Art and Cultural Policy

CONTROL:

Policy Type:	Community
Authorised by:	Council
Head of Power:	Local Government Act 2009
Responsible Officer:	Community Services Manager
Responsibilities:	
Adopted / Approved:	21 September 2026; Resolution 2026/199
Last Reviewed:	September 2026
Review:	September 2029 Note: This Policy is to be reviewed every three (3) years; however Community Consultation is to be undertaken *annually* to inform future bids for RADF funding.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Policy is to promote and support an integrated cultural development policy within our region. The policy seeks to enrich the lives of residents and visitors, strengthen community identity, contribute to social, cultural and economic wellbeing throughout Bulloo region.

1.2 POLICY OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this Policy are as follows:

(a) To support and encourage youth of the region to express and develop their own culture;

(b) To retain senior citizens within the region so they may pass on their knowledge of tradition and histories;

(c) To develop civic pride by improving the physical surroundings within the region;

(d) To preserve the heritage sites within the region;

(e) To develop cultural tourism within the region;

(f) To identify and encourage artists and arts and cultural workers within the region;

(g) To encourage integration and acceptance of new community members within the region;

(h) Policy development and review; and

(i) Encourage economic development through culture and the arts.

1.3 COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY:

This Policy will commence on adoption. It replaces all other specific Art and Cultural policies of Council (whether written or not).

1.4 SCOPE:

This policy applies to all Council employees.

2. POLICY

2.1 CONTEXT:

The region has a strong community spirit largely because of its isolation. Artistic talent is plentiful and the community is striving to achieve active local RADF participation.

2.2 POLICY STATEMENT:

Today's culture will give the community more of a sense of pride, passion and possession for the future. Council will endeavour to assist its community united and enlightened through cultural activities.

3. STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

3.1 KEY PRINCIPLES

3.1.1 The aim of this Policy is to promote and support an integrated cultural development within our region through the following identified key principles;

3.1.1.1 By encouraging and challenging youth, Council are looking after families and actively involving the complete family unit. By promoting and being open to youth culture, Council may be able to keep more of the region's young people within the community;

3.1.1.2 Senior Citizens are a wonderful community resource. There is a wealth of knowledge and culture existing among the elderly and by promoting and supporting them, Council can pass on tradition and history, which cannot be passed by any other means, and which influences who we are today. We are all going to live longer and retire earlier and Council will actively support this transition.

3.1.1.3 Future streetscapes for Thargomindah, Noccundra and Hungerford will give residents a pride in their open spaces and leisure areas and make these areas aesthetically pleasing;

3.1.1.4 Council is working to maximise the benefits of Cultural Tourism. Visitors bring new industry, different ideas and aspirations, which can often open up new possibilities for the region;

3.1.1.5 Council is continuously upgrading cultural facilities within the region to support the growth of cultural tourism throughout the region. Council is also an active member of the South West Regional Economic Development Board and Outback Queensland Tourism Association;

3.1.1.6 At all times Council is aware of people within the region with special needs. Council facilities are provided free of charge to special needs groups, eg. School of Distance Education, School children and Church groups, etc.

3.2 SPECIFIC AND STANDARD

3.2.1 Objective 1 – To support and encourage youth of the region to express and develop their own culture.

3.2.1.1 Council has identified the following strategies to achieve this objective;

3.2.1.1.1 To encourage applications from schools and youth organisations;

3.2.1.1.2 To promote and encourage participation by youth in the RADF funding program, when required; and

3.2.1.1.3 To encourage sporting organisations to involve the youth of the community.

3.2.2 Objective 2 – To retain senior citizens within the region so they may pass on their knowledge of tradition and histories.

3.2.2.1 Council has identified the following strategies to achieve this objective;

3.2.2.1.1 To ensure that our elderly have access to all cultural activities;

3.2.2.1.2 To access funding for the continued collection of oral histories;

3.2.2.1.3 Encourage greater participation and involvement in cultural planning;

3.2.2.1.4 To ensure the needs of the elderly are appropriately identified; and

3.2.2.1.5 Support Senior Citizen locals to deliver workshops on traditional horsemanship activities.

3.2.3 Objective 5 – To preserve the heritage sites within the region.

3.2.3.1 Council has identified the following strategies to achieve this objective;

3.2.3.1.1 To enhance liaison between the Historical Society and Council in relation to the historical sites / buildings; and

3.2.3.1.2 Support the preservation of the historical sites / buildings to the broader community (ie. photographing / detailing design and aesthetics).

3.2.4 Objective 6 – To develop cultural tourism within the region.

3.2.4.1 Council has identified the following strategies to achieve this objective;

3.2.4.1.1 To identify the cultural and environmental resources within the region;

3.2.4.1.2 To actively promote through advertising the vibrancy and diversity of the region, environment and heritage as an attractive aspect of the area for visitors;

3.2.4.1.3 To encourage the community to recognise the benefits of the wellbeing of the community which comes through social and cultural interaction;

3.2.4.1.4 To continue to respect the indigenous cultural heritage of the region. To work collaboratively with Traditional Owners to promote exhibitions/displays of indigenous artifacts.

3.2.5 Objective 7 – To identify and encourage artists and arts and cultural workers within the region.

3.2.5.1 Council has identified the following strategies to achieve this objective;

3.2.5.1.1 To provide financial and physical support to arts and cultural groups within the region;

3.2.5.1.2 To promote the assistance that can be obtained through the RADF and other funding sources;

3.2.5.1.3 To research and publicise funding opportunities for individual artists within the region; and

3.2.5.1.4 To continue to support horsemanship activities as part of the region's culture, including participants and tutors.

3.2.6 Objective 8 – To encourage integration and acceptance of new community members.

3.2.6.1 Council has identified the following strategy to achieve this objective;

3.2.6.1.1 To foster new members into the community through the promotion and advertisement of existing groups, contacts, etc.

3.2.7 Objective 9 – Policy development and review.

3.2.7.1 Council has identified the following strategy to achieve this objective;

3.2.7.1.1 Integrate Arts and Cultural Development Policy into Council's Corporate Planning processes;

3.2.7.1.2 Review Policy every three (3) years; To undertake community consultation annually to inform future bids for RADF funding;

3.2.7.1.3 To undertake community consultation annually to inform future bids for RADF funding; and

3.2.7.1.4 To support RADF community member training needs and encourage widespread participation by the community in the RADF Program.

3.2.8 Objective 10 – Encourage economic development through cultural and the arts.

3.2.8.1 Council has identified the following strategy to achieve this objective;

3.2.8.1.1 To investigate and make use of existing State and Federal strategies and policies.

4. REFERENCE AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 DEFINITIONS:

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

Word / Term	Definition
Arts	The expression or application of human skill and imagination in visual, performing and creative forms, including but not limited to visual arts, crafts, music, theatre, entertainment, dance, literature, film, digital arts, festivals, events, cultural traditions, and designs for public spaces and places.
Council	means Bulloo Shire Council.
Culture	The "culture" of the Bulloo Shire consists of the principles, aspirations and social development of our geographic region. Isolation and climate have had a major influence on our culture and the improvements in our physical and social environment will guide us towards the new millennium. Culture is who we are, and where we want to develop as a community not merely a focus on the arts.
Regional Arts Development Fund	A long-term partnership between the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and local councils, providing matched funding to support quality arts and cultural experiences in regional Queensland.

4.2 RELATED POLICIES, LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS:

Links to supporting documentation
Arts Queensland – Regional Arts Development Fund Guidelines