

Museum Services Policy

Adopted: 23 November 1998

Reviewed: 16 March 2017

Background

The culture and heritage of the Far North contributes to a vibrant and diverse community. The District has a diverse range of heritage resources in the form of buildings, private collections and local and district museums that are owned by individuals, not for profit organisations, commercial operators, local authorities, and crown entities.

Council protects heritage reserves through District Plan rules, education, and financial incentives. Council recognises that museums have an important role to play in the collection, preservation, and exhibition of heritage and cultural artifacts of the community.

Legislative Context

The Local Government Act 2002 section 11A states that in performing its role, a local authority must have particular regard to the contribution that museums make to their communities.

Objectives

1. To protect and preserve the Far North District's cultural heritage for future generations so it may enrich our lives and build a sense of belonging and identity.
2. To support museum services that promote economic and/or community development

Policies

1. There are various appropriate mechanisms for ownership of heritage resources. The basis of Council funding is its accessibility to the public, the charitable or community purpose nature of its ownership, and the special features of any heritage collection.
2. Council's financial assistance options include:
 - a. Directly funding Museum Services where continuity of funding is essential to ensure the adequate on-going protection and development of Council-owned heritage resources, or it demonstrably contributes to economic benefit or community development or aligns with Council's strategic priorities.
 - b. Providing Council owned buildings or land and a community type lease and peppercorn rental.
 - c. Making funds available to the Community Board administered Community Grants scheme for application by Museums and private collection holders with legal charitable or community purpose structure, with priority given to organisations already established to conserve Far North cultural heritage.
3. Council will encourage collaboration between museums.