



Amy MacMahon MP

Member for South Brisbane



15 October 2024

Kris Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
QMusic
Via email: kris.stewart@qmusic.com.au

Dear Kris Stewart and QMusic,

Thank you for the opportunity to join the conversation and engage with QMusic in your efforts to advocate for and support the music industry in Queensland.

The Queensland Greens' overall plan for Queensland is set out [here](#). The election initiatives we have already announced are listed at the bottom of that page, with more to be added on an almost weekly basis until the election.

I share your optimism about the future of Queensland's music scene, but as the background detail in your Policy Vision makes clear, the success of music in the state cannot be taken for granted.

The current economic and cultural landscape is presenting growing challenges to everyone who is needed to ensure the success of music in Queensland — artists, organisers, organisers and promoters, production and front-of-house workers, venue owners, and punters — threatening the survival of a vibrant cultural scene. If we want to see music continue to contribute to the richness of our lives and to the public good, we must support it to do so.

I wholeheartedly support your request for funding and the initiatives identified by QMusic to ensure the continued success of a sector that is so deeply tied to the state's identity, economy, and community wellbeing. The Queensland Greens are committed to ensuring music and the arts receive the support it they need, not just to exist, but to thrive, including a minimum \$35 million in funding support over four years to support

- Developing a Queensland Music Blueprint
- "Be There Live" event & venue support, to support festivals, venues and events
- A government procurement policy to prioritise and set targets for commissioning home-grown talent
- QMusic's Youth In Music Initiative
- QMusic's Mentally Healthy Industry, partnered with national body, Support Act

- A First Nations Music Plan
- Queensland Indigenous Industry Initiatives
- A Queensland Regional Music Office in Townsville
- A Queensland Regional Music Fund and a Regional Music Infrastructure Initiative,
- Waltons Store building in Fortitude Valley becoming the new home for Queensland's Music, Videogaming and Screen industries

When you consider, for example, that the current state government has contributed \$1.1 billion in public funds to the greyhound and horse racing industry since 2015, and readily provided financial concessions and a secret 99 year lease of river front land to Star Casino, it is clear that the lack of support to the arts is not the result of scarce resources. Instead this is a political choice by Labor to deprioritise the arts and fund cultural and public life according to the interests of their big donors, not ordinary people. There is nothing in the LNP's history to suggest they will do any better.

Regardless of the outcome of the state election, the Queensland Greens will continue to fight for the ordinary people who want to see the extraordinary wealth of this state benefit everyone, not just an extremely wealthy few. By making big corporations and billionaires pay their fair share we can make sure Queenslanders have access to the things they need to live a good life — not just in our schools and hospitals, but in our parks, at our local footy clubs, and our local venues enjoying home-grown musical talent.

Kind regards,



Amy MacMahon
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