planning culturally

Research Report 1: a cultural review of Australian Local Government planning policy documents

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Research Report is the first in a planned series of reports I intend to produce over the next year or so as the *Planning Culturally* research program evolves. I have embarked on independent research of the Australian planning sector from a cultural perspective. The goal of this research is to establish the current status of strategic thinking and delivery of culturally relevant and sensitive built environment outcomes in our increasingly culturally diverse cities.

Note: This is independent research, undertaken without financial support from any external body. It is entirely desk-based research, and it does not claim to be exhaustive, rather it aims to provide an insight into the role of cultural considerations in a range of current local government policy/strategy documents.

About the Author:

Richard Brecknock, MPIA

Richard has a MA in Cultural & Media Policy, from Griffith University and has been a Cultural Planning consultant in the private sector for over 30 years. During that time, he and his team undertook cultural policy and arts related projects in Australia, New Zealand and England for public and private sector clients. Including being a member of the team, led by Charles Landry from the UK thinktank COMEDIA, undertaking the international *Intercultural City* research project. The project explored issues of the impacts of the growing cultural diversity of cities in the UK, USA, Australia, NZ and Norway and the potential diversity dividends to be gained from intercultural engagement and planning.

From these experiences he believes that there is a need for greater cultural awareness, and cultural sensitivity competencies within our urban planning profession, in order that planning decisions are made with potential cultural impacts in mind. He highlighted these issues and the concept of 'Cultural Literacy', in his 2007 book *More than Just a Bridge: Planning and Designing Culturally*.

To further explore the notion of planning culturally, Richard has initiated this *Planning Culturally* research project with the goal that the research and associated writing may make a positive contribution to raising the awareness of the need for culturally literate urban planners and designers.

1.1 Background

Since the 1990's there has been a growing awareness and commitment in Australian local governments that the support of the 'Cultural' life of their communities is core business and needs to be addressed in its policies. For example, in 1995 the SA Local Government Association, with support from the Australian Local Government Association undertook the 'Creative Councils Programme' which involved seven South Australian council with the following desired outcomes:

- *To expand the number of South Australian Councils committed to developing a strategic approach to cultural development and cultural resource management.*
- *To encourage a recognition that cultural resources, amenities, services and policy should be as important as social and economic policy in urban and community planning and development.*
  (*Creative Councils Programme Report*, Brecknock Consulting 1995)

It is now standard practice for councils across Australia to employ or engage consultant Cultural Planners to work with the community to develop Cultural Policies/Strategies as part of their suite of strategic documents. Based on these policies most councils have committed to developing cultural support services, cultural infrastructure, and provide human and financial resources for a wide range of cultural and arts programs. These dedicated Cultural Policies are also recognised by most of Australia's local governments in their Council Plans/Community Strategic Planning documents, and to a degree in their Planning Schemes/Local Strategic Planning Statements. In this context the research set out to establish the level of this recognition of cultural planning in current Local Government strategic documents.

Firstly, it is important to recognise that any discussion regarding the role of culture in the local government planning of our built environment faces the complexity of understanding what is covered by the term 'culture'. Culture can be used to cover the wholistic notion of a community's way-of-life and all the associated cultural practices such as values, assumptions and codes of behaviour or the notion of the arts/cultural expression and cultural heritage.

Both UNESCO and the European Commission have in recent years produced "Human Centred City" reports that propose that culture is a critical factor in urban development from the perspective of "cultural planning" contributing to the 'look and feel' of a place, and from the perspective of "planning culturally" addressing the inherent cultural values in planning public place.

In 2016 Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, suggested that '*Culture lies at the heart of urban renewal and innovation. Culture embodies the soul of a city, allowing it to progress and build a future of dignity for all*. Indeed, if we want urban planners to plan culturally it is important that we understand the nature of our cities cultural diversity if we are to address the needs of all citizens.

Today it is a given that Australia has a highly multi-cultural population with a wide range of social and religious ways-of-life, values and behaviours that lead to specific needs in terms of their urban environments such as public open space, retail options, places of worship and especially housing requirements. Raising the question, are planning professional aware of the community's culturally specific requirements and if so, are they planning culturally to deliver for diverse communities?

In a 2001 Kevin Dunn and his colleagues from the University of NSW, documented the findings of an Australia-wide survey they undertook to review how Australian Councils were addressing the needs of culturally diverse communities in their strategic documents. In all, 666 Councils responded to their surveys and indicated varying levels of commitment to local policies addressing multiculturalism. The study found that where there were Multicultural Strategy documents or refences in Council planning documents to multicultural strategies that the focus was mainly limited to two core roles of 'celebration' and 'regulation'. In summarising the findings of their findings Dunn et al stated that:

> *The institutionalisation of multicultural policy at the local level in Australia is still in its infancy. We found varying attempts by councils across Australia to implement policies and programmes to include people from different cultural backgrounds in the service provision and political processes of local governance.* (Dunn, K. et al. 2001 p2490)

The responses ranged from those, often regional Councils, that considered the issue of limited importance to those inner-metropolitan Councils with significantly diverse populations who had specific Multicultural Strategies or included strategies regarding the *'celebratory role in facilitating festivals and exhibitions of diverse cultural activities; and a regulatory role in addressing racism and other local tensions'* (Dunn, K. et al. 2001. p2486)*.

Now twenty years on from the Dunn research, has the situation changed? To go someway to answering this question this desk-based research has involved a review a selection of local government strategic policies and planning schemes. The goal was to identify the frequencies of references to cultural terminology, including, but not limited to 'Multicultural', followed by an analysis of how those references relate to urban planning and design.

This research is also prompted by recent Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) initiatives which are starting to address the needs of our culturally diverse communities, especially the needs of First Nations People. In 2018, the board of the PIA endorsed a *Diversity and Inclusion Statement* which states that PIA:

> *… encourages diversity of thought and experience. We believe an inclusive and collaborative culture will contribute to best practice planning and foster apositive working environment.*

In addition, PIA's *Policy for the Accreditation of Australian Planning Qualifications* (2019) includes the following performance requirement:

> *Knowledge of the diversity of populations served, including the cultures of ethnic groups in Australia, other groups with special needs, including children and older people, and a capacity to engage meaningfully with diverse groups.*

I would suggest that to really bring about a change in planning for and with culturally diverse communities, improving planning education needs to be supported by culturally relevant State and Local Government planning policies and strategies. These planning documents need to focus on issues relevant to diverse cultural groups in the community as an integral part of the plans and strategies and not simply as an add-on.

1.2 Research Rationale & Approach

1.2.1 Research Rationale

The aim of the research is to better understand how Australian Local Governments are currently making reference to culture in their planning documents. This includes identifying the level of significance and how notions of culture, such as diverse communities' cultural practices are expressed in strategic planning documents at the local government level across a sample of Australian councils.

The first part of the research consisted of a word search for the terms; 'culture', 'cultures', 'cultural', culturally' and 'multicultural' to establish the number of times each term was used.

The second part of the search was to establish the context in which each of the terms was used. This part was structured to consider the notion of 'Cultural Practices', 'Cultural Expression' and 'Cultural Heritage'.

Having recorded the number of references to the search words an assessment was made regrading the context in which the words were being used and therefore which cultural category they related to and were recorded against.

The three cultural categories are made up of the following elements:

a. Cultural Practices including but not limited to:
    *   Ways of Life and Social Structures
    *   Behaviours and Values
    *   Codes and Assumptions
    *   Cultural Diversity and Community Identity

b. Cultural Expression including but not limited to:
    *   The participation in Arts and Crafts
    *   Cultural / Creative Industries and Cultural Tourism
    *   Festivals / Events, Performances and Exhibitions,
    *   Cultural Infrastructure, and Institutions

c. Cultural Heritage including but not limited to:
    *   Both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage
    *   Tangible and Intangible Heritage
    *   Cultural Landscapes and Places of Cultural Significance

It is important to acknowledge that in terms of *Planning Culturally* these categories apply across the entire population of the cities in this study. For example, the notion of cultural practices is not restricted to the recognition and respect for the cultural values of multicultural communities as culture is an essential part of all our lives.

Note: The findings also include occurrences where cultural terms make reference to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI), Indigenous or First Nations People's culture and / or heritage.

1.2.2 Research Approach

The overall objective of the research was to establish the number of 'culture' related references and how these different/relevant terms are being used in Local Government planning documents.

The documents reviewed include all Australia's capital city council's online strategic planning documents and both the strategic plans and planning instruments, for ten (10) councils in each of metropolitan Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide. These metropolitan LGAs were selected on the basis of being the municipalities with the highest percentage of people born overseas in each of the cities reviewed (based on the ABS 2016 census data).

The documents reviewed in this study fall into two basic categories of strategic plans and planning schemes, for example:

*   Victorian councils have a Council Plan and a Planning Scheme document
*   NSW councils have a Community Strategic Plan and a Local Strategic Planning Statement
*   SA councils have either a Community Plan or a City Plan and the State Government has introduced the new online Planning & Design Code which covers all LGAs

For the purposes of this report the following typology abbreviations have been applied across all states:

*   CSP - represents all the variations of council Community Strategic Plans
*   PS – represents all the urban Planning Schemes required by or generated by state governments (including the SA Planning & Design Code unless specifically referenced as PDC)

2. FINDINGS

This section summarises the overall findings of the review starting with Part 1 which documents the results of the Search Words, followed by the findings relating to the Cultural Categories. In Part 2 the specific findings from the review of the Capital City CSP strategies and in Part 3 the findings from 30 metropolitan local government CSP and PS documents.

The key take ways from the research were that:

- All the councils reviewed acknowledged the importance of 'culture' to varying degrees in their strategic documents. However, generally the number of references to 'culture' were low across most documents.

- Of the 30 metropolitan LGAs 80% included an acknowledgment of country in their CSPs.

- The main cultural emphasis was on supporting the community's cultural expression and engagement in cultural/arts activities through strategies to provide infrastructure and program resources.

- Local cultural heritage was an important factor in most documents, especially the planning scheme documents that recognise the relationship between development and preservation of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage.

- While cultural diversity was considered an important factor by all Councils, there were very few actual references to 'Multicultural' found, even in strategies from LGAs with highly diverse populations.

While there were references to the need to engage with people from diverse backgrounds in communication processes at the local level, perhaps the most disappointing finding in the context of 'Planning Culturally' was the lack of evidence that planning decisions are influenced by cultural considerations and or informed by cultural awareness of the community's diversity. On the few occasions there where references to the need to plan housing stock to address the needs of culturally diverse communities.

2.1 Search and Analysis Findings

2.1.1 Search Words (Chart 1a & 1b)

It was positive to see that all capital city and metropolitan councils, thirty-four (34) in all, made reference to one or more to the cultural search words. Although, overall, the review found that the word count for the group of search words was quite low, for example, the highest count for an individual council in a CSP was 496 and for PS the highest count for an individual council was 205. Unfortunately, in some CSPs and PSs the counts were only in the single digits.

- **Culture**
  References to the term 'Culture' fell into at least the following usage:
  a. As an overarching reference to peoples' ways-of-life, heritage and expression through the arts etc. For example:

      Culture is key to activating, celebrating and promoting our changing City. It is a driving force of vibrancy, a contributor to prosperity and the agent for showcasing the Parramatta story. Driven by culture, Parramatta will be known for its diversity and energy, a place where talent flourishes, with people, ideas and creativity at its core. (Parramatta City Council, NSW, CSP)

      or

      Arts and culture has a strong, positive impact on the quality of life in Communities creating a vibrant urban culture of creativity and innovation. (Campbelltown, SA, CSP)

  b. Relating to the notion of the 'corporate culture' of the council such as a 'culture' of innovation, integrity or inclusiveness etc. For example:

      At City of Adelaide our values provide the context for how we work together and with others. They are the standard against which we hold ourselves and others accountable. We are committed to building a

high performing, inclusive and sustainable workplace for the future that is based on and fosters these values and recognises alignment to them is integral to our culture. (City of Adelaide, SA, CSP)

c. Includes references to the culture of either ATSI, Indigenous or First Nations people in their current CSPs. For example:

The Larrakia culture and identity is rich and vibrant. In the footsteps of the Larrakia people, City of Darwin will continue to foster this culture and identity by creating a vibrant community together. (City of Darwin, NT, CSP)

Note: The review also found that all capital cities have developed a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in collaboration with their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Across all the LGAs reviewed the highest number of references to 'Culture' in a CSP was forty seven (47) and thirty seven (37) for a PS.

- **Cultures**
  The term 'Cultures' was used in a small number of documents in the context of 'a diversity of cultures' in leu of 'multicultural'. For example:

  Council will work with the community to ensure Wyndham is an inclusive, safe and welcoming city, which celebrates our diverse heritage and cultures, and helps residents to stay healthy, active and connected. (City of Wyndham, VIC, CSP)

  or

  Promote accessible parks and open space catering to all ages and cultures. (City of Canterbury Bankstown, NSW, CSP)

  Across all the LGAs reviewed there were only a small number of references to 'Cultures' with the highest number of references in a CSP being eleven (11) and in a PS, eight (8).

- **Cultural**
  The term 'Cultural' was the most frequently referenced of the search terms and the research identified a focus across activities, infrastructure and heritage, for example:

  a. Cultural activities such as festivals/events and cultural expression including art and creative industry activities. For examples:

  Adelaide is renowned for its authentic, vibrant and diverse cultural experiences. The challenge is to keep our collaborative and knowledgeable arts sector and arts practitioners engaged as we rebuild the cultural economy. The City of Adelaide will continue to use our resources and partnerships to showcase Adelaide's unique cultural identity, enable cultural enterprise and support our reputation as one of the greatest festival and arts cities in the world. (City of Adelaide, SA, CSP)

  b. Cultural facilities and infrastructure provision was also an important issue, the focus was on indoor and outdoor facilities and cultural institutions such as art galleries, performing arts centres and artist studios. For example:

  The City is investigating a series of planning reforms to support cultural actives including allowing minimal impact small-scale cultural uses to take place in existing shops and businesses without an approval, new planning guidance for cultural uses that require approval and reviewing zoning to ensure opportunities for cultural activities. (City of Sydney, NSW, CSP)

  c. The term cultural was also used in the context of the 'Cultural Diversity' of local communities and in reference to "Cultural Heritage' and "Cultural Landscapes/Places', both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal. For example:

  With diverse cultural groups that call Greater Dandenong home, there are certain distinct precincts that are emerging that have their own character. (Greater Dandenong, VIC, PS).

  or

  Ensure heritage places are protected and conserved, including Aboriginal cultural heritage and post contact heritage places. (City of Melbourne, VIC, PS)

Across all the LGAs reviewed, compared to the other search word, there were a relatively large number of references to 'Cultural' with the highest number of references in a CSP being four hundred and twenty (420) and the highest number in a PS being one hundred and eighty four (184).

- **Culturally**
  The term 'Culturally' was used in a range of ways, with the following being the primary combinations 'culturally diverse', 'culturally significant', 'culturally vibrant', 'culturally rich' and 'culturally appropriate'. For example:

  The City needs to partner with the community to ensure the provision of culturally-appropriate affordable and social housing dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. (City of Sydney, NSW, PS)

  or

  Respecting heritage and fostering healthy, creative, culturally rich and socially connected communities. (Blacktown City Council, NSW, PS)

  Across all the LGAs reviewed there were only a small number of references to 'Culturally' with the highest number of references in a CSP being eighteen (18) and the highest in a PS being eleven [11].

- **Multicultural**
  In the state capitals current strategic plans, the findings show that only two councils made reference specifically to 'Multicultural' although all eight made references to the notion of 'Cultural Diversity'. Only four of our capital cities have a dedicated Multicultural Strategy or related policy document on their websites. While not directly using the term 'Multicultural' the notion of a multicultural community was supported by the use of the word 'Cultures', for example to reference a diversity of cultures and in the use of 'Cultural' as in the context of cultural diversity.

  In terms of the metropolitan councils in NSW, Victoria and South Australia the research shows that as a percentage of the five search words the term 'Multicultural does not rate highly within this grouping of culturally related concepts. The Victorian data shows the highest number of Multicultural references at 7% in the CSPs. All Victorian LGAs make reference to the term but only in very small numbers, for example, the City of Monash had the highest number of references (5) in its PS.

  It was surprising that some of the councils with the highest percentage of people born overseas, such as Dandenong in Victoria (64.2%) and Fairfield in NSW (53.9%) do not make greater reference to 'multicultural' in their strategic documents.

- **Intercultural**
  The term Intercultural was not one of the key search terms used in the word count analysis, however the research found that only the City of Salisbury, in SA, and City of Maribyrnong, in Victoria, used the term 'Intercultural' in their CSPs. In addition, the City of Salisbury has a dedicated *Intercultural Strategic Plan 2017-2027*.

  While intercultural programs exist in many European cities, especially through the Council of Europe (CoE) *Intercultural City Network*, the concept of the intercultural city has not been widely adopted in Australia. At the time of this research the CoE website shows that in Australia: the City of Salisbury, in South Australia; the City of Logan in Queensland; and the Victorian cities of Maribyrnong, Melton and Ballarat are affiliated with the international *Intercultural City Network*.

- **Planning Culturally**
  While there were some references to the need to consult with culturally diverse communities, what was clear from the research was that there were only a few references to the need to make informed planning decisions based on cultural competency and an understanding the specific needs of culturally diverse communities.

  For example, there were a few references to planning a diversity of housing stock, such as:

  Recognising the cultural diversity of the population and encouraging housing diversity will create opportunities to meet the housing needs of the diverse community. (Greater Dandenong, VIC, PS)

  As more people are living in higher-density developments, greater focus is needed to facilitate greater diversity and choice of housing that is fit-for-purpose and addresses the social and cultural needs of specific groups. (City of Sydney, NSW, CSP)
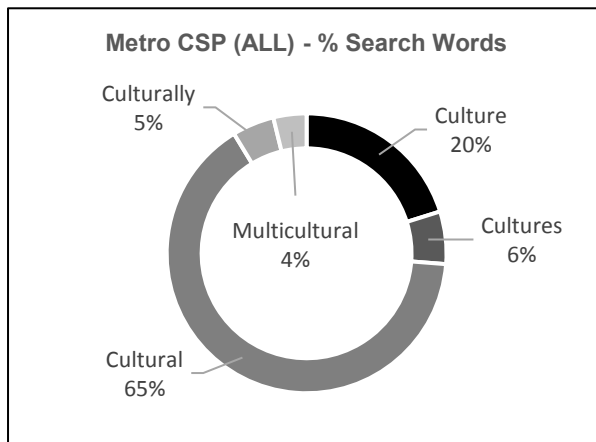
  and

  The City needs to partner with the community to ensure the provision of culturally-appropriate affordable and social housing dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities (City of Sydney, NSW, PS).
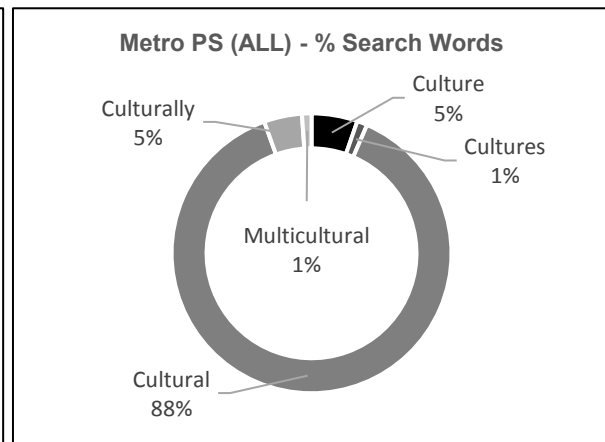
However, the notion of 'planning culturally' was not directly references in the documents of the 35 local governments reviewed.

(Chart 1a)

(Chart 1b)

Note: It was observed that there was a range of seemingly interchangeable usage of the terms Aboriginal, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI), Indigenous and First Nations people. In addition there is an increasing reference to the names of local Country, Nation and Language Groups

2.1.2 Cultural Categories (Chart 2a & 2b)

Of the three Cultural Categories, Cultural Practices, Cultural Expression and Cultural Heritage the following findings were observed:

- **Cultural Practices**
  The review found that Practices represented 40% of all Cultural Categories in the CSP documents but dropped to 13% in the PS documents and the references can be broken down in the following headings:

  Values – Cultural values were used in both the context of a diverse community's 'ways-of-life' and as 'corporate culture'. References to corporate culture were predominantly found in all the CSP documents under headings such as *Good Governance and Leadership* (Fairfield City Council) or *A well-governed and engaged community* (Hume City Council).

  Diversity – In all of the CSP documents the highest word counts in relation to Practices were associated with cultural diversity, especially references to the contribution that diversity makes to the vibrancy and richness the local community. Given the CSP have a whole of council perspective it is not surprising that the majority of references to cultural diversity were found in these plans.

  The recognition of diversity and the needs of different cultural groups was also reflected in some of the PS documents with regard to the planning of housing types to meet the different ways-of-life of culturally diverse communities and especially of the ATSI community.

  Identity – Those communities with high levels of diversity, celebrate and promote their LGA's vitality and diversity, such as *Fairfield City Celebrating Diversity* or the City of Whittlesea's *A Place for All*. In PS documents the focus is on land use and development options, therefore there is a requirement that proposals recognise and reflect the particular characteristics and cultural identity of the community and contribute to a sense of place.

- **Cultural Expression**
  The findings show that there was also a slightly higher percentage (40%) of references to cultural expression in the CSP documents than the PS documents (35%) and the references can be broken down in the following headings:

  Participation – Cultural expression through the whole range of artistic endeavours were acknowledged as vital contributors to community wellbeing, vitality, identity and economy. The importance of the creative and cultural industries to local economies are increasingly referred to in the CSPs including references to the night-time economy and tourism.

  Infrastructure – In both CSP and PS documents the issue of providing facilities and other infrastructure for the cultural and creative sector to produce and present their cultural activities were a significant focus. It was noted that the infrastructure requirements of the sector can be difficult to define due to wide range of forms of expression, often with very specific facility specifications, for example the differences between visual and performing arts. Facility provision can therefore involve a range of potential users and uses, which may be permanent or temporary and may take place in repurposed older buildings or purpose-built institutions such as performing art centres.

- **Cultural Heritage**
  Compared to the findings relating the variations between CSP and PS documents and the percentages of references to Practices and Expression, the Heritage percentage was considerably higher in the PS (52%) than the CSP (20%) and the references can be broken down in the following headings:

  Intangible cultural heritage – Intangible heritage was mainly expressed in CSP in regard to local stories and historic sense of place, both pre and post colonisation. Strategies primarily focused on ensuring the recording, protection and acknowledging of significant cultural values. References were made to the role of public art and cultural activities in telling local stories through both temporary and permanent projects.

  Tangible cultural heritage – References related to both the preservation of cultural heritage structures and buildings and also the potential for the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings through heritage incentives and grants. The value of cultural heritage to the notion of placemaking was also highlighted as important to urban design considerations in areas of local heritage significance.

  ATSI cultural heritage – The main focus on references to ATSI cultural heritage was on ensuring that Aboriginal cultural heritage places are protected and conserved. This included strategies including. Identify,

assess and document places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance, in consultation with relevant ATSI parties, to inform future planning scheme requirements.

Cultural landscapes & Places of cultural significance – The importance of identifying, assessing and documenting places of natural and cultural heritage significance to inform future development activity was recognised in the majority of the PS documents.
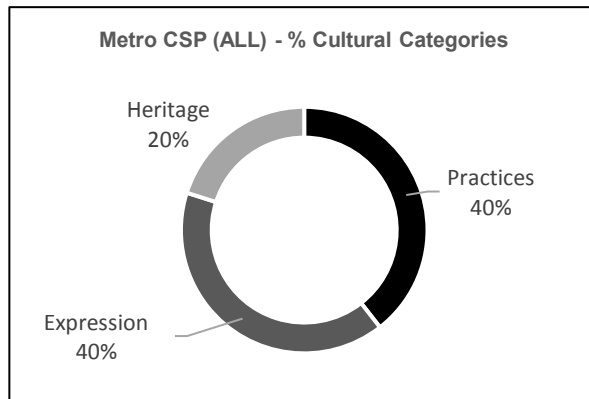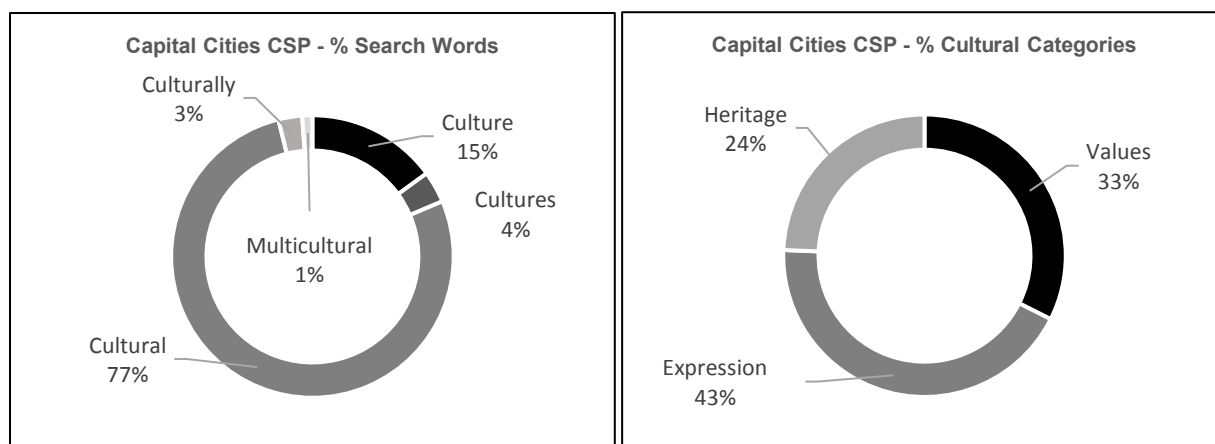

(Chart 2a)
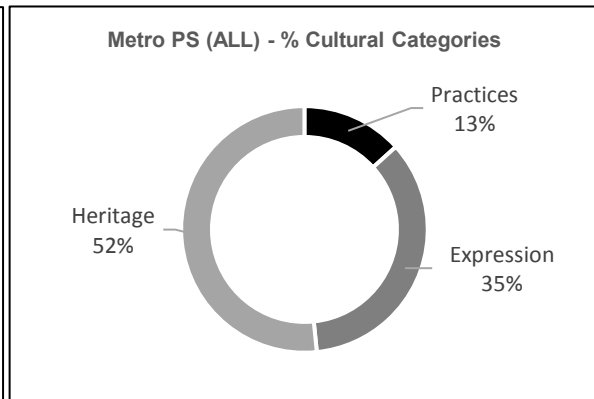
(Chart 2b)

2.2 Part 2: Capital Cities (Chart 3a & 3b)

The research into local government CSP documents included a review of the online documents available on the council websites of all Australian capital city councils.

As already stated, the research included a word search for the terms 'Culture', 'Cultures', 'Cultural', 'Culturally' and 'Multicultural' in the state capitals CSP documents. There was a total of 774 references to the cultural search word group across all cities.

Capital Cities CSP - % Search Words	Capital Cities CSP - % Cultural Categories
Culturally 3%	Heritage 24%
Culture 15%	Values 33%
Cultures 4%	
Multicultural 1%	Expression 43%
Cultural 77%	

(Chart 3a)   (Chart 3b)

Analysis: Capital Cities
The following findings were identified from the desk top review:

A: Search Words
As can be seen from Chart 3a, the highest percentage of references found in the review were associated with the term 'Cultural' followed by the term 'Culture'. The term 'Cultural' was mainly used in the context such as 'cultural facilities', 'cultural activities/events' or 'cultural heritage', whereas 'Culture' was mainly used in the context of the community's ways-of-life and values, including Council's corporate culture. It was also used in the context of recognising the significance of ATSI culture or referencing the ongoing culture of First Nations People.

Note: The research also found that all Capital Cities have a Reconciliation Action Plan or other related reconciliation document.

The review only found references to the term 'Cultures' in three (3) of the cities, and it was used in the context of 'cultural diversity'. Of the Australian state capital cities reviewed only five (5) had references to 'multicultural' and further research only found four (4) cities to have a separate dedicated 'Multicultural' strategy or policy document on their websites to support their CSPs.

B: Cultural Categories
The breakdown into the cultural categories, Chart 3b, indicates that the largest number of references sit under the heading 'cultural expression' and relate to: arts / cultural activities such as festivals, performances and art making; the provision of facilities and infrastructure to support these activities; and recognition of the growing importance of the creative industries and cultural tourism.

2.3 Part 3: Metropolitan Local Governments

In addition to the review of capital city documents the desk-top research included the same word search in a review of ten (10) local government strategic plans in metropolitan Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney. In each state the ten councils were selected as having the highest proportion of their population born overseas. (see Appendix 1 for full list of LGAs reviewed)

The following charts provide a breakdown of the percentage of occurrences of each search word and each cultural category in the various CSPs and PSs. As can be seen from the charts there is a significant difference between the CSP and PS documents in terms of the percentage breakdown of both search words and categories.

2.3.1 Metro CSP & PS - Search Words (Chart 4-6a & 4-6b)

Metro Search Words - Findings
- Search Word Count totals (all five terms)
  - In the Victorian CSP documents there were 243 references and in the PSs there were 1507 references.
  - In the New South Wales CSP documents there were 662 references and, in the PSs there were 690 references.
  - In the South Australian CSP documents there were 166 references and in the PDC there were 95 references
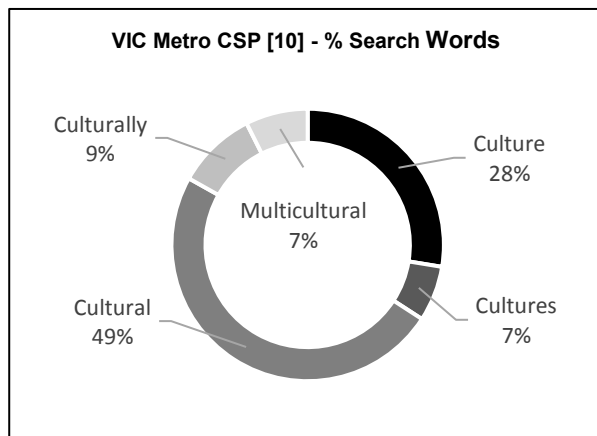
  As can be seen from the totals above, in both Victoria and NSW the word count was higher in the PS documents, whereas, in South Australia the highest number of references were found in the CSP documents. The low count in the South Australian data can perhaps be explained by the fact that there is a single state planning (PDC) document rather than each metropolitan LGA having their own PS.
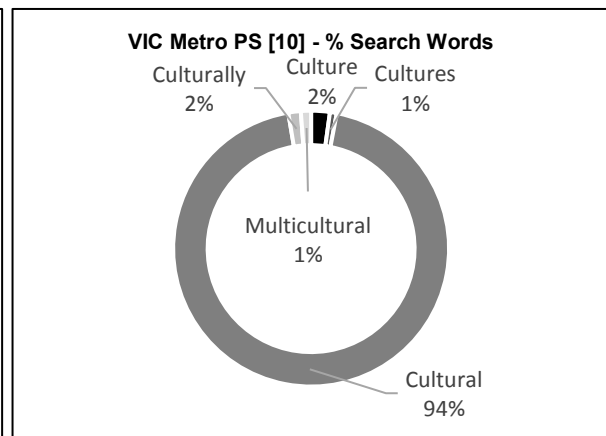
Key Word Count observations:
- Culture
  While the South Australian CSP total was the highest of the three states there were no references to 'Culture' in the state PDC.

- Cultures
  The term 'Cultures' rated very low in all three CSPs and was even lower in the PSs and zero in the SA. The references were even lower in the various PS documents.

- Cultural
  Across all word counts the term 'Cultural' rated the highest in both the CSPs and PSs, with the highest number of references being found in all three PS documents. As discussed previously the term is widely used in reference to heritage and all aspects of cultural expression, such as infrastructure, institutions and activities, including creation, participation, exhibition, performance, festivals etc.

- Culturally
  As with the term 'Cultures', 'Culturally' had a low rating across all word counts

- Multicultural
  Of the ten Victorian Council Strategic Plans (CSP) all made reference to 'multicultural' or 'multiculturalism'. Of the ten, only four made over four (4) reference. The review of the Victorian LGAs Planning Scheme documents (Chart 5a & b) found even less references to 'multicultural' with only 4 of the 10 using the word multicultural while all did have some references to cultural diversity. Of these Dandenong had the highest number of references to multicultural (8) and cultural diversity (11).

  In NSW the review found that only seven (7) of the Community Strategic Plans (CSP) made reference to 'multicultural' or 'multiculturalism' (Chart 6a & b). Of the 7, Liverpool City Council made a total of 5 specific references of "multicultural" and an additional 6 references to 'cultural diversity' and its importance in building a tolerant and dynamic community. In total across the 10 councils there were 19 references to 'multicultural' compared to 52 references to 'cultural diversity'. In addition to the CSPs the City of Sydney has a *Cultural Diversity Strategy 2008-2011* and Blacktown City has a *Multicultural Strategy and Action Plan 2019 -2023*.
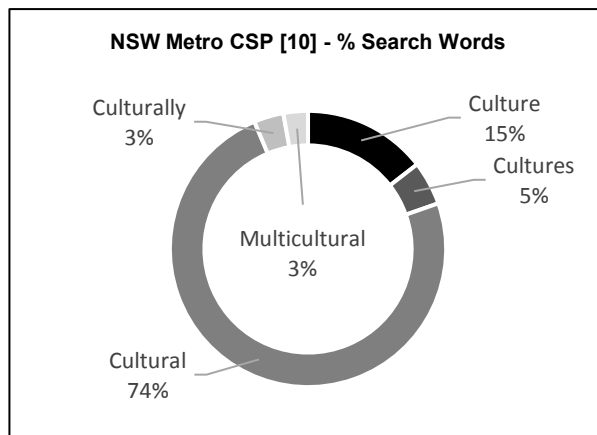
  In South Australia there was the lowest number of references to "multicultural" of all three states. The search only found two (2) City Plans (CP) made references to "multicultural" while eight (8) councils referred to "cultural diversity" a total of 41 times. In addition to the City of Salisbury CP council has an Intercultural Strategic Plan 2017. This plan states that: *The Intercultural Strategic Plan provides directions to enable the City of Salisbury to become a welcoming, cohesive intercultural community in which all people can thrive and flourish.* The concept of being "Intercultural" was not acknowledged in any of the other LGAs in this study.
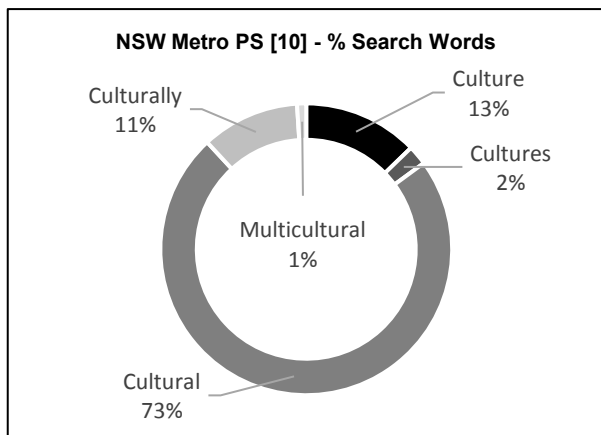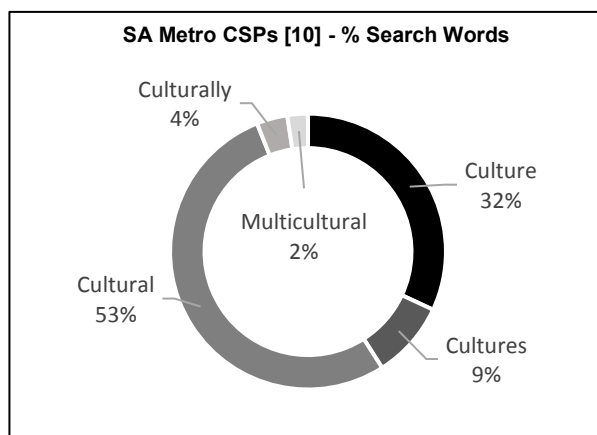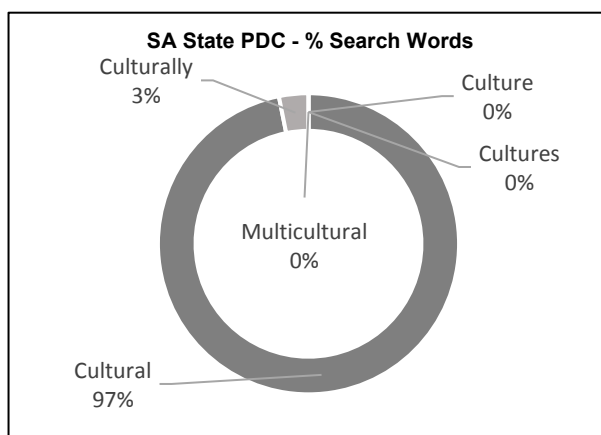
VIC Metro CSP [10] - % Search Words

Culturally 9%
Culture 28%
Multicultural 7%
Cultural 49%
Cultures 7%

(Chart 4a)

VIC Metro PS [10] - % Search Words

Culturally 2%
Culture 2%
Cultures 1%
Multicultural 1%
Cultural 94%

(Chart 4b)

NSW Metro CSP [10] - % Search Words

Culturally 3%
Culture 15%
Cultures 5%
Multicultural 3%
Cultural 74%

(Chart 5a)

NSW Metro PS [10] - % Search Words

Culturally 11%
Culture 13%
Cultures 2%
Multicultural 1%
Cultural 73%

(Chart 5b)

SA Metro CSPs [10] - % Search Words

Culturally 4%
Culture 32%
Multicultural 2%
Cultural 53%
Cultures 9%

(Chart 6a)

SA State PDC - % Search Words

Culturally 3%
Culture 0%
Cultures 0%
Multicultural 0%
Cultural 97%

(Chart 6b)

2.3.2 Metro CSP & PS – Cultural Categories (Chart 7-9a & 7-9b)

As can be seen from the charts below there is considerable variation between the states and the planning documents, in relation to the categories. The NSW data shows the most consistency across the CSP and PS findings with 'Expression' at roughly 50% in both cases and 'Heritage' and 'Practices' being around the 25% mark.
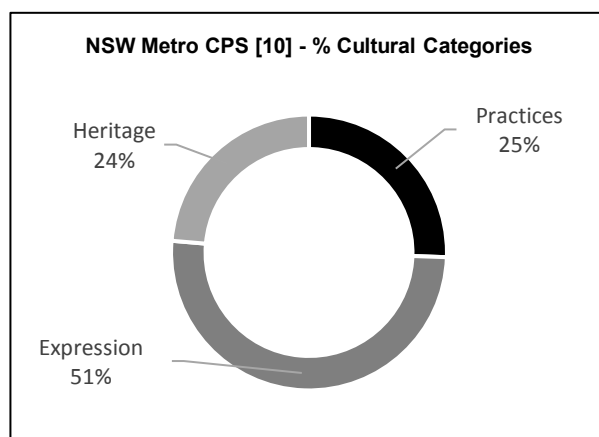
Whereas in both Victoria and South Australia the Heritage percentages vary greatly between the CSPs and PSs, which seems to reflect the importance of recognising state and local heritage sites in the planning schemes.

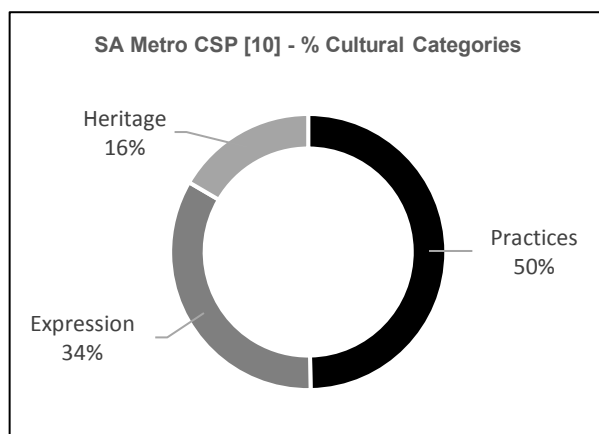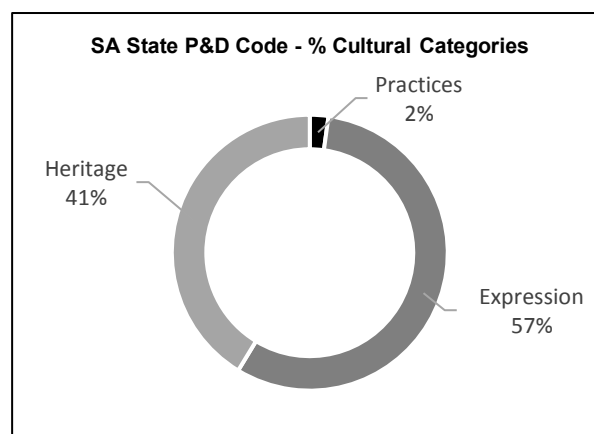**VIC Metro CSP [10] - % Cultural Categories**

Heritage 18%
Practices 51%
Expression 31%

(Chart 7a)

VIC Metro PS [10] - % Cultural Categories

Practices 8%
Expression 28%
Heritage 64%

(Chart 7b)

NSW Metro CPS [10] - % Cultural Categories

Heritage 24%
Practices 25%
Expression 51%

(Chart 8a)

NSW Metro PS [10] - Cultural Categories

Heritage 27%
Practices 26%
Expression 47%

(Chart 8b)

SA Metro CSP [10] - % Cultural Categories

Heritage 16%
Practices 50%
Expression 34%

(Chart 9a)

SA State P&D Code - % Cultural Categories

Practices 2%
Heritage 41%
Expression 57%

(Chart 9b)

2.1.3 Comparison between Community Strategic Plans and Planning Scheme documents (Chart 10a & 10b)

An assessment of the percentage of references to each of the search words and cultural categories shows considerable variation between the community strategic plans and the planning scheme documents. It is important to recognise that the two typologies of 'strategic' documents have different intent, for example a CSP will have a holistic all of council role, addressing the goals and priorities of council's divisions, be they economic, social, or environmental. Whereas the PS focus is targeted at informing urban development and land-use planning, as the NSW Planning Portal states:

> *Each council will prepare a Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which will set out the 20-year vision for land-use in the local area, the special character and values that are to be preserved and how change will be managed into the future.* (https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions-publications/local-strategic-planning-statements)

The review of the Metro LGA documents found that there was a total of 1071 in the CSPs and 2277 in the PSs. Based on the total number of references to the search words the search word data in the Chart 1a below shows that:

- Overall, the word 'cultural' is the dominant term in both strategy typologies

- The PS documents show that the word 'cultural' has a significantly higher percentage of references than the CSP

- The CSP documents, being holistic strategies do have a higher proportion of all five search words

- In both the CSP and PS the term Multicultural represented the smallest percentage of references.

The cultural category data in the Chart 1b below shows that:

- The CSP documents have a stronger focus on cultural practices and expression than on cultural heritage

- The PS documents reverse the CSP findings on cultural heritage with cultural heritage being a significant issue in terms of land use planning

    - A further breakdown of the cultural heritage data in the CSP documents shows that 47% of the references relate to ATSI heritage and places of cultural significance

    - A breakdown of the cultural heritage data in the PS documents shows that 84% of the references relate to ATSI heritage and places of cultural significance

- The expression findings in the PS documents mainly related to the provision of infrastructure etc to support cultural activities and were also significantly higher than the CSP findings
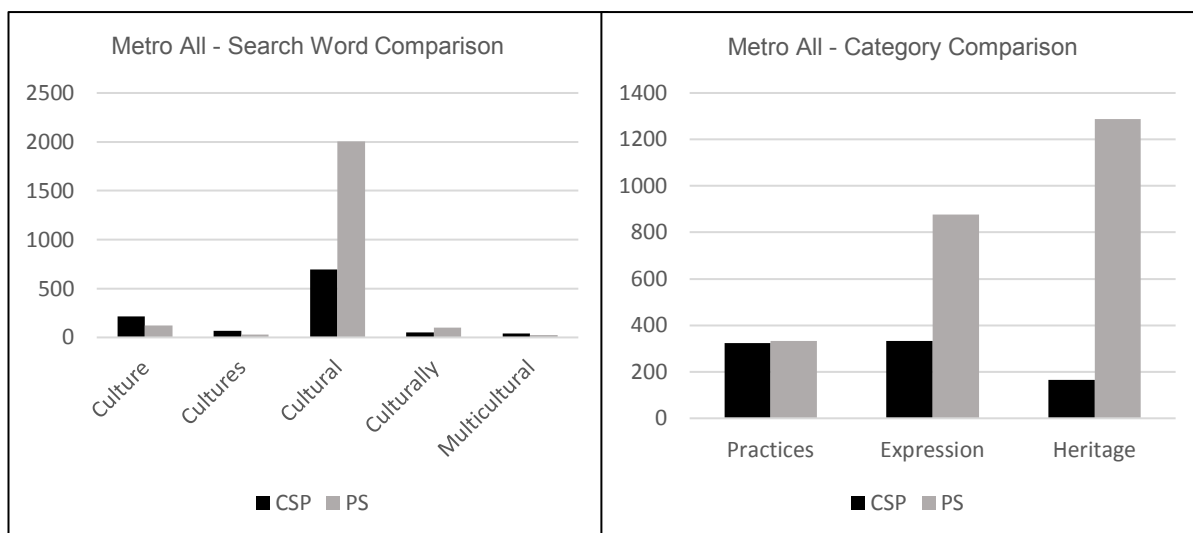
(Chart 10a)   (Chart 10b)

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3. Appendix

3.1 Demographic Data

The following tables provide the demographic data for cities reviewed. The data was collected from the community profiles on council websites, where the data had either been provided directly by the ABS or by a third party statistical service.

4.1.2 State Capital City demographic data

CAPITAL CITIES	POPULATION	% BORN O/S	ATSI
ADELAIDE	22,067	44.2%	1.4%
BRISBANE	1,131,155	30.6%	1.5%
CANBERRA	426,704	32.0%	1.6%
DARWIN	78,803	31.6%	1.7%
HOBART	50,437	22.7%	0.2%
MELBOURNE	178,955	56.0%	0.3%
PERTH	24,956	54.7%	0.2%
SYDNEY	208,374	47.7%	1.1%

4.1.3 State Metro Local Government demographic data
Research involved a selection of ten (10) metropolitan LGAs from New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia selected as having the highest percentage of the population born overseas.

NSW CITIES	POPULATION	% BORN O/S	ATSI
SYDNEY	208,374	47.70%	1.10%
FAIRFIELD	198,810	53.90%	0.10%
CUMBERLAND	242,674	52.20%	0.60%
PARRAMATTA	226,148	49.50%	0.10%
RYDE	133,224	46.90%	0.40%
GEORGES RIVER	160,272	45.50%	0.50%
WILLOUGHBY	81,196	45.40%	0.20%
CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN	380,406	44.00%	0.50%
LIVERPOOL	231,296	40.70%	1.50%
CANADA BAY	96,550	40.50%	0.50%
BLACKTOWN	336,962	40.40%	2.80%

VICTORIAN CITIES	POPULATION	% BORN O/S	ATSI
MELBOURNE	178,955	56.00%	0.30%
DANDENONG	152,050	72.00%	0.10%
MONASH	204,936	48.90%	0.20%
BRIMBANK	208,247	47.80%	0.40%
WYNDHAM	283,294	41.50%	0.80%
MARIBYRNONG	94,982	40.00%	0.50%
MANNINGHAM	116,255	39.80%	0.20%
WHITEHORSE	162,078	38.40%	0.20%
CASEY	299,301	38.20%	0.50%
HUME	197,376	35.70%	0.70%

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CITIES	POPULATION	% BORN O/S	ATSI
ADELAIDE	22,067	44.20%	1.10%
CAMPBELLTOWN	53,082	34.00%	0.60%
PORT ADELAIDE	121,234	33.30%	0.30%
SALISBURY	137,978	31.00%	0.40%
WEST TORRENS	57,901	30.60%	0.20%
BURNSIDE	46,127	30.40%	0.30%
NORWOOD, PAYNEHAM & ST PETERS	37,462	30.20%	0.60%
CHARLES STURT	120,733	27.50%	0.02%
WALKERVILLE	8,094	27.50%	0.70%
MARION	94,879	27.30%	1.20%