



Meeting Minutes

Arts and Culture LDG

Thursday 4 October

Meeting Room 1, Level 5, Ashfield Civic Centre, 260 Liverpool Rd

Meeting commenced at 6pm and concluded at 7.30pm.

Attendees

Community members	Council officers	Councillors
Kat Farrugia	Naomi Bower	Nil
Vulindlela Mkwanaenzi	Hannah Rouse	
Melinda Vassallo	Amylia Harris	
Emily Cascarino		
Rhiannon Hopley		

Chairperson

Rhiannon Hopley

Acknowledgement of Country

Rhiannon Hopley

Apologies and membership changes

Sophie Groom, Anne-Marie McGinty, Kay Sönderland, Timothy Stackpool

Disclosures of conflicts of interest

Nil

Endorse previous meeting minutes

Raised: **Vulindlela Mkwanaenzi**. Seconded: **Kat Farrugia**. Minutes endorsed.



Discussion Items

Agenda Item	Discussion summary	Agenda item outcome/action (as required)
Creative Toolbox Symposium	Presentation on Symposium outcomes by Hannah Rouse (IWC). Questions and discussion with Group - The Group noted the success of the program and accessibility measures - Most of the Group said social media promotions for the program had reached them, and they had seen it shared through partnerships - One member reported the Symposium social media did not reach them - There was a query about how the Symposium sits with other initiatives eg. ATO support workshops - Council officers responded that Council's role is connecting people to resources and in person sessions with small capacity. Also to break down cost barriers - Retention from enquiry to attendance was seen to be more of an issue in terms of promoting the program. The Group noted this is more of an issue in the sector in general - Ideas for the next Symposium and three-monthly touchstones included: - o Peer to peer sessions and opportunities	

INNER WEST

- Getting people to come with questions and then follow up with people if they need further consultation
- At the Symposium→ deciding what the masterclasses would be about
- Walking people through Council processes
- It was noted that programs such as the Live Music Activations built a lot of capacity for organisers and provided an opportunity to ask questions
- The importance of the human and on-on-one support was noted, and that Council could provide this kind of support, or a one stop shop. It was noted this helped longer term sustainability and capacity of the sector
- The Group thought continuing branding of Symposium was a good idea

Chrissie Cotter Gallery

Presentation by Amylia Harris (IWC). Discussions on improvements to the Chrissie Cotter Gallery Program

- Officers reported a high number of applications due to increased outreach this year
- 2026 Program improvements were discussed, including:
 - Partnering with TAFE or an art school to have a group art show at the Gallery
 - Noting that it is a lot of work to invigilate the Gallery
 - Noting that it is also a freedom not to have a commission and pressure to sell work

INNER WEST

- Suggestion that the Gallery could lean into this as a space to take risks and be a testing ground
- It was confirmed that not only visual artists can apply

Next meeting: Wednesday 5 November