

Bellingen Shire
COUNCIL



Creative Placemaking Fund Guidelines

Creative Placemaking Guidelines

Placemaking is the art of turning a 'space' into a 'place' by creating memorable experiences within a public area. It is a unique and creative approach to managing public spaces that encourages participation in a diverse range of cultural and artistic activities. A well-managed placemaking initiative supports inclusiveness and strengthens overall community wellbeing.

Bellingen Shire Council is partnering with the community to stimulate and revitalise local streets, neighbourhoods and public spaces through a series of placemaking projects. The initiative aims to support creative industries and inspire the public to participate in transforming public spaces into bright animated places. This initiative is a quick and easy approach to implement some of the community's creative aspirations as outlined in both Bellingen Shire Council's [2027 Community Vision](#) and [Public Art Plan](#).

Program Objectives

- To support local projects that help develop a distinct sense of place
- To support individuals and creative industries
- To increase participation in cultural and artistic activity
- To support local events that align with Bellingen Shire's 2027 Community Vision of being Creative, Connected and Sustainable

Funding Limit

This is a small grant program administered across two rounds per year with a yearly budget allocation of \$10,000. Council recommends funding requests up to \$500, but will consider larger sums for projects that demonstrate a high-level of community benefit.

General Requirements

- Projects must take place between 1st July and 30th June of the funding year. However, preference is given to projects that can be completed within three months of receiving funding.
- Applicants can reapply each financial year. However, applicants will only be funded for a maximum of three consecutive years. After the third year, applicants must wait twelve months before applying again.
- Quotes to be provided where possible
- The project must be free for the public to attend
- The project must be safe and low risk
- The project must not entail any corporate advertising

Who can apply?

- Individuals (children, youth, seniors, Indigenous, the disabled etc.)
- Incorporated not-for-profit organisations with a registered ABN
- Unincorporated groups or associations
- Registered charities with an ACN

Who Cannot Apply?

- Commercial enterprises or for-profit organisations
- Organisations that have outstanding reports or acquittals may be ineligible unless alternative arrangements have been made with Council
- Organisations that are outside of the Bellingen Shire local government area

PLEASE NOTE: Any application that does not meet the General Eligibility Criteria will not be assessed under the Specific Assessment Criteria and will be deemed unsuccessful.

Types of Projects Funded (but not limited to):

- Murals
- Mosaics
- Street art
- Pavement inlays
- Sculpture
- Street Performance (music, dance, storytelling)
- Pop up shops
- Banner art
- Caricatures
- Artistic veranda columns
- Activities on private property where there is public access

Types of Activities NOT Funded

- Activities on private property where there is no public access
- Retrospective activities
- Permanent capital works
- Works that require a DA
- Projects outside Bellingen Shire

Application Assessment Process

Once your application has been deemed eligible, it will be assessed on merit and prioritised by a selection panel. The assessment panel will then make recommendations to Bellingen Shire Council for funding to be approved. Council reserves the right to only part fund successful applications.

This process will be undertaken to ensure Bellingen Shire Council is acting in accordance with the public interest and ensure that public monies are used prudently and appropriately.

Successful Applicants

Successful applicants must:

- Sign and return a funding agreement to Bellingen Shire Council.
- Where the activity requires it, proof of the appropriate public liability insurance for the period covering your activity
- Provide a tax invoice for the approved amount. Organisations/individuals registered for GST must provide an invoice inclusive of GST. Organisations/individuals not registered for GST must provide an invoice exclusive of GST

Acquittal of Grant Funding

- Successful applicants must submit a project acquittal report within two months of the project taking place
- Photographs and/or media clippings must also be included in the report where available

Further Information

- The Creative Placemaking Guidelines, application form and project acquittal template can be downloaded from Bellingen Shire Council's website
- Applications must be submitted via email to council@bellingen.nsw.gov.au
- To discuss your application, please contact Council on 02 6655 7300