

CITY OF SOUTH PERTH  
**CULTURAL PLAN**

2023-2028



DISCOVER, CREATE AND ENGAGE



Credit: Djoona Dancers

## Acknowledgement of Country

Kaartdjinin Nidja Nyungar Whadjuk Boodjar Koora Nidja Djining Noonakoort kaardijin wangkiny, maam, gnarnk and boordier Nidja Whadjul kura kura.

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the traditional custodians of this land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation and the Elders past and present.

Cover artwork credit:  
*Mends Street Mob* by Mikaela Castledine



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## BACKGROUND



### Inaugural Cultural Plan

In December 2018, the City of South Perth (the City) developed its inaugural Cultural Plan 2019-2023 that was subsequently endorsed by Council. The initial Cultural Plan provided a framework for arts and culture across the City, encouraging new opportunities, enhancing existing cultural assets and appropriately allocating resources in line with community need. The initial Cultural Plan had a broad scope and included some content and actions relating to a diverse range of topics including reconciliation, economic development, youth services, and accessibility. Since that time, the City has developed other specific operational planning documents addressing these areas, including: Public Art Masterplan, Reconciliation Action Plan, Economic Development Plan, Youth Plan, Public Health Plan, Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan and Access and Inclusion Plan. More information can be found on the City's website [southperth.wa.gov.au](https://southperth.wa.gov.au)

### Revised Cultural Plan

During 2022/23, the City undertook an internal review of its initial Cultural Plan as it was nearing the end of its lifecycle. This led to the development of a revised Cultural Plan 2023-2028 that is more streamlined as it is focused on the 'BEAM' cultural model, which is universally recognised as best practice for defining 'culture'. Additionally, the actions within the revised Cultural Plan have been refined and targeted to avoid duplication and optimise compatibility with the City's other associated operational planning documents mentioned above. The revised Cultural Plan aims to capitalise on the progress made over the previous four years, as well as identify new opportunities to grow the City's cultural uniqueness through the provision of distinctive community events, public art, cultural activities, and cultural facilities that best meets the community's cultural needs now and into the future.

# STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The City of South Perth’s vision is for “A city of active places and beautiful spaces. A connected community with easily accessible, vibrant neighbourhoods and a unique, sustainable natural environment.”

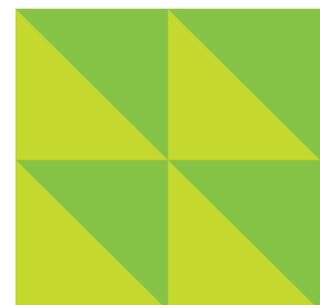
The Cultural Plan supports the delivery of the Strategic Community Plan 2021-31 by addressing the below strategies:

## Strategic Community Plan 2021-31

Strategic Direction	Aspiration	Outcomes	Strategies
<b>Community</b>	Our diverse community is inclusive, safe, connected and engaged	1.1 CULTURE AND COMMUNITY	1.1.1 Develop and facilitate events, services and programs to respond to community needs and priorities 1.1.2 Facilitate and create opportunities for inclusive and cohesive social, cultural and healthy activity in the City 1.1.3 Celebrate, support and value heritage and culture within the City for present and future generations
<b>Policy P103 - Economy Engagement</b>	A thriving City activated by attractions and opportunities that encourage investment and economic development	2.2 ACTIVATED PLACES	2.2.1 Facilitate events that support local business 2.2.2 Enable the establishment of activities centres and neighbourhood hubs that offer diverse and viable mix of uses 2.2.3 Facilitate increased use of and visitation to City assets and destinations

In addition, the City of South Perth Corporate Business Plan lists the following culture and community deliverables:

- Plan, implement and deliver high quality events and cultural initiatives for the community during the arts, events and culture season
- Implement the actions as detailed in the City’s Cultural Plan.





## DEFINING CULTURE

**Culture is mostly commonly associated with visual arts, literature or performing arts, however it also applies more broadly to the way we live, work and play.**

The **BEAM** culture model breaks culture into the below categories:

- **B**elief and value – Ethnicity, religion, education
- **E**veryday lifestyle – Food, language, media
- **A**rts and creation – Arts, creative industries, intellectual property
- **M**emories and tradition – Monuments/historic buildings, libraries/archives, intangible cultural heritage.

Source: *BEAM Culture Theory*, Louis Yu, 2022

The Cultural Plan 2023-2028 reflects this broad scope, and the role that local government can play in creating an environment to foster culture.

## NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY – ‘REVIVE’

In February 2023, the Federal Government released the National Cultural Policy titled ‘Revive’, which is a five-year plan to position arts, culture and heritage central to Australia’s future. At the heart of this Policy is the goal to ensure there is *‘A place for every story, and a story for every place.’*

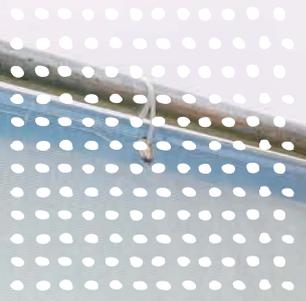
One of the 10 principles of the National Cultural Policy is that *‘All Australians, regardless of language, literacy, geography, age or education, have the opportunity to access and participate in arts and culture.’* The City plays a key role in facilitating this vision at a local level, by facilitating free or low-cost opportunities to participate in cultural events and activities that are accessible to all.

Some of the key content from Revive is shown below:

“Culture then, is the sum of our stories and our music, of our paintings and our craft, our films and our games, our songs and our dance, our architecture and design, as well as the history of our wars and conflicts, our arguments, and accords. It is the story of our comings and goings, our migrations. Culture is also constantly being created and reenergised in the here and now. It is how we play together, entertain each other, inform, enrage and engage with each other. Culture is never THE story of us. Culture is dynamic. Culture is a force.

It is not the role of governments to create culture. Let’s leave that to the artists, makers and storytellers — the creative practitioners. The government’s role is to invest in our creative infrastructure. To preserve the structures and facilities that make cultural memory possible: our libraries and museums, our galleries and archives, our national broadcasters.”

Source: *National Cultural Policy ‘Revive’*, Australian Government, 2023

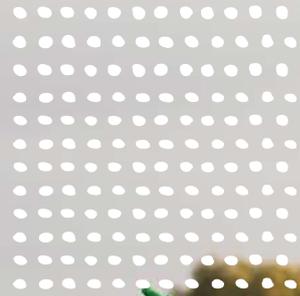




# RECENT CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## Some of the cultural successes achieved under the inaugural Cultural Plan 2019-2023 included:

- **Art Exhibitions** – Emerging Art Award, Manning Box Gallery exhibitions, and public art commissions.
- **Civic and Community Events** – South Perth Sounds Concerts, Southside Summer events, Citizenship Ceremonies, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day.
- **Community Cultural Development and Partnering** – provision of community development funding to a range of local community organisations and businesses to deliver arts and cultural projects. Additionally, the City partnered or supported various local community organisations involved in the delivery of cultural projects and activities, such as Abmusic Aboriginal Corporation, Curate Arts, Djinda Boodja, Manning and South Perth Senior Citizen Centres, Manning Men’s Shed, Moorditj Keila, South Perth Learning Centre, South Perth Arts and Crafts Society, and South Perth Historical Society.
- **Cultural Facilities** – a number of indoor and outdoor spaces were used for cultural events, programs and activities, such as Clontarf/Waterford/Salter Point Foreshore, Challenger Reserve, Collins Street Centre, Comer Reserve, George Burnett Leisure Centre, Hazel McDougall House, Heritage House, James Miller Oval, John McGrath Pavilion and Hall, Manning Hub, Manning and South Perth Libraries, Manning and South Perth Senior Citizen Centres, Manning Men’s Shed, Mindeerup, Moresby Street Hall, Neil McDougall Park, Old Mill, Old Mill Theatre, Perth Zoo, Ryrie Reserve, Sir James Mitchell Park, South Perth Community Hall, South Perth Learning Centre, and Windsor Park.
- **Cultural Funding** – External funding was secured by the City to offset costs for cultural projects and facilities including through Lotterywest, Department of Communities, Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries, National Australia Day Council, National Library of Australia, and corporate sponsorship.
- **Cultural Projects and Programs** – Evolve arts and skills development workshops, NAIDOC Week Celebrations.
- **Library Events and Programs** – Words with Wine, Ex-Bo Crafting, Be Connected, SPYWA, Reflect, Get the Facts, Mind Lounge.
- **Master-planning and Policy Development** – creation of Public Art Masterplan, development of Art Collection Policy, Developer Contribution to Public Art Policy, Library Programs and Services Policy, Library Collection Policy and Local History Collection Policy.





# STRATEGY AREAS

## 1. CULTURAL IDENTITY: EVENTS, ACTIVATIONS AND PROGRAMS

– Develop, promote and deliver events, activations and programs that highlight the City’s unique cultural identity and creativity.

## 2. CULTURAL HERITAGE

– To value, protect and preserve our cultural heritage.

## 3. PUBLIC ART AND ART COLLECTION

– To build our quality public art collection and make it accessible to our community.

## 4. COMMUNITY CONNECTION AND COLLABORATION

– To facilitate cultural activities for all and enhance community wellbeing through participation.

## 5. CULTURAL PLANNING & PLACES

– To provide opportunities and space to foster creativity now and in the future.

## 6. CREATIVE ECONOMY

– To support the local economy through cultural activity.

For each Strategy Area, the City’s level of involvement (and potential involvement) is outlined within the following categories:

- **Planner** – The City identifies community requirements for services and infrastructure and ensures mechanisms are in place to meet these requirements.
- **Supporter** – The City provides support for community organisations and clubs. This support is delivered through a number of methods including the use of community owned facilities; the provision of funding; and providing access to information resources.
- **Partner** – The City will partner with organisations that share a similar goal allowing for a pooling of resources. These partnerships will be on an informal and/or formal ‘service agreement’ basis as required.
- **Coordinator** – The City brings together stakeholders to plan and develop the joint provision of services and infrastructure.
- **Provider** – The City manages one of its own facilities or is solely responsible for the delivery of a service. Income and expenditure is determined by the City’s annual budget process.

# 1. CULTURAL IDENTITY: EVENTS, ACTIVATIONS AND PROGRAMS

**Goal – To develop, promote and deliver events, activations and programs that highlight the City’s unique cultural identity and creativity.**

**Overview:** The City has a proud history of providing quality cultural experiences that are accessible to all. Our prominent position on the banks of the Derbal Yerrigan (Swan River) and Djarlgarro Beelieer (Canning River) provides us an opportunity to display our cultural strengths to the Greater Perth area and beyond, but also to establish and develop our own unique local cultural identity.

Ref	Action	City Involvement	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
1.1	Facilitate or support larger-scale community events and cultural initiatives targeted at local, regional and state-wide audiences	Planner, Supporter, Partner, Coordinator, or Provider		✓			✓
1.2	Facilitate and provide local community events, cultural initiatives, and festivals that reflect and celebrate cultural identity	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.3	Facilitate and provide local cultural awards	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.4	Collect and share local stories through cultural and local history programs	Planner, Coordinator and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.5	Provide programs and activities that encourage creative expression, education and personal development	Planner, Coordinator and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



## 2. CULTURAL HERITAGE

### Goal – To value, protect and preserve our cultural heritage.

**Overview:** The City has a unique heritage that has shaped its identity. From the deep history of the Beeloo Noongar people, to the present-day, the stories collectively shape our complex heritage that we have a responsibility to preserve for the benefit of future generations.

Ref	Action	City Involvement	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
2.1	Facilitate projects which interpret and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the City	Planner, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2.2	Support community groups/organisations that invigorate and promote cultural heritage	Planner, Supporter, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2.3	Promote the use (formal and informal) of local cultural and heritage sites across the City	Planner, Supporter, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2.4	Facilitate cultural projects that value and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and knowledge	Planner, Supporter, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



### 3. PUBLIC ART AND ART COLLECTION

**Goal – To build our quality public art collection and make it accessible to our community.**

**Overview:** Art and public art has an important role in place activation; creating community pride; strengthening connections between people; providing landmarks; and enhancing access and understanding of the natural environment, local history and heritage. The City’s art collection contains an assortment of public artworks, in addition to paintings, sculptures and historical artworks that are displayed throughout the City’s civic buildings. The May and Herbert Gibbs collection, which makes up a part of the City’s art collection, is stored at Heritage House and exhibited periodically.

Ref	Action	City Involvement	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
3.1	Integrate public art into City and/or private developments in accordance with the associated policy	Planner, Coordinator and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.2	Optimise accessibility of the City’s art collection by improving physical access and online digital access to local artworks	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓			
3.3	Develop opportunities for temporary and ephemeral public art projects	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.4	Foster best practice management of the City’s art collection and public artworks	Planner and Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



## 4. COMMUNITY CONNECTION AND COLLABORATION

**Goal – To facilitate cultural activities for all and enhance community wellbeing through participation.**

Overview: Supporting community-based organisations to run cultural activities and events can provide ongoing benefits that are felt throughout the community. One of the key principles of the ‘Revive’ National Cultural Policy is that *‘All Australians, regardless of language, literacy, geography, age or education have the opportunity to access and participate in arts and culture.’*

Ref	Action	City Involvement	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
4.1	Initiate, facilitate and support community cultural development activities that reduce isolation and enhance wellbeing for targeted populations	Planner, Supporter, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.2	Encourage and nurture partnerships with local schools, sporting clubs, community groups and neighbouring local government authorities to deliver and support cultural programs, initiatives and facilities	Planner, Supporter, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.3	Provide opportunities for the development of projects that can facilitate intergenerational connections, knowledge-sharing and storytelling	Planner, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.4	Optimise sponsorship and grant opportunities to support cultural program delivery	Planner, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

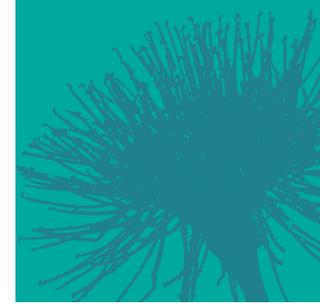


## 5. CULTURAL PLANNING & PLACES

**Goal – To provide opportunities and space to foster creativity now and in the future.**

**Overview:** In 2022 local governments from the inner-city suburbs of the Perth metropolitan area participated in a cultural project titled ‘Making Space for Culture’. This project anticipated increases in the number of residential and commercial developments in the inner city into the future that would create an exciting opportunity for strategic investment in the arts and culture industry through percent for art schemes, developer contribution schemes and other related schemes. This investment in tandem with the creative use of existing cultural spaces would assist the City to respond more effectively to community demand for cultural infrastructure.

Ref	Action	City Involvement	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
5.1	Provide event infrastructure and technology in relevant City parks and facilities	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.2	Promote the diverse use of local indoor and outdoor spaces for community cultural activities and activations, including non-traditional spaces	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.3	Promote the City’s libraries as centralised ‘community hubs’ that enhance cultural connections and contribute to community wellbeing	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.4	Promote activation of the City’s parks and reserves by programming appropriate events and activities	Planner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



## 6. CREATIVE ECONOMY

### Goal – To support the local economy through cultural activity.

**Overview:** Arts and events can be a vital tool in improving local economies by increasing visitation to nearby businesses, offering opportunities to suppliers, and improving the vibrancy of reserves and precincts. The National Cultural Policy also notes that artistic and cultural work is a professional activity, and fair remuneration is a key concern of arts and cultural workers.

Ref	Action	City Involvement	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
6.1	Encourage the growth of local business by supporting activities such as 'Buy Local-Shop Local campaign', community markets and 'pop ups' and integrating these into community and cultural events	Planner, Partner and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6.2	Provide financial support to local community and cultural groups through the City's Community Funding Program	Supporter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6.3	Support the creative sector by providing and promoting opportunities for artists and cultural practitioners, such as artists in residence; and expressions of interest for commissions	Supporter and/or Provider	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*As well as insecure work and gender inequality, many submissions to the National Cultural Policy consultation process raised remuneration, including a basic income for artists. The Government recognises that artistic and cultural work is a professional activity and that fair pay and conditions for arts and cultural workers are essential.'*

Source: *National Cultural Policy 'Revive'*, Australian Government, 2023



## **RESOURCING OF THE PLAN**

The Cultural Plan is intended to be delivered over a period of five financial years from 2023/24 to 2027/28 inclusive. Funds required for resourcing the Plan will be sought using a combination of City funds, external funding and/or contributions from external stakeholders, and will be requested as part of the annual operational budget process for assessment by Council.

## **MONITORING & REVIEWING**

The Action Plan contained within this Cultural Plan should be read as a guide only and will be subject to an annual review to align with current and emerging community needs and organisational priorities. The associated timeframes will be adjusted accordingly. The outcomes of actions within the Plan will be measured and reviewed annually as a part of the City's annual business planning process. Measuring the success of the actions related to the delivery of the Cultural Plan will vary according to the project, program or service. All actions will be measured using a range of tools and methods e.g. both qualitative and quantitative data. The actual timing for implementation of the Action Plan will be subject to being able to source the required funds through the City's annual budget process and/or external funding. Progress reports for the community will be provided via the City's quarterly reporting and annual reporting processes.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This revised Cultural Plan has been prepared by the City of South Perth and included reference to previous community and stakeholder engagement submitted during the development of the City's inaugural Cultural Plan. The City would like to thank everyone who contributed to this process. This support and involvement has created a revised Cultural Plan that will provide clear direction on the provision of a range of cultural programs, services, facilities and initiatives, which will assist current and future generations to celebrate our community's culture.

The City looks forward to working in collaboration with the community and other stakeholders to enhance local cultural vitality throughout the duration of the Cultural Plan.

This Plan is available in alternative formats upon request including Braille, large print, electronically by email and in audio format on CD.

National Relay Service (NRS): 13 36 77

Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS): 131 450



Artwork credit: *Something for Cathy* by George Domahidy

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### **Civic Centre**

9474 0777

Cnr Sandgate St & South Tce,  
South Perth WA 6151  
Fax 9474 2425

[southperth.wa.gov.au](http://southperth.wa.gov.au)

### **Recycling Centre**

9474 0970

Hayman Rd & Thelma St, Como  
[enquiries@southperth.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@southperth.wa.gov.au)

### **Animal Care Facility**

9474 0777

199 Thelma St, Como

### **Ferry Tram**

9474 0777

Windsor Park, Cnr Mends St &  
Mill Point Rd, South Perth

### **George Burnett Leisure Centre**

9474 0855

Manning Rd, Karawara  
[leisurecentre@southperth.wa.gov.au](mailto:leisurecentre@southperth.wa.gov.au)

### **South Perth Library**

9474 0800

Cnr Sandgate St & South Tce,  
South Perth  
[southperthlib@southperth.wa.gov.au](mailto:southperthlib@southperth.wa.gov.au)

### **Manning Library**

9474 0822

2 Conochie Cres, Manning  
[manninglib@southperth.wa.gov.au](mailto:manninglib@southperth.wa.gov.au)

### **Old Mill**

9367 5788

Melville Pl, South Perth  
[oldmill@southperth.wa.gov.au](mailto:oldmill@southperth.wa.gov.au)

### **South Perth Senior Citizens**

9367 9880

53 Coode St, South Perth  
[spsc@bigpond.com](mailto:spsc@bigpond.com)

### **Manning Senior Citizens**

9450 6273

3 Downey Dr (off Ley St),  
Manning  
[manningseniors@bigpond.com](mailto:manningseniors@bigpond.com)

### **Graffiti Hotline**

1800 007 774

### **Collier Park Golf Course**

9484 1666

Hayman Rd, Como  
[collierparkgolf.com.au](http://collierparkgolf.com.au)

### **Collier Park Village**

9313 0200

16 Morrison St, Como

9474 0777

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