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MUSIC POLICY – A KEY PART OF AUSTRALIA’S FUTURE

Live music and music creation, dancing, venues, music festivals - these are key ways we express ourselves, come together, build reconciliation, confidence and community. Encouraging the music industry is key to the purpose of the Arts Party.

The Arts Party wants to see **music education**, expressed through singing, dancing and instrument use, and also visual/media arts instruction, **as mandatory in the education of every primary school child**. Close to 70% of state primary school children in Australia currently do not have access to a decent music education, a shocking situation. <https://musicaustralia.org.au/discover/music-education/>
Music must be a key building block in developing the minds of all Australians from the very beginning of their studies. STEAM bests STEM.

We fully support the **APRA Tax Offset**, aimed at supporting the Australian Music Industry, primarily Artists, Venues and Sound Recording facilities. Details can be found [here](#). This concept promises to boost venues, audiences, live music performance and income for all. Tax offsets generate additional spending in the economy, which results in additional tax revenue for the government.

We want the current R&D Tax Incentive expanded to include artistic and creative practice and activity, across all areas of the arts and creative industries, that are creating new works, exploring innovative new approaches and new ways to connect with and build Australian audience engagement.

We want Sounds Australia to continue to be funded, to advance Australia's live music exports. We also want **funding returned for the Live Music Office** to foster audience development and drive regulatory reform.

We support new approaches by local councils to development controls, building code requirements for noise abatement and liquor licensing rules, to help **encourage more community-friendly live music venues**.

Create a **charter for musicians** at venues where performances are being held that guarantees fair treatment and equipment security rights.

We want to make it cheaper and easier to book **public spaces for musical performance** and do more to activate our public land. We also advocate creating an agency to simplify obtaining **Public Liability insurance for live music groups (up to a 5 piece band)** with a low fixed cost of \$50 a day.

We also believe the lockout laws currently in force in Sydney are a blunt instrument that is doing serious damage to the local live music scene. While we would like them cancelled, at a minimum **small venues(<250 patrons) hosting live music should be exempt from these damaging laws**.

Further policy ideas and positions can be found by visiting our website.