



# Media release

## Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee

### Report recommends government increase cultural and creative funding

The Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee has recommended the Victorian Government ensure grant programs for the cultural and creative industries are indexed to account for CPI increases in a report tabled in the Legislative Council today.

The Committee inquired into the cultural and creative industries in Victoria following the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The report has 55 findings and makes 11 recommendations.

“We found that failing to index Victorian cultural and creative industries funding has led to a decrease in financial support in real terms,” said Committee Chair Georgie Purcell.

“That’s despite the economic and social impact of the cultural and creative industries to our state,” she said.

The inquiry found the Victorian cultural and creative industries contributed \$40.5 billion to the Victorian economy in 2022–23 and accounted for 320,000 jobs, or almost 9 per cent of total employment in Victoria.

The inquiry found that the COVID-19 pandemic severely damaged the industries and significantly limited opportunities to present and engage with works publicly, and consequently restricted practitioners’ income.

It found that grant and reporting requirements can be very onerous and recommended Creative Victoria reduce the administrative burden of grant programs to ensure such requirements are proportionate to the amount of funding on offer, particularly those grant programs capped at \$20,000 or less.

The inquiry received 42 submissions and conducted two days of public hearings.

The report is available on the Committee’s [website](#).

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