adelaide Central Market has been a lively site of exchange for diverse cultures and culinary traditions since the late 1800s when North Terrace became the home of the heritage listed Mortlock Wing and Adelaide's first public sculpture, *Veneri di Canova* (Pugi Brothers, 1892). Today, North Terrace, or the 'Cultural Boulevard' houses Adelaide's most prominent cultural institutions and collections, including the Art Gallery of South Australia, the South Australian Museum, the State Library of South Australia, the Migration Museum, and the Adelaide Botanic Gardens that have been growing since 1857, featuring some of Australia's finest plant collections. It is also home to Adelaide University and Lot 14 – an innovation district which will soon support over 6,000 workers and researchers.

The Adelaide Festival Centre, Australia's first multi-purpose arts centre, celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023, and remains an icon of Adelaide's contemporary culture. The JamFactory, singular in its support and promotion of innovative and outstanding craft and design through its studios, galleries and shops, also celebrated its 'golden' anniversary last year. In 2024, the Helpmann Academy celebrates 30 years of supporting creative practitioners at the start of their careers. The only organisation of its kind in Australia, it is a unique collaborative partnership that unifies the skills and resources of South Australia's universities.



Adelaide is home to the second largest Fringe Festival in the world and is one of just a few cities worldwide to host WOMAD festival sharing music, arts, dance and ideas from around the world. Rundle Mall and its open-air public art gallery continue to enhance the city's shopping experience. Across Adelaide's nightlife hub on Hindley Street, the Lion Arts Centre is the West End's creative heart housing several music and multi-arts organisations.

In North Adelaide, Carclew, Australia's largest multi-artform cultural institution dedicated to children and young people can be found, as well as the David Roche Foundation House Museum - one of the greatest decorative arts collections in a private institution in Australia.

Adelaide's designation as Australia's only UNESCO Creative City of Music since 2015 is testament to the city's proud live music heritage and cultural leadership on the global stage, which are celebrated through the renaming of city laneways to honour some of Adelaide's most iconic musicians and bands.

DRAFT

# City of Adelaide's Role in Cultural Life

## *Current State*

The City of Adelaide is responsible to its local community, plays a leadership role as a Capital City in supporting the cultural epicentre for South Australia, and as a designated UNESCO Creative City commits to placing culture and creativity at the heart of its planning for sustainable development.

The City of Adelaide fosters Adelaide's cultural life by creating an interesting and lively place where people want to live, work and visit, and by facilitating opportunities for the community to participate and practice cultural and creative activity. This is achieved through policy setting, strategic planning, strategic partnerships, advocacy, provision of cultural and community facilities, placemaking, production of and support for major events and festivals, programming, capacity building, public art, heritage preservation, collections, promotion, storytelling, and grants.

The City of Adelaide complements the State Government's efforts in supporting arts, culture, and economic development of our Capital City. The State Government provides significant and substantial funding for arts and cultural initiatives across South Australia that includes organisational funding, and the City of Adelaide focuses on localised projects within its LGA boundary that enhance cultural activities, community engagement, placemaking and community capacity building within the city. City of Adelaide's subsidiary, the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA), contributes by driving economic growth and tourism through event and festival sponsorships, partnerships and marketing the city. Together, these entities operate in different yet complementary roles—ensuring both statewide reach and targeted local impact for culture, arts, economic vitality and community wellbeing.

In recent years, the Council's investment in culture has been led and delivered through the Cultural Strategy 2017-2023, supported by a Public Art Action Plan (2019-22) and a Live Music Action Plan (2017-2020), Stretch Reconciliation Action Plans, the Heritage Strategy 2021-2026, and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency's Strategic Plans (since Jan 2021).

Many other areas of the organisation support people to participate in the city's cultural life by delivering services, incentivising and leveraging investment, and facilitating cultural, heritage and creative initiatives and supporting activities that support the development and maintenance of culture and cultural practice.

The spread of this activity means that the total volume and value of Council's investment in culture is not straightforward to quantify. To date, City of Adelaide has invested broadly across the cultural sector.

## *Significant Commemorative Days and Celebrations*

The City of Adelaide plays a role in curating the entire city for cultural activation, hosting a year-round calendar of events and activities that delight, inspire and engage local, national and international audiences.

Council supports event organisers to hold welcoming, accessible and safe events that leave people of all backgrounds with positive lasting memories of our city. The City of Adelaide works collaboratively with event organisers and the South Australian Tourism Commission to facilitate a year-round calendar of events and activations for Adelaide.

National commemorative days and celebrations that Council observes, funds and facilitates include:

### **Australia Day**

The city is the centre of Australia Day activities for South Australians on 26 January each year. The first citizenship ceremony of the year is held at Adelaide Town Hall on Australia Day. Council, in partnership with the Australia Day Council, hosts and supports a program of events that acknowledges our cultural diversity and multiple histories. This includes the Mourning in the Morning smoking ceremony and Respecting Country Parade.

### **Anzac Day**

Observed annually on 25 April, Anzac Day, comprising the Anzac Day Commemorative March and Anzac Day Service of Remembrance with a Dawn Service, commemorates the anniversary of the Dardanelles Campaign Landing in 1915. The Returned & Services League of South Australia is responsible for the delivery of Anzac Day activities in the City of Adelaide, in partnership with the City of Adelaide and the South Australian Government.

### **Lunar New Year**

Festivities across the city herald the beginning of the Lunar New Year in the rich traditions and spirit of this celebration. A vibrant street party in Chinatown, organised by Chinatown Adelaide South Australia Inc., includes cultural performances, food, and entertainment and attracts an estimated over 30,000 visitors to the precinct.

### **National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant**

Since 1933, the Southern Hemisphere's largest public Christmas parade, has marked the official welcoming of Father Christmas to Australia and the start of our festive season and community tradition. City of Adelaide's broader Christmas Festival is representative and inclusive of Adelaide's multicultural community, with a diverse offering that is meaningful for a wide demographic.

### **NAIDOC Week**

National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the rich and diverse cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and their contributions in various fields. In 2024, Adelaide hosted the National NAIDOC Week.

### **New Year's Eve**

In 2023, Adelaide's New Year's Eve celebration returned to Elder Park / Tarntanya Wama for the first time after a four-year hiatus, drawing over 80,000 people of all ages to the Riverbank precinct to celebrate and watch fireworks in a safe and inclusive environment.

### **Remembrance Day**

On 11 November the Adelaide Remembrance Day service is held at the South Australian National War Memorial on North Terrace. Veterans, families, serving Australian Defence Force personnel and members of the public gather to commemorate the loss of Australian lives from all wars and conflicts.

### *Collections*

## **Civic, Archives and Oral History Collections**

Adelaide's heritage is preserved through the City of Adelaide collection, which encompasses the Civic Collection, Oral History Collection, and City Archives. The Civic Collection, featuring over 2800 items gathered since 1853, includes significant relics such as those related to Queen Adelaide and Colonel Light, along with public statues, memorials, silverware, historic photographs, and maps. The Oral History Collection, including 140 interviews conducted between 1978 and 2014, captures the personal memories and experiences of former Lord Mayors, Councillors, long-serving employees, and community leaders. The Contemporary Art Collection of 60+ artworks by 40 artists who are South Australian or associated with the City of Adelaide through work or study, reflects the dynamic evolution of artistic practice in Adelaide. Additionally, the City Archives holds records dating back to 1840, documents Adelaide's municipal governance through files, maps, plans, and photographs. Together, these collections ensure that Adelaide's cultural heritage and history are preserved and accessible to future generations.

### **Public Art Collection**

Adelaide's public art collection is valued at over \$40 million and features nearly 150 sculptures, installations, and monuments that enrich public spaces and reflect the diverse stories and identities of its people. Our public art collection is a vital part of the city's cultural landscape, fosters community connection and celebrates Kaurna and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and the contributions of various cultural groups. The public art collection plays a crucial role in positioning Adelaide as a vibrant cultural destination, attracting tourists and contributing to the local economy.

### *Cultural and Social Infrastructure*

#### **Park Lands**

The national heritage listed Adelaide Park Lands are a vital part of the city's cultural infrastructure, offering a unique network of interconnected public spaces and natural areas that encircle the city. These spaces play a significant role in Adelaide's cultural life, hosting over 600 events annually, including major festivals like the WOMAD hosted in Botanic Park / Tainmuntilla for over 30 years, and the Adelaide Fringe. The Park Lands are classified into various event sites, with premium locations such as Rundle Park / Kaditpina and Elder Park / Tarntanya heavily utilised for large-scale cultural activities, including the Adelaide Fringe, which sold over 1 million tickets in 2023, contributing approximately \$50.1 million in new money to the state's economy. This commitment to cultural vibrancy has established Adelaide as a global leader in festivals, with the 2022 Tourism Sentiment Index ranking it the 4th best city worldwide for such events.

#### **Adelaide Central Market**

Since 1869, the Adelaide Central Market has been Adelaide's premier destination for world leading food and produce, celebrating cultural diversity year-round, and connecting community. It is one of the largest undercover fresh produce markets in the Southern Hemisphere, and a key space for cultural immersion and exchange in the city, regularly hosting live music, food demonstrations and cultural celebrations. The Market precinct attracts more than 8.5 million visitors each year.

#### **Adelaide Community Centres**

The City of Adelaide's three Community Centres support our communities to thrive by creating welcoming and inclusive spaces and engaging and enriching experiences that build community capacity and celebrate diverse cultures and community spirit. During 2023/24 our Centres welcomed 42,231 people and hosted 1,418 centre-led programs that engaged nearly 8,200 participants, including health and fitness sessions, language classes, gardening and cooking workshops, exhibitions, social clubs and more.

### **Adelaide Town Hall**

Since 1866 the Adelaide Town Hall has been the civic and cultural heart of the city. It is where community gathers and history is made, from Council meetings, Civic Events, Citizenship Ceremonies, to royal visits, weddings, high school graduations, and corporate launches.

In 2023/24, Adelaide Town Hall hosted 98 concerts, 75 conferences, and attracted over 7,700 attendees to its free lunchtime community performances. The Adelaide Town Hall is proud to partner with major music organisations, including Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Music Viva, Adelaide Festival and Australian Chamber Orchestra, to present inspiring and uplifting performances.

### **Libraries**

The City of Adelaide's three libraries are essential to the cultural and social wellbeing of its 25,507 residents and our daily visitors. Libraries are recognised by UNESCO as vital for education, culture, and inclusion, these facilities generate significant community benefits. A 2018-19 study found that public libraries in South Australia contributed \$252 million in benefits, with a net welfare impact of \$162 million.

The City of Adelaide Libraries are celebrated for supporting diverse and multicultural communities through extensive resources, programs, and partnerships that foster literacy, creativity, and cultural understanding. In 2023/24, the libraries saw nearly 340,000 visitors, a 11.5% increase from the previous year, and a 4% rise in active memberships. Our libraries are places of creative production, curation and display. They promote cultural diversity and reconciliation, through events like Multicultural Storytime and exhibitions for Refugee Week and maintain a strong commitment to Aboriginal culture through engaging programs and collections.

### **Cultural Experiences**

The City of Adelaide [Dynamic City: Arts and Culture Dashboard](#) monitored and reported on the collective achievements and the important contributions of Adelaide's cultural sector to the life of the city between 2017 and 2023. The dashboard included Council led, facilitated and financially supported activity, alongside information drawn from published external sources. A snapshot of Council's cultural programs and participation outcomes is included below.

# Cultural Experiences 2022/2023



## Participation In Adelaide’s Cultural Experiences 2017-2023 Trends

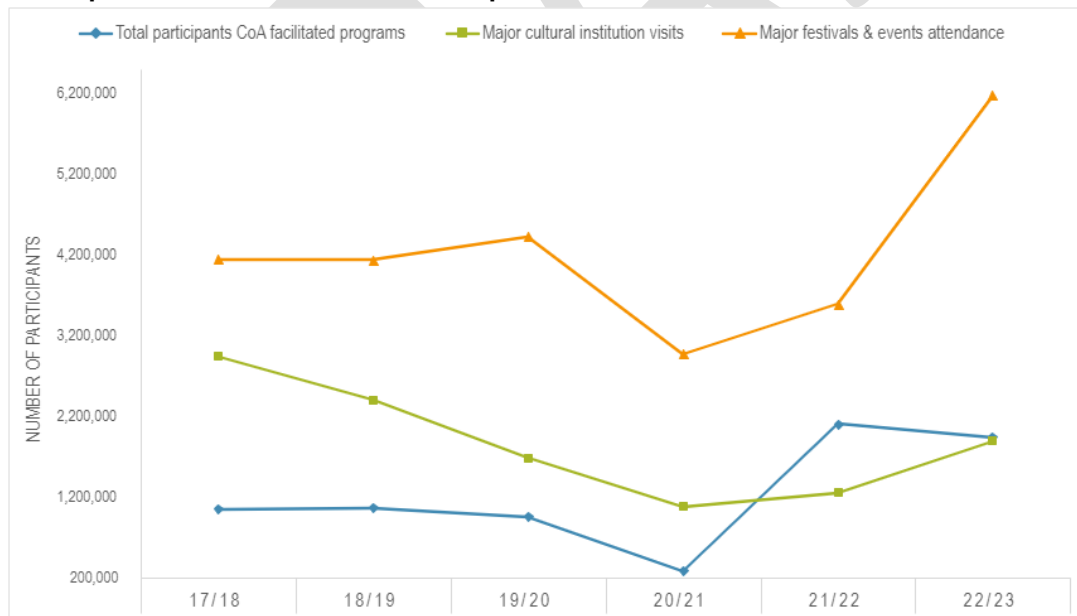


Figure 1. Participation in Adelaide’s cultural experiences 2017-2023 trends, as reported in the City of Adelaide Dynamic City: Arts and Culture Dashboard.

### Future State

The development of Council’s Cultural Policy will clarify culture’s place and priority in our planning processes. It will reflect that cultural participation and creativity are central to our community’s social and economic life. It will ensure that responsibility for the Cultural Policy

is shared across the organisation and embedded across operational decision making. As a result, Council's resources will effectively focused to maximise benefit for all.

To achieve this, the City of Adelaide will need to take a long-term perspective and a sustainable, partnered, approach to cultural development. This means that its roles in the future may include:

### **Lead**

Lead the integration of creativity and culture in all aspects of the city's sustainable development to ensure Adelaide is a diverse, inclusive, resilient and joyful society.

### **Advocate**

Use our influence as a creative capital to advocate for the role of culture in enriching the life of the city, our community and our economy, leveraging opportunities, and uplifting others.

### **Safeguard**

Protect our tangible and intangible cultural heritage through enabling policy and regulation, and by investing in our cultural infrastructure and assets including our city collections.

### **Engage**

Empower people to engage in democratic, local decision making and action supporting social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing.

### **Enable**

Enable all people to contribute to and participate in the cultural life of the city by funding and facilitating inclusive programs at our venues and in our Adelaide Park Lands.

### **Facilitate**

Facilitate street closures, safety, traffic and busking to support community events, festivals, activations and other forms of cultural expression across the city's public spaces and Adelaide Park Lands.

### **Partner**

Partner with government, non-government organisations, the private sector and the community to leverage expertise, attract new resources and sustain the city's cultural development into the future.

### **Champion**

Celebrate what makes Adelaide distinctive and promote its abundant and creative cultures to enhance our city's appeal and profile.

## Cultural Policy Themes and Priorities

Reflecting on Adelaide's strengths, research insights, local strategic tensions, and global trends relevant to capital cities, some key themes are presented to encourage conversation about future cultural priorities for the city.

### *People are at the Centre of our City and its Culture*

Nurture the ability for the community to connect with culture and express their creativity. Improve our city's appeal, liveability and global profile, through accessible and high-quality cultural experiences, including public art, events and festivals that reflect Adelaide's unique heritage and stories.

### *Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples's Continuous Culture*

Honour and strengthen awareness of Kaurna culture and connection to Country as central to Adelaide's identity and future.

### *Celebrating Multiculturalism and Respecting Diversity and Traditions*

Observe, fund and facilitate Adelaide's cultural traditions including national commemorative days, festive events and other social practices. Provide inclusive and respectful opportunities for people of all cultures, backgrounds, ages and abilities to participate in the cultural life of the city.

### *Adelaide is Australia's Cultural and Creative Capital*

Provide a city-wide approach to embed music, culture and heritage preservation in policy, place and community. Amplify Adelaide's UNESCO City of Music designation and our leadership as Australia's creative and cultural capital.

### *The City's Culture is Connected to our Built and Natural Heritage*

Respect, protect and strengthen our world class architecture, cultural assets, collections, and environment. Ensure our cultural identity is easily accessible by the community through engaging and discoverable interpretation and digital resources.

### *Creativity and Culture Drives our City's Future*

Advance the role of culture in enriching the life of the city, our people and the environment. Raise our profile as a creative and cultural capital for the development of the city into the future and the wellbeing of local communities.



## Engagement Strategy

The city's Cultural Policy will be developed in conversation and in partnership with our community so that it reflects, serves, supports and belongs to the people of Adelaide. A range of prompts are provided, and you can elect to comment on any, all or add your own reflections and suggestions. Feedback received through engagement on this discussion paper will inform the development of Council's Cultural Policy.

We intend to invite, listen to and deeply consider all ideas, proposals and feedback offered, respecting the generosity with which they are shared.

The draft Cultural Policy of the City of Adelaide will be refined and improved through this process. A summary of this feedback will be presented to Council to ensure that the voices and views of our community are heard.

## General Consultation Questions

- What is the best thing about living in Adelaide?
- What strengths and values do you observe in Adelaide's diverse cultural communities?
- When you describe Adelaide to friends who live interstate or overseas, is there an image, story, song, or artwork that you think of first that best captures this place?
- If you could change something about Adelaide what would it be?
- Can you describe what kind of place you hope Adelaide will be in 10 years' time?
- What are the most pressing obstacles to achieving this vision?
- In defining culture, what have we missed, or you would like to see enhanced?
- How would you like to continue to be engaged in community-led policy development?

## Questions on the Draft Policy Themes and Priorities

### *People are at the Centre of our City and its Culture*

- How can we enhance our city's appeal and global profile by offering high-quality cultural experiences that reflect the city's unique identity, and heritage?
- What strategies can we use to activate key areas and underutilised spaces in the City of Adelaide with cultural activities to boost visitation, community engagement and our local economy?
- How can we ensure our affordable and accessible cultural spaces, like our Town Hall, community centres and libraries, better support creative communities?

### *Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples's Continuous Culture*

- How can we champion Kurna culture in our shared future in a meaningful way?
- What steps can we take to ensure that Kurna and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices influence, and are represented in the city's cultural decisions?
- What initiatives and projects can we collaborate on with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to increase visibility of Kurna culture in the public realm?

### *Celebrating Multiculturalism and Respecting Diversity and Traditions*

- How can we observe and support community events that respect traditions, celebrate multiculturalism and encourage cultural sharing?
- What can we do to ensure everyone can take part in the city's cultural life?
- How can we amplify more community voices and create better connections with and between diverse communities?

- How can we attract more people to improve community bonds and embrace our cultural diversity, and global connections?

#### *Adelaide is Australia's Cultural and Creative Capital*

- How can we strengthen our reputation as Australia's creative and cultural capital as a UNESCO Creative City and City of Live Music status?
- What steps can we take to ensure music, culture, and heritage are deeply integrated into city policies, our everyday experiences and the community life of the city?
- How can we better support creative and culture professionals and venues to boost employment and create sustainable careers in the arts?

#### *The City's Culture is Connected to our Built and Natural Heritage*

- How can we best protect and showcase our city's built architecture, cultural assets, and natural environment?
- What can we do to ensure that the City of Adelaide's cultural identity is more accessible and engaging for our community?
- How can we improve our public spaces to better support cultural activities and community connections?

#### *Creativity and Culture Drives our City's Future*

- How can culture improve the City of Adelaide experience, our quality of life and environment?
- What new and different types of partnerships can help sustain and improve the City of Adelaide's cultural growth in the future?
- How can we better promote the City of Adelaide's cultural strengths to boost participation and enhance its reputation as a cultural capital?