

<b>POL</b>	<b>CITY OF COCKBURN ART COLLECTION</b>	<b>ACS14</b>
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<b>POLICY CODE:</b>	ACS14
<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	Governance & Community Services
<b>BUSINESS UNIT:</b>	Corporate Communications
<b>SERVICE UNIT:</b>	Events & Culture
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Cultural Development Co-ordinator
<b>FILE NO.:</b>	182/001
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<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	N/A
<b>DELEGATED AUTHORITY REF.:</b>	ACS14
<b>VERSION NO.</b>	2

<b>Dates of Amendments / Reviews:</b>	
DAPPS Meeting:	26 May 2016 25 August 2016
OCM:	9 June 2016

## **BACKGROUND:**

Councils have long been involved in the collection of works of art and items that reflect local heritage.

The City of Cockburn has traditionally purchased works from the annual Cockburn Community and Cultural Council art and craft exhibition specifically from the 'Aspects of Cockburn' category and the City's own 'Show Off' art exhibition. There are also many opportunities for quality works to be purchased via exhibitions, artist studio visits within Cockburn and broader afield such as Sculptures by the Sea.

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the City's art collection is to build a collection that reflects the history, people, place and diverse cultural identity of Cockburn. This will be achieved by purchasing works of the highest affordable quality.

## **POLICY:**

In order for the City of Cockburn art collection to grow and develop the City will

- Collect innovative contemporary art that reflects the City's diverse community. This will include purchasing of local Aboriginal art works.
- Collect two and three dimensional works in all media with reference to the existing strengths of the collection.
- Collect works by significant artists who have lived in or worked in or have a strong connection with the City of Cockburn.

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- Primarily purchase from Cockburn Community and Cultural Council Art and Craft exhibition and the City of Cockburn's Show Off Art exhibition with the ability to purchase works from other exhibitions which may include Cockburn artists.
- Allocate an annual budget to acquire, install, insure, conserve, value and document works as necessary.

(1) Scope

The policy applies to all movable art works accessioned by the City of Cockburn which does not include objects listed in the register of Public Art Works or holdings of the Azelia Ley Museum or entrance signs and memorials.

(2) Acquisition Criteria:

Acquisitions into the collection are made through:

- Purchase, commission, donation or bequest;
- Items obtained or acquired by the City of Cockburn.
- Purchase of artwork may be made within the available adopted budget funds, or as agreed by the CEO based on advice from the City's Cultural Development Coordinator or professional external advice if deemed necessary.
- There may also be opportunity from time to time to commission an art work to celebrate a milestone or special event for the City,
- The City of Cockburn is neither bound to acquire work nor accept donations

Artwork acquisition will be based on the following criteria;

- Excellence – in the quality and execution of artwork and or artist
- Originality – artwork is not a copy
- Local – supporting local artists residing in Cockburn
- Interpretation – The artwork reflects the City's history, sense of place or culture.
- Feasibility – affordability, long term cultural benefit or investment potential.

(3) Management:

The City of Cockburn will determine the long term management, acquisition, display, maintenance, valuation and deaccessioning process of the collection.

The collection is to be handled and relocated as decided by the City.

All works will be documented and maintained appropriately through an asset listing.

Budgets allocated to the care and maintenance of the collection will be in line with asset management strategies and developed in accordance with them.

The collection will be valued to its replacement value in accordance with Local Government Accounting Regulation AAS27.

Regular collection valuations shall be undertaken by a suitably qualified art valuer and recorded on the City of Cockburn asset register.

Collection insurance will be maintained at the current valuation through standard City Of Cockburn procedure.

(4) Display & Access

Artworks are to be displayed in the most appropriate location, taking into account preservation factors, historical significance, value, environmental conditions and security. No artwork shall be placed on display if the condition of that object could be seriously impaired.

Artworks may be displayed in public spaces in the City of Cockburn Administration building, Operations Centre, Libraries, seniors centre or other areas where they can be securely displayed.

Information about artworks will be made available to the public via the website and signage/plaque accompanying the artwork to acknowledge the artist and artwork title.

(5) Conservation

The City will ensure that the artworks in the collection are correctly documented with respect to ownership, condition and need for conservation treatment. Any conservation treatment will be carried out by qualified personnel and will be documented for future reference.

The location of every artwork will be recorded with periodic checks on artwork condition carried out and documented.

The collection should be stored securely and, wherever possible, to museum industry standards of preservation such as:

- A clean and organised space.
- Sufficient space to allow safe movement of larger artworks.
- Security from un-authorized-staff handling/relocating of artworks.
- Protected from pollutants and pests.
- Protected from damp, mould or water ingress and excessive dust.
- Lighting conditions that limit deterioration of susceptible artworks.
- A satisfactory compromise between long-term preservation and accessibility of artworks.

(6) Decommissioning & Disposal

1. Council retains the right to dispose of artwork if it
  - (a) Does not comply with the collection areas specified in this Policy;
  - (b) Is not deemed to be complimentary to existing holdings;
  - (c) Is of insignificant historical, artistic or archival value;
  - (d) Is damaged beyond repair; or
  - (e) Is stolen, either in whole or in part, and cannot be recovered
2. Disposal of the artwork should see the work returned to the donor, family or artist. If after a thorough search this is impossible, the artwork should be;
  - (a) Transferred to another appropriate institution;
  - (b) Sold by public auction, where appropriate;
  - (c) Used as an educative/interpretive tool; or
  - (d) Destroyed or recycled, if appropriate

(7) Loans

The City of Cockburn has the right to accept or refuse any loans of artwork from outside organisations. Any loan will need to be agreed to by both parties and a formal letter of agreement will be signed by both parties clearly stating what the responsibilities of each party are in relation to the loaned works.

The City will only make outward loans, of for a specified period of time, to parties that can offer secure and appropriate physical environments that meet recognised industry standards for display and storage. All requests for outward loans must be made in writing to the Chief Executive Officer.

All loans will be recorded in the Art Collection Database and an artwork condition report undertaken upon dispatch and return.

(8) Donations & Bequests

Gifts of artwork that will enhance the City's collection and are consistent with this policy should be encouraged and will be managed via a memorandum of understanding between the City of Cockburn and the donor.

Conditional donations will be discouraged and other than in exceptional circumstances donors of the work will relinquish all rights except copyright to the artwork if the donor is the copyright holder.

(9) Definitions

1. *Artwork*: refers to a physical two or three dimensional object that fulfils a primary independent aesthetic function this and may be permanent or ephemeral in nature.

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2. *Artist:* A person who has specialist training within their field and is involved in the creation of art demonstrated through participation in exhibitions, performances and commissions.
3. *Memorabilia:* Memento or keepsake ~~refers~~ referring to an object treasured and esteemed for its memory connected to a specific event or place.