

Cover

A Percent for Art Scheme Project
for the Health Department of Western Australia

Broome Health Services

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CULTURAL SIGNPOSTS

ACTION PLAN FOR PRIORITY STRATEGIES

Nine strategies were identified as priorities through a comprehensive consultation process. This Action Plan relates specifically to implementation of new initiatives aligned with each of the priority strategies.

The strategies are presented in numerical order and should be considered of equal priority. The organisation nominated as 'lead agency' is responsible for coordinating implementation and reporting on progress. Those listed as 'other possible contributors' would participate in implementation to varying degrees.

The term 'portfolio agencies' is inclusive of:

- Art Gallery of WA
- ArtsWA
- Perth Theatre Trust
- Planning and Policy Division
- ScreenWest
- State Library of WA
- State Records Office
- Western Australian Museum

Strategy 1.1.5

Develop a framework for measuring the level of arts and cultural activity in regional areas.

New Initiative Research existing data collection activities relevant to arts and culture in the regions.

Rationale Local Governments, funding bodies, art organisations, regional museums and other bodies collect statistics on arts and cultural activity. Combining these different data sets would produce a partial picture and assist in determining where additional research is required.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
Department of Culture and the Arts Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio agencies • Research bodies • Universities • Healthway • Other funding bodies • Federal government • Local governments • Wide range of regional networks 	June 2003	January 2004

New Initiative Investigate methodologies to develop a set of indicators that measure access to, and participation in, arts and culture in regional areas of Western Australia.

Rationale At present there is no reliable way to measure the level of arts and cultural activity in the regions. Measurement is needed for effective evaluation of the policy and to support advocacy efforts.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio agencies • Universities • Funding bodies • Local governments • Wide range of regional networks including the regional development commissions 	June 2003	June 2004

Strategy 1.3.2

Support and facilitate arts and cultural activities by and for a diverse range of young people.

New Initiative Implement the Contemporary Music Policy in line with the recommendations of the Contemporary Music Taskforce.

Rationale The Government has made a \$5 million commitment to contemporary music, including developing a regional touring circuit for WA bands and establishing a statewide program where supervised all-ages concerts are held in local communities.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
ArtsWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music organisations • Healthway • Australia Council for the Arts • Country Arts WA 	Taskforce Report released January 2003, implementation underway.	2005

New Initiative Investigate avenues to increase access to filmmaking and electronic media opportunities for young people in regional areas.

Rationale Film and television have been shown to be an artistic medium that young people are particularly interested in. At present there are very limited opportunities to access skills development opportunities in film and television in regional areas.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
ScreenWest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film and Television Institute • ABC • Industry partners • Western Australian Museum Documentary Unit • Teachers of media 	December 2003	June 2004

New Initiative Distribute literature produced by the Office of Children and Young People's Policy on how to engage young people in decision making processes.

Rationale The inclusion of young people in mainstream decision-making processes is critical in ensuring activities are relevant and attractive. It also an important factor in encouraging participation in the activities offered.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office of Children and Young People's Policy Portfolio agencies Arts organisations with specific regional roles 	October 2003	December 2003

New Initiative Work with youth officers employed by local or State government to increase opportunities for young people to participate in arts and culture.

Rationale There are several networks of regionally-based officers working with young people through local governments, regional development commissions and State Government outreach programs. Liason is needed to ensure these officers are able to assist young people to identify and access opportunities to participate in arts and culture.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division / Propelarts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio agencies Arts organisations with specific regional roles Healthway Youth Affairs Council of WA Department of Community Development Department of Sport and Recreation 	October 2003 (Propelarts from July 2004)	Ongoing

Strategy 1.3.3

Prioritise and coordinate support for Indigenous arts and culture.

New Initiative Develop a Statement of Principles and Action Plan to document the Department's commitment to Indigenous Culture.

Rationale The appointment and retention of Indigenous personnel within cultural agencies is acknowledged as critical to the development of culturally sensitive practices and improved access for Indigenous communities. The proposed Action Plan will focus on employment, policy and programs of the culture and arts portfolio.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio agencies 	Underway	December 2003

New Initiative Complete development of an Indigenous Arts Policy to strategically guide ArtsWA's investment in this area.

Rationale Many Indigenous communities in WA are acknowledged as important centres for cultural exploration, innovation and artistic excellence. Arts and cultural practice is often the major income-earning activity and a social development tool for these communities.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
ArtsWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office of Aboriginal Economic Development Australia Council for the Arts Perth International Arts Festival Department of Indigenous Affairs Lotterywest Healthway 	Underway	December 2003

New Initiative Complete development of an Indigenous Development Policy to strategically guide ScreenWest's investment in this area.

Rationale A wealth of Indigenous stories and talent exists in Western Australia. Indigenous filmmakers will benefit from targeted support to develop writing, directing and producing skills.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
ScreenWest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous Screen Reference Group 	Underway	December 2003

New Initiative Investigate new models for delivering library and information services to Indigenous communities.

Rationale The State Library recognises cultural differences in using library services and is seeking to develop more appropriate service delivery options for Indigenous communities. The possibility of developing suitable models has been discussed with the Northern Territory and Queensland governments.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
State Library of Western Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional libraries State government departments Local governments Northern Territory and Queensland governments 	Underway	2005

Strategy 1.3.4

Improve equity of access for smaller and/or more remote communities.

New Initiative Examine assessment criteria for State funding programs to ensure smaller and/or more remote communities are not unfairly discriminated against.

Rationale For some communities, the maximum funds available through assistance programs will not cover the fees and travel costs of professional artists/tutors. Expensive travel costs also mean less funds to pay fees and thus less time available for skills development.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Regional Services Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts organisations with specific regional roles • Western Australian Museum • Museums Australia • Lotterywest • Healthway 	August 2003	July 2004

New Initiative Investigate and promote options to provide travel assistance for community members to attend cultural events and training initiatives in regional centres and Perth.

Rationale Feedback from people living in regional areas suggests that the costs of travel and accommodation limit the ability to attend arts and cultural events in other localities, acting as a barrier to participation.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Regional Services Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lotterywest • Healthway • Department of Local Government and Regional Development • Local governments 	October 2003	July 2004

Strategy 2.1.2

Provide greater skills development opportunities for artists and arts educators living in regional, rural and remote communities.

New Initiative Explore opportunities to further expand arts education programs.

Rationale Skilling of arts educators, and improving opportunities for young people to experience the arts in school, emerged as priorities in consultation. Arts education programs like ArtsEdge provide skills development opportunities for teachers and quality arts experiences for children. They also provide local employment for artists and ongoing support materials for arts organisations and teachers.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Education and Training • Independent schools networks • Regional development commissions • Department for Community Development 	Underway	December 2003

New Initiative Investigate options to increase mentoring opportunities for artists and arts and cultural workers who live in regional areas.

Rationale Consultation revealed a desire for increased mentoring opportunities. Mentoring is a particularly effective way to support artists and arts professionals working in relative isolation in regional areas. It promotes sharing of skills and knowledge across different localities and provides opportunities for professional development.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCA's Regional Services Committee • Wide range of metro and regional arts networks 	October 2003	June 2004

Strategy 2.3.1

Develop and maintain a mutually beneficial partnership with the Department of Education and Training.

New Initiative Develop an Arts in Education Policy in association with the Department of Education and Training.

Rationale The Government is committed to establishing programs to educate young people in the arts. A good arts or cultural experience in school will encourage young people to continue their involvement in the wider community and enable informed choices about the kinds of experiences they pursue after school.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division / Department of Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio agencies Healthway 	Underway	December 2003

Strategy 3.1.4

Assist in the maintenance and upgrade of community facilities.

New Initiative Establish a Community Cultural Facilities Fund and associated grants program to assist local governments and community groups in the development and upgrade of cultural and arts facilities.

Rationale All consultation has shown conclusively that this is a key priority. Many locally owned facilities across the state are in urgent need of maintenance and/or upgrade while numerous other existing buildings have the potential for arts and cultural use. The Department has previously had no capacity to support requests for assistance in this area.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ArtsWA Lotterywest Department of Sport and Recreation (co-location opportunities) 	Preparatory work commencing now for the fund to be operational in 2005.	Ongoing

Strategy 3.2.1

Encourage the employment of regionally based cultural development officers.

New Initiative Develop a map of existing personnel employed in regionally based arts and/or cultural development positions.

Rationale A range of personnel is employed by local governments, State arts providers and local arts organisations. Mapping what currently exists is a necessary first step in actioning strategy 3.2.1.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ArtsWA • Art Gallery of WA • Western Australian Museum • Arts organisations with specific regional roles • Regional development commissions • Local governments 	June 2003	December 2003

New Initiative Explore the potential to establish regional consultative groups in each region, or utilise existing groups for this purpose.

Rationale Local people are best placed to identify the most appropriate host organisation and job description for a regional cultural development officer.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ArtsWA • Art Gallery of WA • Western Australian Museum • Arts organisations with specific regional roles • Regional development commissions • Local governments 	October 2003	June 2004

New Initiative Assist the establishment of shared regional positions, with contributions to salary and costs from a range of partners.

Rationale Regional cultural development officers would contribute to the work of local and state governments, regional development commissions, arts and culture providers and local arts organisations. Networks of other sectors, such as youth and tourism, may offer opportunities to share staff. Shared positions are a cost effective way of implementing strategy 3.2.1.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
All portfolio agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State government regional networks• Local governments• Regional development commissions• Arts organisations with specific regional roles• Perth International Arts Festival• Australia Council for the Arts	June 2004	Ongoing

Strategy 4.2.1

Ensure that the policies and programs of the portfolio agencies are aligned with the objectives of the *Cultural Signposts* policy statement.

New Initiative Develop a process whereby all portfolio agencies report at agreed intervals on how their activities contribute to the policy objectives.

Rationale This initiative is necessary to assist coordination across the portfolio, identify gaps in delivery, and report on policy implementation. The process will be developed in close consultation with portfolio agencies.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio agencies 	July 2003	December 2003

New Initiative Review the current level of support to regional areas by agencies of the culture and arts portfolio and implement appropriate responses to ensure policy priorities are matched by allocation of resources.

Rationale Consultation with stakeholders has revealed clear directions and priorities for arts and cultural development in regional areas. A necessary first step in implementing the policy is to determine if the programs of the portfolio agencies match the policy priorities.

Lead Agency	Possible Contributors	Commencing	Completion
DCA's Planning and Policy Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio agencies Arts organisations with specific regional roles 	July 2003	December 2004



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