
Expression of Interest

Public Art Advisory Panel 2026 - 2028



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Acknowledgement of Country

Georges River Council acknowledges the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. Council recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as an integral part of the Georges River community and values their social and cultural contributions. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

Accessibility

Applicants are welcome to contact the Public Arts Specialist to guide them through the process of applying to ensure that all applicants have a good understanding of the EOI and an equitable opportunity in applying.

If you require this information in a format that is accessible to you (such as Auslan or large print), please contact Marsha Canning, Public Arts Specialist, between 10.00am and 4.00pm Monday – Friday, on (02) 9330 6444 or museumgallery@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

Overview

Georges River Council aspires to have public art as an everyday experience, contributing to the vibrancy of the local public spaces and landscapes for the enjoyment of all residents and visitors.

Council's Public Art Advisory Panel supports Council in the development and delivery of major permanent public art projects including those initiated by Council and those initiated by a developer, with budgets of \$50,000 and above.

The objectives of the Public Art Advisory Panel are:

- To assist Georges River Council to meet the policy objectives of its [Public Art Policy](#) and the objectives of the associated [Public Art Guidelines for Developers](#);
- Assist in steering the implementation and delivery of public art across the Georges River LGA, including advice, evaluation and assessment of projects;
- Ensure effective consultation across Council, the community and with stakeholders regarding public art initiatives;
- To provide advice on public art projects, via proposals submitted through EOIs with artist's briefs and recommend the selection of permanent works;
- Assist with Council's integration of public art approaches in capital works program and the development of a public art developer programs; and
- Provide advice pertaining to public art in new developments as per the Development Control Plan for public art and the Public Art Policy.



Consultants/Artists are encouraged to review the following documents prior to applying:

- [Georges River Council Community Strategic Plan](#)
- [Create Georges River \(Cultural Strategy\)](#)
- [Georges River Council Public Art Policy](#)

Requirements for Membership

Georges River Council are seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified people to join Georges River Council's Public Art Advisory Panel to advise on the development of major permanent public art projects throughout the Georges River LGA, that are reflective of the area's history, culture, and community.

Panel members are required to have either strong knowledge, expertise and/ or experience of Georges River LGA culture and heritage and/ or a reputation of excellence and expertise in:

- Demonstrated expertise and experience in the field/s of visual art, architecture, landscape architecture, cultural leadership, heritage, arts policy, urban place making and/ or design;
- Knowledge of contemporary public art applications, issues and trends;
- Knowledge of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, cultural knowledge and expertise;
- Good written and verbal communication skills;
- Ability to work collaboratively across a multi-disciplinary team; and
- Commitment to EEO, WHS, risk management, and awareness of GRC's values.
- There will be one identified position on the Panel dedicated to Youth and/or an emerging artist. Youth is defined as age 16 to 24 at time of engagement. Emerging artist is defined as having practised as a professional artist continually for less than 5 years.

The Georges River Council Public Art Advisory Panel members are advisory only and will act in a voluntary capacity in expert roles on the panel. The Panel members will be selected by Council Officers and approved by the General Manager and the Director Community and Culture.

The panel will provide guidance of public art projects with budgets over \$50,000 however, final acceptance and procurement of public art works is a decision of Georges River Council.

The Public Art Advisory Panel members operate according to a Public Art Advisory Panel Terms of Reference which is reviewed every two (2) years.

To assist with maintaining effectiveness, knowledge and expertise within the Panel, the term for members is two (2) years and will be reviewed and re-advertised via EOI after this time. Existing Panel members are able to reapply if they wish to continue on the Panel.

Meetings will occur online as determined by the Panel Chairperson. The Public Art Advisory Panel will be required to meet every 3 months for the duration of the two (2) years or for the duration of the relevant public art project, or as negotiated.



All members are expected to attend the meetings, or otherwise tender their apologies to the Chairperson, with a quorum of four (4) required for the meeting to proceed.

While other Georges River Council staff may attend Public Art Advisory Panel meetings as observers, or to provide advice or public art project updates, the meetings will not be open to members of the public or Councillors.

Georges River Council will provide necessary resources for the Public Art Advisory panel members. This will include administrative support such as facilitating and running the meeting, preparation and distribution of the notice of meeting, agenda and the recording of the minutes.

The Community and Culture Directorate has overall responsibility for the Public Art Advisory Panel and the Public Art Specialist will be the main point of contact for members on related matters. Staff in the areas of art, cultural development, parks and recreation, Urban Design, planning and capital works will be available to provide expertise to the Panel, when required.

Schedule

Expressions of Interest close	Midnight, Sunday 16 August 2026
Successful applicants notified by	COB, Friday 4 September 2026
First Public Art Advisory Panel meeting	Monday 28 September 2026, 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Application Process

Prospective members are invited to submit an Expression of Interest via [Smartygrants](#).

Applicants will be required to answer the following questions:

- Outline of their interest in and capacity to be a Public Art Advisory Panel member, along with demonstrated and appropriate qualifications, skills, and experience (300 words max);
- (Optional) Do you identify as:
 - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
 - a person from a culturally or linguistically diverse background
 - a person with accessibility needs
 - a person with disability
 - a person who is d/Deaf
 - LGBTQIA+
- CV (max 3 x A4 pages)
- Please note: A person is not eligible for appointment as a member of the Public Art Advisory Panel if they are an employee, related to an employee, or a Councillor of Georges River Council.

Further information

Please contact Marsha Canning, Public Arts Specialist, for further information, on (02) 9330 6444 or museumgallery@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au



TERMS OF REFERENCE – Public Art Advisory Panel

DOCUMENT ADMINISTRATION

Document Owner	<i>Director, Community and Culture</i>
Related Documents	<i>Public Art Policy, 2024</i> <i>Public Art Guidelines For Developers 2020</i> <i>Georges River Council Code of Meeting Practice, 2025</i>
References & Legislation	Local Government Act 1993 and related Regulations
Document Identifier	D26/160517
Document Approval	3 July 2026
Document Review	June 2028

PURPOSE

The role of the Public Art Advisory Panel (the Panel) is to use their specialist knowledge to help guide the delivery of major public art initiatives valued over \$50,000 within the Georges River Council (Council) local government area (LGA) as per the Public Art Policy and according to best practice. The Panel has the responsibility to strategically consider public art proposals and make recommendations to the General Manager (or delegate), or to Council, as required by Georges River Council's Public Art Policy.

These Terms of Reference set out the role, responsibilities, and structure of the Panel.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Panel is as follows:

- Assist Council in meeting the objectives of the Public Art Policy and associated Guidelines;
- Assist in steering the delivery of public art across the LGA, including advice and assessment;
- Ensure effective consultation across Council and the community regarding public art initiatives;
- Facilitate Council's integration of public art approaches in capital works program as well as the public art developer program; and
- Provide advice pertaining to public art in new developments as per the Development Control Plan for public art and the Public Art Policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The approval of public art projects is the responsibility of the General Manager or Council, depending on the value of the project, in accordance with the Public Art Policy. The responsibilities of the Public Art Panel are as follows:



All Panel Members	• Read the agenda prior to each meeting and come to meetings suitably prepared. • Be an advocate for Public Art within the Georges River LGA. • Utilise their knowledge and expertise in relevant matters to provide Council with carefully considered advice on public art matters. • Declare any potential or actual conflicts of interest on matters that are brought before the Panel. • Abide by Council's Code of Meeting Practice.
Chairperson (Public Arts Specialist or delegate)	• Convenes and conducts the meeting, creates agendas, business papers and minutes

MEMBERSHIP

The Panel will consist of 6 (six) external voting members and 6 (six) internal non-voting members required to attend meetings.

If members are unable to attend a meeting, they are to tender their apologies to the Chairperson. If members are absent for 2 consecutive meetings without an apology and there has been no response from the member regarding their continued involvement in the Panel, the position will be declared vacant, and this will be recorded in the minutes of the corresponding meeting. A panel member may resign at any time by providing written notice to Council's Public Arts Officer.

Applications for external membership of the Panel will be received by expression of interest (EOI). The Panel members will be selected by Council officers and approved by the General Manager and the Director Community and Culture. The appointment to the Panel must take place prior to a member being conferred the responsibilities and rights as set out in this document.

Membership is voluntary and the lifespan of the Panel is for two years. An EOI for membership will be sought every two years when the fixed term of the Advisory Panel comes to an end or at any time when a position becomes vacant. Panellists are eligible to be awarded consecutive terms.

Members will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated expertise and experience in the field/s of visual art, architecture, landscape architecture, cultural leadership, heritage, arts policy, urban place making and/ or design;
- Knowledge of contemporary public art applications, issues and trends;
- Knowledge of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, cultural knowledge and expertise;
- Good written and verbal communication skills;
- Ability to work collaboratively across a multi-disciplinary team; and
- Commitment to EEO, WHS, risk management, and awareness of Council's values.

The Panel will comprise voting members, as follows:

- 6 (six) external representatives with experience and/or expertise from the above criteria;
- Public Arts Specialist (Chairperson) may vote in the event of a tie-break.

Non-voting members include:

- Director Community and Culture or delegate;
- Director Assets and Infrastructure or delegate;
- Manager Cultural Engagement and Library Services or delegate;
- Team Leader, Development Applications; and/or
- Other designated Council officers as required.

Where appropriate, advisers (internal/external) with specialist expertise relevant to the project brief will be temporarily assigned to the panel to assist in decision making.

AUTHORITY

The following delegations will apply to the Panel:

- The Panel does not have the authority to incur expenditure;
- The Panel does not have the authority to bind Georges River Council without approval from either the General Manager (or delegate) or Council;
- The Panel may make recommendations to the General Manager, or Council on all relevant business presented before it, as outlined in Council's Public Art Policy;
- Such recommendations will be presented in a report prepared by nominated Council officers;
- Recommendations made by the Panel may or may not be adopted by the General Manager, and/or Council; and
- Members of the Panel may have access to privileged and confidential information and are not to divulge any information to anyone other than authorised personnel of Georges River Council, and are not permitted to speak to the media, social media, or Councillors in the guise of a representative of Council unless approved by the General Manager.

FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Panel will be expected to meet every three (3) months for the duration of two (2) years or for the duration of the relevant public art project, or as negotiated.

CHAIRPERSON

The Public Arts Specialist or delegate shall chair the Panel meetings.

The Chairperson shall convene the Panel meetings. If the designated Chair is not available, then the standing delegate will be Coordinator Cultural Services who will be responsible for convening and conducting that meeting.

QUORUM

A quorum consists of no less than half the voting membership plus one (4). If a quorum is not present within 10 minutes within the commencement time of the meeting, it will become an informal meeting, and no recommendations or decisions will be made.

VOTING

Each Panel member appointed as a voting member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in respect to any matters before the Panel. The Panel shall aim to make decisions by consensus when possible, and otherwise the decision of the Panel shall be by the majority of votes cast in favour.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

The Chairperson (or delegate) shall prepare and circulate meeting agendas and minutes of all meetings. The minutes and associated recommendations/decisions of each meeting shall be submitted to the Community and Culture Standing Committee as required by the Public Art Policy for consideration, prior to Council for adoption.

Notes of meetings will be reported to the General Manager (through appropriate delegation), as required by the Public Art Policy.

VENUE

Meetings will be held online.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Meetings of the Panel operate in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice and Code of Conduct. In relation to any procedural matter, the ruling of the Chairperson shall be final.

Vacancies

Should a representative vacancy occur during the terms of appointment, a new representative will be selected from eligible applications received from the original call for Expressions of Interest.

If no suitable alternative representatives can be found from the original Expressions of Interest, vacancies would be filled via a further call for Expressions of Interest.

VARIATION TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference may be added to, repealed, or amended by Council in consultation with, or upon the recommendation of the Panel. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed every two (2) years.

VERSION CONTROL AND CHANGE HISTORY

Version	Amendment Details	Document Owner	Period Active
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1.0	<i>Complete new version no previous version was referenced or amended.</i>	<i>Director, Community and Culture</i>	2019
2.0	<i>Minor updates to content and formatting.</i>	<i>Director, Community and Culture</i>	2022
3.0	<i>Minor updates to content and formatting.</i>	<i>Director, Community and Culture</i>	2023
4.0	<i>Minor updates to content and formatting.</i>	<i>Director, Community and Culture</i>	2024
5.0	<i>Minor updates to content and formatting.</i>	<i>Director, Community and Culture</i>	2026