



## **Australian Government**

### **Australian Government response to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts report:**

**Am I Ever Gonna See You Live Again?  
Yes way! You bet! Oh yeah!**

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## Overview

The Australian Government welcomes the report by the former House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts (the Committee) following its inquiry into the challenges and opportunities within the Australian live music industry.

The Government recognises the important contribution the music industry makes to Australian culture and is committed to improving arts and cultural outcomes for Australia. Despite its cultural and economic importance, the Australian live music industry continues to face challenges.

In 2023, the Government launched the National Cultural Policy, *Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place*. *Revive* is the Government's flagship commitment for renewing and reviving the arts and cultural sector. Under *Revive*, the Government recognises that artistic and cultural work is a professional activity and that fair pay and conditions for arts and cultural workers are essential.

*Revive* commits to support stronger cultural infrastructure, expand income opportunities for artists, increase opportunities for more diverse programming, increase audiences for Australian original live music, and increase equity in access to arts and culture. As a first step, the Government mandated minimum remuneration for professional musicians and performers at Australian Government events and functions.

To strengthen the Government's commitment to the music sector, Music Australia was established within Creative Australia, the Australian Government's principal arts investment and advisory body, under the *Creative Australia Act 2023*. As a dedicated body within Creative Australia, Music Australia and its Council invests in and supports the Australian contemporary music industry, building partnerships and expertise that both directly support Australian artists and benefit Australian audiences. An initial total of \$69.4 million in funding over four years has been invested in Music Australia. The investment increases year on year, indexed at \$28.2m ongoing from 2027-28.

In June 2025 Music Australia published the first comprehensive analysis of the economic contribution of the Australian music industry, *The Bass Line: Charting the economic contribution of Australia's music industry*. It also released the much-anticipated *Listening In* trilogy, a series of three research reports on Australians' engagement with music, providing valuable information to support the industry and inform policy development.

The Government continues to provide critical support to live music venues and festivals that showcase Australian artists through its commitment to expand and extend the *Revive Live* program into 2026-27, bringing the Government's total investment for *Revive Live* to \$25 million over two years. *Revive Live* was first announced as part of the *Critical Support for the Live Music and Festivals* measure in the 2024-25 Budget and provided \$7.8 million in funding to support 63 music festival-based activities and 49 live music venues under the first round.

This includes funding towards activities that improve accessibility and inclusion at live music events, providing increased participation opportunities for audiences, and career pathways for musicians and music workers with disability.

As a five-year policy, *Revive*, is due to end in 2027, and the Government will soon turn its attention to the next iteration of its National Cultural Policy and commence consultations.

As noted by the Committee, several of the recommendations fall under the jurisdiction of the state and territory governments – the Government values ongoing and productive engagement with state and territory governments, and will continue to work closely with all jurisdictions and industry partners in an effort to deliver effective policy and programs that support the Australian music industry.

The Government commends the Committee for its thorough engagement with all levels of government, artists, broadcasters, promoters, venues, festivals, service providers and peak industry bodies throughout the inquiry. The Government has considered the matters raised as a result of the inquiry and the recommendations of the Committee.

## Australian Government Response

The Australian Government's response to *Am I Ever Gonna See You Live Again?* is set out in detail below.

### Recommendation 1:

- 4.22 The Committee recommends the Australian Government investigate the potential benefits of a tax offset for the live music industry. The Treasury, the Office of the Arts and Creative Australia should be tasked with developing a policy proposal for the Australian Government to consider.
- 4.23 Such a tax offset might be considered in conjunction with proposals for a live performance offset that would benefit other artforms such as theatre.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The arts and creative sectors have been actively advocating for tax offsets for live performance, including the live music industry.

The next iteration of the National Cultural Policy is due for development prior to 2028.

## Recommendation 2:

4.24 The Committee recommends Australian consumer law be amended to better regulate the selling of tickets to live music, by:

- improving the transparency of fees and charges within the price of tickets
- limiting extreme variability in ticket prices caused by 'dynamic pricing'

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

In November 2024, the Government released a supplementary consultation paper on a proposal to protect consumers from unfair trading practices. This paper proposed the introduction of a general principles-based prohibition and specific prohibitions to address a number of unfair practices that may fall into potential gaps or grey areas in the Australian Consumer Law (ACL).

In particular, the consultation considered potential reform options and the adequacy of existing ACL provisions to address:

- drip pricing practices, where fees are added through the stages of a purchase; and
- dynamic pricing, where a business increases the price of the product during the purchasing process in response to factors such as demand.

In November 2025, following agreement by States and Territories, the government announced it will legislate a general prohibition on practices that manipulate consumer decision making and cause harm, and strengthen protections against hidden fees.

In March 2025, the Government also announced it will consult on extending unfair trading practice protections to small businesses.

### Recommendation 3:

4.25 The Committee recommends the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission monitor the Australian music industry for anti-competitive conduct and take enforcement action as required.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) is responsible for enforcing Australia's competition law across the economy, including the music industry. The ACCC exercises its enforcement powers independently and uses a range of tools to ensure compliance with the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*. If the ACCC finds evidence of anti-competitive behaviour, it investigates the issue further and acts as appropriate.

## Recommendation 4:

4.26 The Committee recommends the Australian Government add a small levy to the price of tickets to large music events and direct the funds raised to support for small venues and grassroots live music (see Recommendation 5).

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

Narrow-based levies are at odds with the principles of efficient tax system design. They often come with high collection costs and a range of administrative complexities that would need to be considered by the Government.

Work has already progressed, led by the Australian Live Music Business Council, to implement a ticket levy through a voluntary model involving major promoters and ticketing companies.

The Government recognises grassroots live music venues and festivals are a critical part of the music industry ecosystem. The Government has committed to expand the *Revive Live* program, administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts, providing a total of \$25 million in funding over two years, extending the program into 2026-27. This investment will provide critical support to majority Australian-owned grassroots live music venues and festivals that showcase Australian artists.



## Recommendation 5:

4.27 The Committee recommends an extension and expansion of the *Revive* Live program. This expansion might be funded through a ticket levy (Recommendation 4) and funds could be disbursed by Music Australia. The funding could be offered in three streams:

- Live and local: a series of performances at a live music venue or non-traditional venue with mandated minimum performance fees.
- Live ready: funding for capital improvements to live music venues to improve the functionality and accessibility of venues. This could include costs like sound-proofing, equipment upgrades, disability access.
- Live for all: funding for music festivals with an emphasis on improving the accessibility, viability and diversity of live music, including regional festivals, all-ages events, First Nations festivals, community focussed events and not-for-profit based operations.

The Government **partially supports** this recommendation.

The Government recognises that the sector continues to face challenges that have resulted in live music venues closing and live music festivals cancelling.

The Government, under the *Revive* Live program, provides critical support to established majority-Australian owned live music venues and festivals that showcase Australian artists.

*Revive* Live has already provided \$7.8 million in grant funding to support 112 live music businesses, including 63 music festival-based activities and 49 live music venues.

*Revive* Live was first announced as part of the *Critical Support for the Live Music and Festivals measure* in the 2024–25 Budget. The Government has committed to increase funding for *Revive* Live to \$25 million over two years extending the program into 2026-27.

*Revive* Live is supporting the long-term sustainability of presenting live Australian contemporary music by providing financial relief to ensure artists are paid, limiting venue closures and event cancellations, and allowing audiences to continue to participate in Australian live music into the future.

*Revive* Live has a strong focus on activities that improve accessibility and provide participation opportunities for audiences, and career pathways for musicians and music workers, with disability.

*Revive* Live will safeguard performance opportunities for Australian artists with funding to create a more resilient and sustainable live music ecosystem, in the face of rising operational costs for live music venues and festivals. This recognises live music venues and music festivals as a fundamental pillar for success that is essential to the development of both artist and audience—allowing artists to grow audiences, build professionalism and profile, and earn an income.

The establishment of Music Australia, will increase support for the contemporary music industry through specific actions outlined in *Revive*. This support is targeted to artists and strategic industry partnerships, and is specifically designed to reach into the commercial sectors, where traditional grants funding models have had limited success.

## Recommendation 6:

- 4.28 The Committee recommends state, territory and local governments consider designating 'special entertainment precincts' in recognition of the economic and cultural value of these places.
- 4.29 Special Entertainment Precincts should benefit from a regulatory regime more supportive to their ongoing viability. This may include exemptions to trading hour restrictions, concessional liquor excise rates and differentiated noise complaint processes.
- 4.30 Further, the Committee recommends the Australian Government gather information on best practice in this area, provide advice to jurisdictions on how to establish and support special entertainment precincts, and monitor the effectiveness of reforms across the jurisdictions that implement them.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The Australian Government recognises that urban areas play a crucial role in fostering inclusive and vibrant communities by supporting a spectrum of creative talent, community participation, and cultural organisations. Supporting arts and cultural sectors contributes to more vibrant, inclusive urban environments and enhances the cultural richness of cities through art, creative expression, and community collaboration. Tourism, heritage and sport contribute to wellbeing and liveability of urban areas.

The Australian Government is providing support to entertainment precincts through a partnership with the Tasmanian Government. In June 2025, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts entered into an agreement to jointly fund a feasibility study to investigate designated precincts for live music in Hobart and Launceston and explore ways to reduce red tape, allowing live music to thrive.

The Government considers point 4.28 regarding the designation of special entertainment precincts is a matter for state, territory and local governments. State, territory and local governments hold the regulatory and land-use mechanisms to establish special entertainment precincts (unless the precincts were to occur on Commonwealth land), and some jurisdictions are undertaking work in relation to entertainment precincts.

For example, the Australian Capital Territory is establishing the City Centre Entertainment Precinct (CCEP) and introducing fit for purpose Noise Standards for entertainment noise. This will support live music and entertainment businesses, bars, restaurants and other non-licensed entertainment venues in the CCEP and provide a wider range of entertainment offerings, attracting more visitors and boosting the live music ecosystem and the city's cultural vibrancy.

Additionally, on 10 September 2024, the Parliament of South Australia passed the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Designated Live Music Venues and Protection of Crown and Anchor Hotel) Amendment Act 2024*. This legislation specifies that a condition will be imposed that must include "noise attenuation measures" when approving new residential developments within 60 metres of a boundary of a live music venue in the central business district.

The intention of these measures is to provide ongoing protection for designated live music venues in the City of Adelaide against noise complaints from future residents.

Regulation for Special Entertainment Precincts is a matter of state, territory and local government.

## Recommendation 7:

- 4.31 The Committee recommends the Australian Government assess the viability of a rebate or voucher scheme to incentivise younger audiences to attend live music.
- 4.32 This may include offering event presenters a rebate to compensate them for income foregone by offering discounted tickets to young audiences and 'two for one' tickets for audience members required to attend with an adult or support person/carer.
- 4.33 An alternative approach may be to offer vouchers directly to prospective audience members.
- 4.34 The scheme should prioritise:
- young audiences, from under 18s to early 30s – the demographic in most significant decline amongst live music audiences
  - events, venues or festivals with Australian artists and original music in their programs
- 4.35 The Committee recommends the Australian Government partner with state and territory jurisdictions in funding a trial of any future rebate or voucher scheme.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The arts and cultural sectors have been advocating for a culture pass or voucher system to incentivise young people to attend live music and stimulate the industry through increased attendance. Evidence shows that the pandemic impacted audience confidence in attending live events and ticket-buying behaviour, in particular by young people.

As each state and territory may address the topic of a rebate or voucher scheme differently based on the specific needs of their own jurisdictions and budget priorities, the Government considers this recommendation is a matter for state and territory governments.

*Revive* committed to embedding the voices of young Australians in policy and programs across Government. Australia's first Creative Industries Youth Advisory Group comprises nine young people from diverse backgrounds, including from regional and remote Australia, representing a wide range of creative industries. A voucher scheme or 'cultural pass' to encourage young people to attend arts events and activities is consistent with advice provided to Government by the Creative Industries Youth Advisory Group.

Based on a 2025 election commitment, the Western Australian Government is currently scoping a voucher scheme for youth engagement more generally, that is broader than music.

## Recommendation 8:

- 4.36 The Committee recommends the Australian Government consider ways in which it could partner with state and territory governments to improve the standard of music education in primary schools.
- 4.37 This may include support for pilot projects to deliver quality music education in communities of socio-economic disadvantage and an evaluation of the impacts of this on student outcomes.
- 4.38 The Committee recommends the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority work closely with state and territory governments to ensure better incorporation of music education into school curricula, with the aim of significantly increasing the number of children studying music at primary and high school.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

Version 9.0 of the Australian Curriculum, which was agreed by all education ministers on 1 April 2022, sets the expectations for what all Australian students should be taught regardless of where they live, or their background. The states and territories either adopt the Australian Curriculum directly or adapt it to align with local syllabus, approaches and priorities.

While the Australian Government plays a leadership role in setting and advocating for national priorities in school education, it is the role of state and territory governments and non-government school authorities to manage schools, including implementing the curriculum in line with jurisdictional policies and requirements. These decisions are also made at the school level to ensure educational programs can be tailored to meet local community needs.

The intent of the Australian Curriculum: The Arts is that every student has the right to an excellent and equitable arts education. The Arts: Music is a mandated subject of The Arts learning area which is founded on the principle that every child has creative and expressive potential and learns as both artist and audience.

State and territory governments have strategies and programs that deliver a wide range of music education, training, performance and engagement opportunities for schools, students and teachers.

A guiding principal of the National Cultural Policy, *Revive*, is that every student should have the opportunity to receive an education that includes culture, creativity, humanities and the arts; including the Government's continued support of creative practice in the classroom through the delivery of five arts subjects (dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts) under the Australian Curriculum: The Arts.

In addition to its commitment under *Revive* to deliver song writing and recording initiatives in schools, Music Australia plans to convene sessions with the music education sector to establish strategic direction, form relationships and, where appropriate, develop co-investment models with state and territory governments on strategic initiatives to support music education outcomes.

## Recommendation 9:

4.39 The Committee recommends a minimum fee reflective of Award rates and conditions be established for the hiring of musicians and performers at public events that are run, sponsored or otherwise supported by the Australian Government, and that this fee be indexed yearly by CPI or average wages.

The Government **agrees in principle** to this recommendation.

The Government recognises that artistic and cultural work is a professional activity and that fair recognition for arts and cultural workers is essential. Artists engaged as employees are entitled to the wages and conditions provided under the relevant award. The Government acknowledges, and as stated in *Revive*, that artistic and cultural workers are often engaged as independent contractors, not employees.

Through *Revive*, the Government has committed to expand income opportunities for artists, increase opportunities for more diverse programming, support stronger cultural infrastructure, and increase audiences for Australian original live music.

*Revive* recognises that artistic and cultural work is a professional activity and that fair pay and conditions for arts and cultural workers are essential. It includes measures to improve the circumstances of artist and arts workers including through appropriate remuneration.

Under *Revive* the Government has mandated minimum remuneration for professional musicians and performers contracted by government entities at Australian Government events and functions. This action supports the intentions of Pillar 3 of *Revive*: Centrality of the Artist which recognises artists as workers and celebrates artists as creators.

Established under Creative Australia in 2023, Creative Workplaces provides advice on issues of pay, safety and welfare in the arts and entertainment sector, refers matters to the relevant authorities and develops codes of conduct and resources for the sector. The Creative Workplaces national resources hub website was launched in June 2025.

## Recommendation 10:

- 4.40 The Committee recommends the Australian Government partner with relevant stakeholders to undertake research into the viability of a self-insurance or mutual insurance model for the music industry and investigate other reforms and initiatives for insuring live music activities that could result in lower premiums for presenters.
- 4.41 Further, the Committee recommends the Australian Government provide information on best practice management of live music venues and events with a view to reducing both risk to insurers and premiums for presenters.
- 4.42 The Committee recommends Music Australia partner with the Live Music Business Council and the Insurance Council of Australia to develop a self-assessment app to provide a more accurate prediction of risk and a more customised insurance premium to reflect the main drivers of risk (outdoor events, multi-day events, late events, etc).

The Government **notes** point 4.40. The policy and regulatory settings for insurance are affected by each level of government.

With support from Music Australia, an industry led analysis of insurance in the Australian music festival industry commenced in September 2024, seeking to better understand the drivers behind increasing insurance costs, the variability of insurance costs across different music festival types, and assessing the viability of alternative models, such as a Discretionary Mutual Fund. This work is ongoing.

The Government **does not support** point 4.41.

Industry professionals such as insurance brokers and industry associations are better placed to provide advice on best practice management of live music venues and events. While the Government is actively monitoring trends in the business insurance market, it does not have the granular risk information to advise on best practice for industry. Live music businesses are encouraged to work with their state and territory governments and explore, through insurance brokers, whether there are any further actions they could take to lower the risk profile of their business so that they can obtain cover.

The Government **notes** point 4.42. This recommendation is a matter for industry, in particular the Australian Live Music Business Council.

## Recommendation 11:

4.43 The Committee recommends the introduction of a new obligation for major international tours to include Australian support acts as a condition of approval – a proposal commonly referred to as ‘Michael’s Rule’.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

Under *Revive* the Government will ensure that Australian music remains visible, discoverable and easily accessible across platforms to all Australians, driven by a vibrant, agile, sustainable and globally facing local music industry.

The Government acknowledges that requiring local artists to be placed on the same tours, stages and promotional material as the biggest international acts can help showcase Australian talent to new markets and diversify audiences.

A number of factors require careful consideration before introducing a new obligation for major international tours, for example, defining "major" international tours, number of eligible support acts per major tour and consideration of the current global political climate, including bilateral agreements in place and specific country contexts.

To support ‘Michael’s Rule’, the New South Wales Government has launched an Australian-first policy through Sound NSW, Venues NSW and Sydney Opera House that will offer reduced venue hire fees for international touring acts that include Australian artists and performers in their concert line-up.

## Recommendation 12:

4.44 The Committee recommends the Australian Government conduct comprehensive research into changes in audience behaviour and generational attitudes and behaviours that have affected demand for live music.

The Government **agrees** with this recommendation.

Music Australia and its Council support the Australian music industry to grow, including through strategic initiatives and industry partnerships, research, skills development and export promotion.

The Government committed ongoing funding to Music Australia to support these objectives. The Music Australia Council is made up of senior policy advisors, musicians and key industry representatives and provides strategic advice and guidance regarding the priority of investment, development, and research needs of the contemporary music industry in Australia.

Recent research commissioned by Music Australia and conducted by Creative Australia's research team provides insights into how Australians discover and consume music along with audiences' wider attitudes, behaviours and preferences.

In June 2025, the full *Listening In* research series was published by Music Australia. The series of three parts contains:

- Insights on live music attendance
- Insights on music discovery and engagement
- A summary and synthesis of insights on music consumption

These reports aim to enhance understanding of local audience engagement. It will also inform government policy that aims to support the Australian music industry, building on effective mechanisms such as the Government's *Revive Live* program.

The Government values robust research and evidence to inform policy decisions and will continue to work with Music Australia regarding research into the behaviours, attitudes and demand for Australian live music.



### Recommendation 13:

- 4.45 The Committee recommends the Australian Government develop a centralised source of information on compliance, age-based access, regulation, and training requirements across national, state, territory and municipal jurisdictions that can inform the planning and management of festivals and live music venues.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

*Revive* outlined the need for a Creative Workforce Scoping Study to understand workforce challenges and skills across the creative sector and inform industry driven solutions. Services and Creative Skills Australia (SaCSA) engaged Creative Australia to deliver this study, which was released in March 2025. The study will inform future workforce plans, vocational and education training reviews and workforce initiatives.

The *Soundcheck* report released on 11 April 2024 produced by Creative Australia on behalf of Music Australia, and in consultation with the Australian Festivals Association, provides further details on national and state regulatory frameworks and permits and licences by state.

The Government notes that the proposed centralised source of information would be resource intensive and challenging to maintain for currency and relevancy.

## Recommendation 14:

4.46 The Committee recommends state and territory governments consider a reduction or abolition of user-pays policing charges at music festivals.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The Government acknowledges that the actions of this recommendation are a matter for state and territory regulation and police enforcement services in the context of health, safety and event legislation in each state and territory and common law.

## Recommendation 15:

4.47 The Committee recommends state and territory governments re-evaluate the need for large police presences at live music events and the use of sniffer dogs and strip-searches.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The Government acknowledges that the actions of this recommendation are a matter for state and territory regulation and police enforcement services in the context of health, safety and event legislation in each state and territory and common law.

## Recommendation 16:

4.48 The Committee recommends Austrade expand its support for Australian music exports to support the global reach of Australian music.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The Government recognises the value and need for cultural exports to build relationships and understanding of Australia in global perceptions. The Government is committed to building cultural and creative exports through a multi-faceted approach. *Revive* provides a framework to strengthen Australia's musical exports through several actions:

- Take forward the Government's trade diversification agenda to strengthen and expand trade networks, including growing markets for cultural and creative exports.
- Support digital and international market development for Australian artists by increasing funding for Sounds Australia to build on the growth achieved to date and to expand into new markets.

Additionally, Austrade's trade services help Australian businesses expand in overseas markets. For example, Austrade services exporters at every stage of their journey through the Go Global Toolkit, which offers a suite of free digital tools and resources including webinars, interactive tools, market guides and how-to-articles.

- Since its launch in March 2021, the Toolkit has had more than 680,000 users, with an average of 15,000 monthly unique users in 2024.
- Since the authenticated portal launched in March 2025, over 2,600 user accounts have been created.

Austrade's Go Global Toolkit has recently been expanded to now include the Go Global Export Academy, which provides even more support to Australian businesses looking to accelerate their export journey, with free webinars available live and on demand.

The Export Market Development Grants program, administered by Austrade, provides matched grants for businesses to encourage the creation, development and expansion of foreign markets for Australian products and services. The program is available for businesses that are ready to export or exporting their products. It is available for eligible businesses in all sectors, including the music industry.

The Australian Export Awards, recognises outstanding international success across 14 national categories, including creative industries. This includes music, visual and performing arts, fashion, design, film and television, digital media and content, animation, software and games, festival and event production, writing and publishing and creative services.

In addition, Music Australia's Export Development Fund is a matched funding scheme that offers targeted support for emerging, breakthrough and established artists at different career junctures by providing a bespoke grant program that targets three specific areas of international export:

- International Performance and Touring Activity
- International Professional and Artistic Development, and
- International Market and Audience Development

As one of Music Australia's delivery partners, Sounds Australia - Australia's export music market initiative - will receive annual funding from January 2025 – December 2028 to deliver Australia's contemporary music export program.

The Government will continue to work with Austrade, Sounds Australia and Music Australia to support the global reach of Australian music and exports to global markets.

### Recommendation 17:

4.49 The Committee recommends the Australian Government undertake research on business models for live music that do not require dependence on the sale of alcohol.

The Government **does not support** this recommendation.

The Government is not best placed to advise on business models. This is a matter for industry to consider.

## Recommendation 18:

- 4.50 The Committee recommends state, territory and local governments support the development of dedicated and permanent outdoor live music spaces (such as sound shells and associated equipment and infrastructure) to reduce the marginal cost of staging events for presenters.
- 4.51 The Committee recommends state, territory and local governments support private sector efforts to establish permanent and dedicated festival sites in 79 regional settings that are resilient against extreme weather events and ensure these sites are served with appropriate amenities.
- 4.52 The Committee recommends state, territory and local governments re-evaluate their pricing regimes for government-operated venues and provide concessional fees to presenters fulfilling cultural imperatives.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The Government considers this recommendation is a matter for state, territory and local governments. The policy and regulatory settings of local infrastructure projects fall with the jurisdictions who also hold responsibility over budget priorities.

## Recommendation 19:

4.53 The Committee recommends the Australian Government consider supporting live music event-related training programs for young people.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

The Government has established Service and Creative Skills Australia (SaCSA), the Jobs and Skills Council for the Arts, Personal Services, Retail, Tourism and Hospitality sectors (the Council) to provide the sector with a stronger, more strategic voice and greater participation in the skills and training sector.

The Council will work closely with Jobs and Skills Australia and be responsible for identifying and addressing workforce challenges, driving collaboration across sectors and delivering high-quality training products that meet the skills needs of the sector.

On 20 March 2024 the then Minister for Youth, the Hon. Dr Anne Aly launched the Australian Government's youth engagement strategy *Engage! A strategy to include young people in the decisions we make* to embed the voices of young Australians in policy and programs across government, including in arts and culture.

*Revive* outlined the need for a Creative Workforce Scoping Study to understand workforce challenges and skills across the creative sector and inform industry driven solutions. SaCSA engaged Creative Australia to deliver this study.

Creative Australia's *Creative Workforce Scoping Study* report was released in March 2025. The study will inform future workforce plans, vocational and education training reviews and workforce initiatives, including programs for young people.

Under the 2024–2028 National Skills Agreement, the Government is investing up to \$12.6 billion to expand and transform the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector. This funding comprises up to \$11.3 billion in flexible funding to support state and territory skills systems and \$1.3 billion to implement key policy initiatives.

Within this funding framework, states and territories are responsible for the delivery of VET in their jurisdictions, including decisions relating to the funding of courses and training organisations.

Music Australia invests in youth music organisation The Push, as a multiyear delivery partner. Key objectives include:

- Provide a program of creative skills and small business practice development programs to support young people;
- Create and deliver programs to increase the capacity of the sector to sustain rewarding and viable careers.

CrewCare received seed funding from Music Australia to research and consult with the live music industry sectors in each state and territory regarding the feasibility of expanding their industry-led and managed training program nationally.

This seed funding will assist in creating a proposal for a tailored national *Pathway to Jobs in Live Music* training program which could be developed sufficiently for national rollout. A thorough consultation process will be conducted, with a project management team visiting each state and



territory to undertake meetings and forums with local stakeholders from all sectors of the live music industry. This will assist in identifying the training needs of each region.

## Recommendation 20:

4.54 The Committee recommends the Australian Government work with music streaming services to increase the proportion of Australian content that algorithms or automated playlists generate for Australian users, and that if co-operation is not forthcoming that legislation be strongly considered to mandate and enforce higher proportions of Australian music on these services.

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

Under *Revive*, the Government has committed to ensuring that Australian music remains visible, discoverable and easily accessible across platforms to all Australians, driven by a vibrant, agile, sustainable and globally facing local music industry.

One of Music Australia's key focus areas is to promote the visibility and prominence of Australian music content through sector discussions, and by investing in marketing campaigns and partnering with third party initiatives. Music Australia is currently working with industry to better understand the needs of the music sector which includes music streaming services.

The Government will continue to work with Music Australia and its Council on how best to support the sector.