

# National Cultural Policy- Response to Minister Burke's Letter

## References:

- Minister Burke's letter [REDACTED]
- [https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/House/Communications\\_the\\_Arts\\_and\\_Sport/artsphilanthropy/Submissions](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Communications_the_Arts_and_Sport/artsphilanthropy/Submissions) [#85]

22 April 2026

Minister Burke's letter [REDACTED] advises me to raise my concerns regarding Philanthropy and the Arts within the process of the review of *Revive*.

I draw your attention to my submission [#85] to the **Parliamentary Inquiry into arts and cultural philanthropy**, including these words from Government Ministers:

- This has the opportunity to shift the dial. There is huge opportunity where we can truly partner with philanthropic organisations, but also with communities as well. [Minister Rishworth]
- This partnership approach is one that I'd like to see in other areas of government too. [Minister Leigh]
- Collaboration is just as important as co-investment. The private sector is key and central to sustainable growth. [Minister Chalmers]

My submission puts forward three recommendations:

**1. Apply Minister Rishworth's Vision of Philanthropy to the Arts and Culture Sector.**

That the Government explore opportunities for Philanthropy, Government and Community to work through formal collaborations in the arts and culture space.

**2. Develop a Publicly Accessible Strategic Plan for Growing Joined - Up Philanthropic and Government Investments in to the Arts and Culture Sector.**

That Creative Australia lead the development of a publicly - accessible Strategic Plan for growing joined- up Philanthropic and Government investments in to the Arts and Culture Sector [Along the lines of the Investment Dialogue for Australian Children].

**3. Build the Sustainability and Capacity of the First Nations Festivals Sector, Through Joined-Up Investments Across Government and Philanthropy.**

That Minister Rishworth's vision of Philanthropy, Government and Community working collaboratively be trialled and piloted in relation to building the capacity and sustainability of the First Nations Festivals sector.

*Revive* states as follows:

- p. 67 Encouraging collaboration with private sector support
- p. 71 The Government plays a national leadership role by fostering collaboration across portfolios, and coordination between all levels of government
- p. 73 There is an opportunity to foster increased partnerships between commercial and not-for-profit arts sector organisations, and to drive co-investment.

The goals and aspirations outlined in *Revive* in regards to private sector investment in the Arts and Culture sector have not yet been fully realised.

As best as one can tell, direct Government investment in to First Nations Arts and Culture represents around 0.74 per cent of the combined total Federal and State Government expenditure in Aboriginal services. Not even one percent.

I turn once again to the words of Ministers Rishworth, Leigh, and Chalmers. 'There is indeed an opportunity to shift the dial. There is huge opportunity for Government to truly partner with philanthropic organisations, but also with communities as well. We really do need to see a three-way approach, along with the not-for profit organisations and government organisations delivering on the ground.'

**If Government Ministers Believe These Things to Be True, Why Do We Not See Them Being Taken Up and Applied in the Arts and Cultural Sector?**

Kind regards

Wes Morris  
Brisbane.