

Responsible Directorate	Community Development
Responsible Business Unit/s	Customer and Communications
Responsible Officer	Manager Customer and Communications
Affected Business Unit/s	All

Objective

The City’s Visual Art Collection represents a cultural and financial investment for the City. It provides opportunities for our community to engage with the arts whilst also supporting Western Australian and Australian artists. The objective of this policy is to provide a framework for the maintenance, development and management of this significant and quality collection.

Scope

This policy applies to all artworks accessioned in to the City’s Visual Art Collection (excepting public art). It is relevant to the City’s Elected Members, Chief Executive Officer, Executive Team and Officers as well as Artists and Arts industry professionals.

Policy

The City will ensure its Visual Art Collection is:

- Maintained;
- Developed; and
- Made accessible to the community.

1. Maintaining the Visual Art Collection

The City will maintain its Visual Art Collection by:

- Allocating funds annually for maintenance and archiving;
- Keeping and regularly updating a Visual Art Collection Register; and
- Regularly performing valuation and condition assessments.

2. Developing the Visual Art Collection

The City acquires new artworks from funds allocated annually, the biennial Art Awards and Exhibition and the Honorary Freemans of the City portraits.

To ensure that the Visual Art Collection remains culturally significant the City will allocate a annual budget for Visual Art Collection acquisitions. Furthermore, to ensure that the City develops a significant collection of artworks by Australian Aboriginal Artists, a minimum of 25% of the allocated budget is to be spent on Australian Aboriginal Art.

The City’s Arts Officer or nominated Art Curator recommends Artworks for acquisition based on the following Visual Art Collection criteria and priorities:

2.1 Visual Art Collection Acquisition Criteria

- Capacity to build on existing Art Collection strengths or fill prominent gaps;
- Minimal duplication of existing artworks or Artists already represented;
- High artistic value, technical standards and quality; and
- Diverse in art forms and approach.

2.2 Acquisition Priorities

Priority 1 – Local Identity

The City strives to acquire artwork that is:

- Responsive to the cultural identity, character and aspirations of the City (which includes artwork by artists residing within the City of Stirling);
- Inspired by and/or reflecting places, people, activities, communities or events relevant to the City; and
- By contemporary Western Australian artists.

Priority 2 – Australian or International

On occasion acquisitions of artworks by Australian artists not living within Western Australia and International artworks will be considered.

The City will consider visual artwork donations and gifts based on the above criteria, priorities and adherence to this policy, as well as philanthropic monetary donations.

3. Accessing the Visual Art Collection

In accordance with the objective to increase knowledge, engagement and participation in the Arts, the City will ensure that the community has access to the Art Collection and will enable this by:

- Displaying artworks in City buildings accessed by the public, such as the Civic and Administration Centre, libraries, recreation centres and other community facilities;
- Regular promotion of artworks within the Visual Art Collection through marketing and communications, publications and special exhibitions; and
- Maintaining an online public database and gallery of the City's Visual Art Collection.

4. Copyright and Moral Rights

The City will adhere to the legislative requirements of the Copyright Act 1968 and will not knowingly infringe or allow others to infringe on Copyright held by Artists in their work.

The City will abide by the legislative Moral Rights of Artists, that is to ensure the right of attribution; right against false attribution and the right of integrity in their work is upheld.

Definitions

Artist refers to a person who meets at least two of the following criteria:

- Has a University or other qualification in visual or fine arts, or other art forms where relevant;
- Has had work purchased for major public collections, including (but not limited to) the Art Gallery of Western Australia, any university collections or other significant collections;
- Has a track record of exhibiting their own original artworks at reputable art galleries;
- Earns more than 50% of their income from arts related activities, such as teaching, selling artwork or undertaking art commissions;
- Is a practicing artist residing within the City of Stirling; and/or

- Is a young, emerging, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) and/or Aboriginal Artist studying or practicing contemporary art.

Visual Artwork may include painting, prints, drawings, Artist’s books and archival material, photography, sculpture, multimedia and works across other art mediums.

Visual Art Collection refers to all artworks belonging to and managed by the City, as listed on the Art Collection register, excluding objects listed in the City’s History Collection.

Relevant management practices/documents

- Art Collection Register
- Reconciliation Action Plan 2021 - 2023
- Honorary Freeman of the City of Stirling Policy
- Asset Management Plan

Legislation/local law requirements

Not applicable.

Office use only			
Relevant delegations	Purchase Orders		
Initial Council adoption	Date 31 October 2000	Resolution #	Item 11.2/LAC1
Last reviewed	Date 7 December 2021	Resolution #	1221/008
Next review due	Date 2023		