

Submissions to Draft Arts and Culture Policy

Submission	Submission points	Staff Comments
Submission 1 E2020/47496	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Very broad document 2. Policy does not state that Council will consult with the community regarding the implementation of a cultural activity nor Council's involvement with an arts project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies outline a governing framework and principles that apply to practice. Policies do not prescribe in detail how a function will be performed. • The Byron Model and Council's Community Engagement Policy (listed under <i>Related Policies</i>) describe when and how community consultation is to occur.
Submission 2 E2020/51280	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expecting a Cultural Plan will be the next step 2. Suggest that BSC divert resources to the engagement of a cultural development officer to develop and drive a Cultural Plan 3. Some points for greater prominence in the main part of the policy include: acknowledgement of the <u>economic contribution</u> of Arts and Culture to both Byron Shire; and stronger acknowledgement that the Arts and creative culture of Byron Shire is intrinsic to its distinctive identity, as well as being a major asset to the Northern Rivers Region in terms of wellbeing and economy. 4. Council can utilise its agency to network a Visual and performance Arts component to existing music festivals through the promotion of partnerships between community and private sector players e.g. festival promoters and event managers. 5. BSC can leverage resources to bring artists and the community, including the tourists and visitors together (particularly the visual arts) for Arts Cultural events eg: <i>A Visual Arts Fest or a Visual Arts Week. A Byron Biennale?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 20-263 states that preparation of an Arts and Cultural Strategic Plan is to commence in 2020/21. • An Arts and Cultural Officer is being recruited. • Policy statement 4.1 acknowledges the thriving creative sector in the Byron Shire (noting that in 2017/18 there were 80 businesses are related to arts, recreation and information media). Council's Community Economic Development Policy outlines the contribution the creative sector makes to the Byron Shire. • Re point 3, add to statement 4.1 "The arts and creative culture of Byron Shire is intrinsic to its distinctive identity and plays a large role in attracting visitors to the Shire". • Points 4 and 5 are information for a future strategy.
Submission 3 E2020/52138	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full of motherhood statements 2. Where are the designated spaces for exhibitions? Where is Cultural Centre? Council has a role in providing infrastructure – where are the suitable venues for large exhibitions? 3. Each town and village has its own atmosphere but Council has left Byron township to the tourists and developers 4. Need a designated Arts/Cultural officer who can actually work on this 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies outline a governing framework. • The Policy already outlines the key role Council plays in providing infrastructure for arts and cultural activities in 4.3. • An Arts and Cultural Officer is currently being recruited.
Submission 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need to talk about the culture and artistic expression of the Byron 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies outline a governing framework and principles

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E2020/52432	<p>Shire – how this energetic and diverse community sees itself and its place within Australia. And above all, it should consider our current and future local cultural industries in economic terms.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What I read here is a generic policy that could be applied to any LGA in Australia. It needs to be trimmed and to focus on the Byron Shire specifically. 3. It also needs VISION – a way forward and recognition of the values we are dealing with here. For example: This policy notes the strength of the creative industries in this Shire (4.1) and talks a lot about supporting the local community, cultural identities and values. Could we not make these broad-brush statements even more LOCAL and specific – eg; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. traditional arts and cultural heritage of <i>the Arakwal and Bundjalung people</i> b. <u>name</u> some sections of the community that thrive on being provided with increased opportunities for expression and community involvement, such as – <i>young people, people with disabilities, people from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds, low income earners and the transport disadvantaged.....</i> 4. mention our <u>local distinctiveness</u> and <i>diversity</i>, our <u>unique identity and culture</u>, advocate for and promote existing and emerging arts, artists and cultural organisations.... 5. Definitions are too broad to reduce misunderstanding. Spell out both traditional and high arts, alongside popular and emergent forms of culture. Alternative definitions offered. 6. Like to see this policy expressed in simpler terms and herald some <u>direction and vision</u> from Council as it supports this critical area of community need and wellbeing. 7. Lack of arts infrastructure in the Shire - no substantial cultural gathering or work places for our community, we have no spaces or places to <u>market</u> our wealth and unique qualities to tourists and visitors. 8. One of the calls from the community workshops with arts 	<p>that apply to practice by facilitating, enabling or constraining practice. Policies do not prescribe in detail how a function will be performed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy statement 4.1 acknowledges the thriving creative sector in the Byron Shire (noting that in 2017/18 there were 80 businesses are related to arts, recreation and information media). Council’s Community Economic Development Policy outlines the contribution the creative sector makes to the Byron Shire. • Re point 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Purpose of the Policy includes a statement to recognize and acknowledge the significant contribution of our Traditional Owners to the arts and culture landscape, and the importance of supporting our local Traditional Owners to engage in cultural expression into the future. ○ Policy statement 4.5 describes supporting arts and cultural initiatives that are engaging, inclusive, diverse and accessible. It is not considered appropriate to specifically mention some sections of the community. • Re point 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ suggest adding to statement 4.1 “The arts and creative culture of Byron Shire is intrinsic to its distinctive identity and plays a large role in attracting visitors to the Shire”. ○ Policy statement 4.1 outlines supporting arts and cultural activity in the Shire and points to the existing thriving sector. • A list of arts and cultural activities has been added to the policy to clarify the range of arts and culture activities the policy covers. • Points 6, 8 and 10 – refer definition of a policy. A Strategy document is the place to outline direction and vision. The policy outlines that Council will ‘enable’ and ‘collaborate’

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	<p>stakeholders and interested community members, was for council to seek out affordable temporary and permanent <u>spaces/places for locals to meet, engage, work and collaborate in cultural activities</u>. Another was to employ and Arts and Cultural Officer.</p> <p>9. We too should no longer view our 'cultural wish list' as a budgetary adjunct and a drain on our 'coffers', but look to its enormous fundamental value for any community or nation <i>and see it</i> as a financial opportunity. (<i>jobs, growth, health</i>)</p> <p>10. Rather than say council supports, could we not say, for example, that Council "in its decision making, <u>will commit to</u> -"</p>	<p>more than lead or manage the sector. This is aligned with Council's community-led governance approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Point 7 and 8 – The Policy already outlines the key role Council plays in providing infrastructure for arts and cultural activities in 4.3. Point 9 – for broader strategic consideration and currently reflected in Council's Community Economic Development Policy (as per above). An Arts and Cultural Officer is being recruited. Clarification of commitments can continue in subsequent planning documentation and in light of Council's confirmed 2020-21 budget.
Submission 5 E2020/52878	Council has failed to acknowledge the cultural contribution that the screen sector contributes to the Byron Shire and that Council should acknowledge the "Screen" sector in the policy document so that it refers to "arts, screen and culture" throughout the document. This would be in line with Create NSW's support for 'arts, screen and culture'. The film sector has brought significant contributions to Byron Shire which should be acknowledged in this policy.	Whilst the significant contribution of the screen sector to Byron Shire is recognised, the Policy is based on the UNESCO Framework of Cultural Domains. In the Framework, screen is one of approximately 30 sectors, some of which may make similar requests. To single out a specific sector in this way would require broader public consultation and this change can be considered further within subsequent planning processes (commencement of Arts and Cultural Strategic Plan).
Submission 6 E2020/52875	Support for submission to refer to 'Arts, Screen and Culture' throughout the policy.	See point above.
Submission 7 E2020/52876	The policy title would be more accurate for this Shire with the title of - Arts, Screen & Culture Policy 2020. Byron Shire is the largest <u>regional</u> screen industry in Australia is in the Byron Shire/ Northern Rivers region. This is something to both celebrate and acknowledge, as well as to engage with more deeply.	See point above.
Submission 8 E2020/53214	Council has failed to acknowledge the cultural contribution that the screen sector contributes to the Byron Shire and that Council should acknowledge the "Screen" sector in the policy document so that it refers to "arts, screen and culture" throughout the document.	See point above.
Submission 9 E2020/52873	1. A comprehensive in its purview of Council's considerations and responsibilities regarding the arts and culture in Byron Shire,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies outline a governing framework and principles that apply to practice by facilitating, enabling or constraining

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	<p>however I would have thought a policy would be more focused, less generalised.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Suggestions for rearranging the document headings. Feels it needs a 'context' describing the unique challenges in Byron Shire around the tourism economy and commercial activity. 3. Seeking ideas for actions in a strategic plan to be foreshadowed in the policy. 4. Would prefer stronger language such as 'commitments' or 'undertakings' or 'actions'. 5. Part 6 might then be a place to flag a stronger attempt to lobby these bodies for greater funding assistance in line with their acknowledgement of Byron Shire's needs for "appropriate infrastructure". 6. Need for a Strategic Arts and Culture Plan to follow, employment of an Arts and Cultural Officer and timelines or aspirations for large infrastructure such as a dedicated art gallery or museum. 	<p>practice. Policies do not prescribe in detail how a function will be performed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils policies are all developed using a standardised template. • Points 3, 4 and 5 are information for a future strategy. • An Arts and Cultural Officer is being recruited. • The Policy already outlines the key role Council plays in providing infrastructure for arts and cultural activities in 4.3.
Submission 10 E2020/53233	Agree and support the policy, especially striving for more interactivity with the community. However, members of the group feel that Council is not collaborative or easy to deal with.	Appointment of an Arts and Cultural Officer is aimed at improving connections and collaborations within the arts sector. An Arts and Cultural Officer is being recruited.
Submission 11 E2020/53213	Agrees that the Draft and Culture Policy needs to specifically include the extensive screen industry contribution to the local arts industry.	Whilst the significant contribution of the screen sector to Byron Shire is recognised, the Policy is based on the UNESCO Framework of Cultural Domains. In the Framework, screen is one of approximately 30 sectors, some of which may make similar claims. To single out a specific sector in this way would require much broader public consultation and this change is considered premature, prior to a Strategic Planning process commencing.
Submission 12 E2020/53190	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visual art should be specifically mentioned as a priority within the policy. Visuals arts do not have a permanent purpose fitted space to exhibit. 2. As a document the DRAFT POLICY needs to be rewritten by a arts/cultural professional who can differentiate the at present superficially applied arts and cultural terminology. This draft policy is written very broadly, with an abundance of ambiguities in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Policy is based on the UNESCO Framework of Cultural Domains. In the Framework, visual arts is one of approximately 30 sectors, some of which make similar claims. To single out a specific sector in this way would require much broader public consultation and this change is considered premature, prior to a Strategic Planning process commencing.

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	<p>terms, it is extremely vague.</p> <p>3. Numbering error in formatting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lone Goat Gallery provides a permanent purpose fitted space for visual artists to exhibit. • Policy review has been scheduled for 12 months. This allows for the Arts and Culture Officer to complete the review while having had local experience in the role. • Numbering formatting corrected.
<p>Submission 13 E2020/53995</p>	<p>Byron Shire has a significant and diverse range of artists and arts-related businesses, but our region lacks the curatorial leadership, and cultural and community infrastructure, to enable an arts and cultural sector to grow and flourish and reach its full potential. This has social, cultural, but also economic consequences for our region, and the full benefits that transpire from a thriving and inspiring arts and cultural sector remain elusive. Council can and should fill this leadership vacuum by providing cultural and curatorial leadership that coordinates, strengthens and inspires our arts and cultural sectors; leverages additional funding sources to support and grow the arts; builds a reputation for Byron as an inspiring regional arts and cultural hub; and provides a firmer economic and social foundation that supports our creatives, and attracts people to our region who not only appreciate our unique environment but also the art and culture it inspires.</p> <p>The Policy needs to address three important questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What exactly does Council currently do for Arts and Culture? 2. What does Council regard as its role in the Arts and Culture sector? 3. What does Council plan to do for Arts and Culture in the future? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is not the appropriate entity to provide cultural and curatorial leadership in the manner described. • It is proposed that the Arts and Cultural Officer will play a key role in enabling some aspects of this work to happen e.g. leveraging additional funding sources to support and grow the arts. • The Arts and Culture Policy should be read in conjunction with Council's Community Economic Development Policy in relation to creative sector development and additional economic considerations. • What Council does for Arts and Culture is referenced in the policy under 'scope'. • Council's role is outlined in the policy, with an emphasis on enabling and collaborating to achieve goals. • An Arts and Cultural Strategic Plan is to commence in 2020/21.
<p>Submission 14 E2020/53997</p>	<p>Support for submission to refer to 'Arts, Screen and Culture' throughout the policy.</p>	<p>Whilst the significant contribution of the screen sector to Byron Shire is recognised, the Policy is based on the UNESCO Framework of Cultural Domains. In the Framework, screen is one of approximately 30 sectors, some of which may make similar claims. To single out a specific sector in this way would require much broader public consultation and this change is considered premature, prior to a Strategic Planning process commencing.</p>

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Submission 15 E2020/54000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Byron Bay is fast now losing (or has lost) its identity, and becoming an international hotspot famous for being crowded, expensive, and ‘fun for partygoers’. 2. The policy is standard local council rhetoric and is repetitive, and does not actually address the concerns, or acknowledge the practical obstacles and issues. 3. The policy does not address the causes of Byron Shire losing its identity. 4. The state government need to take responsibility for marketing Byron as a tourism mecca. 5. More community spaces are needed to maintain the actual town. The true health of the community should be a priority. There is Crown Land available for this purpose. 6. What really draws people here is not just the environment. It is also the quality of the people, the intelligence, the life and spiritual experience and richness, the Arts and artists in the Shire 7. The cost of housing and studio space is an issue. 8. Administration should be a part of community structure in regional Australia, not a force imposed on the people 9. Keep the Council’s Policies (particularly this Draft) connected to the people, keep it real. Avoid ‘us and them’ in all discussion. 10. Involve the community in evolving the area and give space to local figures and creative visionaries with experience to contribute. Most of the ruined places around Australia are because Councils do not understand the true depths in communities. 11. In the 1990’s the whole town did a six-month Communication and Relating Course. EVERYONE could do with such a refresher, particularly in a place with so many differing views and agendas, and strong wills as here. Council could provide this. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local concerns, obstacles and issues were identified in consultation with the arts and cultural sector and these results directly informed the policy content and development. • The Policy outlines the key role Council plays in providing infrastructure for arts and cultural activities in 4.3. • The policy outlines the importance of the arts and cultural sector to the Byron Shire identity. • The policy outlines that Council will ‘enable’ and ‘collaborate’ more than provide direct service delivery (or lead or manage the sector). This is aligned with community-led governance principles. • The Byron Shire Draft Sustainable Visitation Strategy 2020-2030 was developed after extensive consultation from over 1500 residents, businesses and visitors. The draft Strategy enunciates context, vision, values and themes, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leadership and destination management 2. Repositioning Byron Shire 3. Culture 4. Events 5. Transport, infrastructure and Open Spaces 6. Planning for Visitor Accommodation • Council delivery of communication and relationship education has not been identified as a broader community priority.