

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

Chris Abbott



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

My submission represents my own views and also some of those of various organisations of which I am a member. I live in regional Australia.

Firstly, I am a 'writer' in various forms: fiction, non-fiction, plays and poetry.

Secondly, 'Revive' was a welcome step in supporting the cultural diversity of Australia.

However, Australia faces many issues in the cultural area. The first is the chronic under funding of all creatives. More support is required through grants, tax incentives, tax relief, service provisions. Also national, state and regional writing centres need more support. Australia's public libraries also need more financial support as they are often one of the major providers of access to cultural pursuits especially in their local communities. This is also especially exacerbated by those who live and work in regional Australia.

Second, the disruption caused by AI which uses, abuses and manipulates human works. The whole area of copyright requires re-examination in the light of the 'theft' perpetrated by AI developers. This needs far greater control and monitoring.

Third, widespread concerns about the decline of reading in contemporary culture. This could best be assisted through more support for the work of libraries especially in local government areas across the nation.

Many of these issues are common to other areas in our culture, such as, music, dance, visual arts etc.

Finally, I support the submissions of the ASA, Writers' NSW and organisations such as Books Create Australia.