

Policy Section:	2. Business Enterprises & Communications
Policy Name:	Art Exhibits & Exhibitions in Council Managed Venues
Classification:	Public – Council Policy
Adopted:	8 March 2022
Frequency of Review:	Four Yearly
Last Review:	February 2022
Next Review Due:	February 2026
Responsible Officer(s):	Manager Business Enterprises and Communications Gawler Civic Centre Operations Coordinator
Policy and Code of Practice Manual File Ref:	CC10/2601
Council File Reference:	CR22/1200
Legislation Authority:	N/A
Related Policies and Codes:	Asset Management Policy Hire of Council Owned Facilities Policy
Related Procedures:	Risk Management

1. BACKGROUND / INTRODUCTION

Art Exhibits and Exhibitions in Council Managed Venues.

- 1.1 The Gawler Community Plan 2030+ recognises that the arts provide an opportunity for council and the community to be engaged and collaborate for social change and growth, while having an ongoing positive contribution to the health and wellbeing of the community.
- 1.2 This policy will allow Council to act as a community and economic enabler in the Arts space without significant outlay or resourcing, by supporting arts and culture hubs through providing an avenue to exhibit visual artworks within existing Council managed venues.
- 1.3 Art exhibitions provide another opportunity for Council to allow for improved community access and use of Council managed venues, facilities and meeting rooms, some of which are available for hire for commercial, community or private purposes in line with Hire of Council Owned Facilities Policy.

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2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 This policy will clearly state Council's position in regard to the display and sale of art and provide guidance to its staff for the assessment and display of sensitive pieces of artwork within Council property.
- 2.2 The existence of this policy will assist Council to provide and support local artists in a fair and consistent manner.
- 2.3 To enable Council to be a leader, advocate and supporter for the development of the Arts within Gawler region, Art Exhibitions in Council managed venues will:
 - 2.3.1 Promote cultural heritage and the creative sector to build community spirit and pride.
 - 2.3.2 Allow implementation of Art and Culture strategic themes – Place, Activity and People – across the community.
 - 2.3.3 Encourage the development of the Arts and the creative sector of the community by allowing broad participation of artists to display their work within Council property where Council has designated an event or area for this to occur.
 - 2.3.4 Support the establishment of a centrally located, multi-purpose arts and cultural facility that provides flexible spaces to accommodate, amongst other things, an art gallery, the Gawler Heritage Collection and areas that support artist's creative practice.
 - 2.3.5 Provide opportunities for local artists to be involved in and contribute to the activation of community spaces.

3. POLICY PRINCIPLES

- 3.1 To ensure a diverse exhibition program is created which has a particular relevance to visitors and the residents of the Council area:
 - 3.1.1 The exhibition program will provide for exhibitions by community groups or individuals following submission of an Application to Exhibit. Applications will be assessed according to the policy objective and principles, the quality of the items to be displayed, the interpretation of the items and the ability of the group/ individual to independently install, monitor and dismantle the exhibition.
 - 3.1.2 The number of times per year an Exhibitor or Organisation are featured in the exhibition program will be determined subject to demand with the key objective of the program to allow for broad community use.
 - 3.1.3 The exhibition program may occasionally include exhibitions from external sources such as packaged travelling exhibitions and exhibitions arranged with other institutions. All such exhibitions are to be of a high professional standard and must support the policy objectives.
- 3.2 The exhibition program will:
 - 3.2.1 Allow for individual exhibitions to be scheduled for a period of 3 weeks unless otherwise negotiated;
 - 3.2.2 Integrate works of art into the community so the community is regularly exposed to quality exhibitions;

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- 3.2.3 Encourage the exhibitions of high quality community art with priority given to community groups based in Gawler or those individuals who live, work or attend school in the Town of Gawler region;
 - 3.2.4 Assist in building a community identity reflecting people's experience of life and the culture and interests of the community;
 - 3.2.5 Represent the environment and encompass a sense of history, people, place and identity which indicates the dynamic nature of the community;
 - 3.2.6 Provide for special focus exhibitions such as national and international exhibitions acknowledging national and international occasions including events such as National Reconciliation Week, Senior Citizens Week, ANZAC Day and other similar recognition events.
- 3.3 The Exhibiting Artist/Organisation will:
- 3.3.1 Complete a 'Town of Gawler Application to Exhibit' form and agree to the 'Exhibition Agreement Terms and Conditions' for the relevant venue(s) prior to being considered for inclusion in the Exhibition Program;
 - 3.3.2 Pay any fees stipulated under the Exhibition Agreement Terms and Conditions.
 - 3.3.3 Provide Council the "Right of reproduction" of all entries in any exhibition for the purpose of promotion or Council record keeping requirements.
 - 3.3.4 Only exhibit works which were created by the artist/s and do not breach defamation, privacy or intellectual property and copyright laws, may be exhibited.
 - 3.3.5 Manage any sales of exhibits in line with Council Exhibition Terms and conditions.
- 3.4 Council will retain the right to refuse an exhibition or exhibit, if they believe the theme or specific artworks are not in keeping with the values of the community - the contents of any exhibition must be appropriate for a general public space being viewed by the general public.
- 3.5 Council reserve the right to refuse a work or exhibition for reasons based on installation, technical, technological restrictions or ideological reasons.
- 3.6 Council's facilities are not primarily art galleries and the Exhibition Spaces are frequented by the general community who may not otherwise have chosen to seek out art. Some artworks may be seen as confronting, distressing or offensive to the general community. The artwork may be set-aside prior to or during an Exhibition if a concern or complaint is received. The artwork will then be reviewed by Council to determine suitability for continued display. If artwork has been assessed and excluded from the exhibition, the submitting artist will be provided with reasonable explanation for refusal.
- 3.7 Council reserves the right to cancel an exhibition if any of the terms and conditions are contravened or unforeseen circumstances arise.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 This policy sits within the Business Enterprises and Communications Division however staff from other divisions may be asked to perform duties to ensure the policy is delivered across a number of identified venues.

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- 4.1.1 The Gawler Civic Centre Operations Coordinator (GCCOC) will coordinate the annual Exhibition Program in consultation with venue managers (or delegates) across the designated Council venues.
- 4.1.2 Staff of the venues with established Exhibition Spaces will assist the GCCOC in the development of a schedule of exhibitions for their venue which accommodates other events and priorities for that venue or division.

5. VENUES

This policy applies to any Council managed venue that is appropriately fitted with a gallery hanging system or display cases in the publicly accessible areas, thereby creating Exhibition Spaces for the display of community art.

6. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy the following definitions apply:

- 6.1 **Community Organisation** means a not-for-profit organisation from the local community who have an inclusive membership structure.

Council Managed Venues refers to Council managed and operated venues and does not apply to Council owned buildings where Council acts as a landlord and the venue is managed and operated by other organisations under a lease agreement or license agreement.

Exhibition means event(s) where works which may include art, sculpture, ceramics, crafts, models, photographs or jewellery are on display to the public on walls, in display cases or other suitable means, if available.

Exhibition Program means the schedule of various exhibitions & arts events assigned for a period of 12 months or more across Council venues.

Exhibition Spaces means publicly accessible areas within a Council managed venue that have been fitted with a gallery hanging system and/or appropriate display cases suitable for the display of artworks.

Exhibitor means the person involved in putting their work on public display.

7. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

- 7.1 The effectiveness of this Policy will be reviewed every four years.
- 7.2 The Chief Executive Officer will report to Council on the outcome of the evaluation and if relevant make recommendations for amendments, alteration or substitution of a new Policy.
- 7.3 The Policy will not be altered or substituted so as to affect a process already commenced.

8. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about this Policy can be obtained by:-

Telephone: 8522 9211
Email: council@gawler.sa.gov.au
Appointment: Town of Gawler Administration Centre, 43 High Street, Gawler East.
Letter: PO Box 130, Gawler SA 5118

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9. AVAILABILITY OF POLICY

- 9.1 The Policy is available for inspection during ordinary business hours at the Council principal office, Town of Gawler Administration Centre 43 High Street, Gawler East or is available on the Council website at www.gawler.sa.gov.au.
- 9.2 A copy of this Policy will be provided to interested parties upon request, for a fee as contained in the Register of Fees and Charges.