

Media Release



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Arts and Heritage Hub at Old Woollen Mill approved

The Adelaide Hills Council has unanimously resolved to establish an arts and heritage hub at the Old Woollen Mill at Lobethal and seek funding to progress the project.

Mayor Bill Spragg says the hub will celebrate the rich history of the site and provide an opportunity for artists to create, exhibit and sell works.

“The Arts and Heritage Hub will also include a heritage experience which showcases old woollen mill machinery and celebrates the stories of the mill.”

“The proposal is to create an ongoing facility and the Business Development Framework (BDF) provides a guide as to how it will be established over the next six years,” said Mayor Spragg.

Council will manage the development of the Old Woollen Mill site and operate the hub. The BDF contemplates Council investment of up to \$1.3 million over the next six years and Council resolved to apply for \$1.3 million from the Commonwealth Government’s Building Better Regions Fund to match Council’s investment.

An amount of \$50,000 has been designated from the Council’s 2017/18 budget to enable initial actions to be taken in order to progress the project.

Mayor Spragg said staff on site will work with volunteers, artists and community groups to develop a program of events and exhibitions.

“Volunteers are an essential part of the team here at Council and there will be plenty of opportunities for volunteers and community groups to get involved with operating the site, planning and attending exhibitions and providing tours,” Mayor Spragg said.

Last week a new exhibition was opened at the Old Woollen Mill Lobethal titled *In These Shoes?* Curated by h.Art for the Adelaide Fringe 2018, *In These Shoes?* explores themes around homelessness, refugees, social justice, feminism and fashion.

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