

Cultural Indicators - Measuring Impact on Culture

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Creative Communities Network (CCN) | [Local Government Association](#) [2](LGA) of South Australia

To develop a paper which demonstrates the case for the use of cultural indicators by SA Councils and includes an exploration of what cultural indicators are currently being used by Local Government and other relevant sectors.

This information paper will:

- **demonstrate the case for developing a Cultural Indicators Framework**
- **provide an overview of local, national and international current practice**
- **examine recent Community Indicator Frameworks applied within Local Government in Australia**
- **present the national and international discourse and evidence relating to the use of cultural indicators**
- **make recommendations for progress towards implementation.**

In demonstrating the case for developing a **Cultural Indicators Framework**, this paper outlines the various applications such a framework will have that will enable South Australian Local Government to:

- **plan and make decisions based on evidence**
- **evaluate strategic objectives** which relate to vibrancy, diversity, arts and culture, community wellbeing, community capacity building, social capital and social health
- **increase the understanding throughout all sectors of Local Government** regarding the value and purpose of arts and cultural development programs, as well as their impact on the community as a whole
- **measure the impact of arts and cultural development programs** on their communities
- **measure the impact of social, environmental and economic influences** on cultural vitality
- **link to a national and global movement towards the use of cultural indicators**
- allow **Local Government to learn "what makes people tick?"** in order to fine-tune delivery of programs and services
- **provide the tools to evaluate the impact of arts and cultural development activities.**

Finally, this paper **recommends that the development of a Cultural Indicators Framework for South Australian Local Government** is progressed through the following eight stages:

1. **Establish the project management structure**
2. Appoint a **project coordinator**
3. **Engage stakeholders**
4. **Consolidate the Framework**



5. **Develop** content of **Framework and toolkit**
6. Scope the **presentation platform**
7. **Conduct pilot**
8. **Evaluate, report and communicate project**

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- [5]

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