

# Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Noon - QoN - Consultation on Significant Murals

Tuesday, 12 May 2026  
Council

**Council Member**  
Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor  
Carmel Noon

Public

**Contact Officer:**  
Jo Podoliak, Director City  
Community

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

**Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Carmel Noon will ask the following Question on Notice:**

'Noting that murals contribute to the vibrancy, character and identity of the City of Adelaide, but that significant murals can also impact surrounding residents, ratepayers, businesses and property owners:

Can Administration advise:

1. What approval, notification and consultation processes currently apply to significant murals proposed on Council assets, or by third parties with Council approval, funding, support or facilitation?
2. How are directly affected residents, ratepayers, businesses and property owners informed and given an opportunity to provide feedback before significant mural works commence?
3. How does Council assess visual impact, local context and community character when considering significant mural proposals?
4. Are Ward Councillors notified of significant mural projects before works commence?
5. What improvements could be made to ensure better consultation and communication for future significant mural projects?'

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## REPLY

1. What approval, notification and consultation processes currently apply to significant murals proposed on Council assets, or by third parties with Council approval, funding, support or facilitation?
  - 1.1. Murals on Council assets, or supported, funded or facilitated by Council, require internal approvals, and are assessed against relevant Council policies, strategies and public art guidelines.
  - 1.2. Development Approval is not typically required for non-commercial murals painted or applied directly to buildings in accordance with the *Development (Murals in City of Adelaide) Variation Regulations 2018* introduced to reduce red tape and support mural activity. Development Approval may be required if a mural includes advertising or signage, is on a heritage place, or otherwise triggers assessment under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.
2. How are directly affected residents, ratepayers, businesses and property owners informed and given an opportunity to provide feedback before significant mural works commence?
  - 2.1. Where Development Approval is not required, Council engages with those stakeholders with a direct site interface; this engagement focuses on practical matters including access, timing, noise, amenity or operational impacts, rather than artistic or aesthetic determination.

- 2.2. Where Development Approval is required, notification and consultation are undertaken in accordance with legislative requirements and PlanSA guidance.
- 3. How does Council assess visual impact, local context and community character when considering significant mural proposals?
  - 3.1. Most murals are on private property and are not curated, commissioned or approved by Council.
  - 3.2. For mural proposals for Council assets, Council supported, funded or facilitated projects, or where a planning, permit or regulatory trigger applies, Council will:
    - 3.2.1. Assess the scale, visibility, site suitability, surrounding land uses, streetscape character, property interfaces, heritage context, amenity impacts and contribution to the public realm.
    - 3.2.2. Assess alignment with Council’s Strategic Plan 2024-2028, Cultural Policy, Funding Programs Policy and Community Grants Guidelines, and Public Art Guidelines, which provide guidance on community and cultural benefit, project viability, access and inclusion, and risk management. Council supported works must align with public art policies and legal standards, including that works are not defamatory, unlawful, or likely to denigrate or harm specific communities.
  - 3.3. Property owner consent is sought where applicable.
- 4. Are Ward Councillors notified of significant mural projects before works commence?
  - 4.1. Council artwork commissions over \$100,000 are reported to Council for noting prior to the works commencing.
  - 4.2. Councillors are informed about public artworks supported, funded or facilitated by Council through reports and E-news. Significant mural projects may be as a result of grant programs, and Community Grant funding recipients and projects are communicated via E-news and reported to Council annually.
- 5. What improvements could be made to ensure better consultation and communication for future significant mural projects?
  - 5.1 Development of a new Public Art Action Plan in 2026/27 will review internal coordination, public guidance, mural commissioning pathways and communications.

Staff time in receiving and preparing this reply	To prepare this reply in response to the question on notice took approximately 5.5 hours.
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