The Hon Tony Burke MP
Minister for Home Affairs
Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
Minister for Cyber Security
Minister for the Arts
Leader of the House

MS25-002624

Mr Sam Edwards
Chair
Bundanon Trust Board
PO Box 3343
NORTH NOWRA NSW 2541

Dear Mr Edwards Sam

I am writing to set out my expectations of the Bundanon Trust (Bundanon).

The National Collecting Institutions in the Arts portfolio play an important role in preserving and sharing Australia's collective history and cultural heritage in a manner consistent with the National Cultural Policy *Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place* (*Revive*). Bundanon makes a vital contribution to Australia's cultural life, as a leader in the sector and by providing Australians with access to its world-class collections and natural landscape.

I commend Bundanon for the role it is playing in helping to achieve *Revive*'s outcomes. This includes preserving, sharing and celebrating our nation's stories and voices, reflecting our diversity and creativity, supporting truth-telling for First Nations people, inspiring audiences to learn, imagine and create, and fostering international collaboration and cultural exchange. I ask that Bundanon continues to clearly reflect the aims of *Revive* in its Corporate Plan, and report against these aims in its Annual Reports.

My expectations are that Bundanon should:

- Assist in the delivery of *Revive*, including supporting our visual and performing artists, craftspeople, and researchers contributing to actions such as the refresh of *Significance 2.0*.
- Participate in the government's consultation on a new National Cultural Policy
- Foster appreciation and understanding of First Nations arts, culture and knowledge systems in line with the principle that First Nations arts and culture are First Nations led.
- Work closely with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts and other parties, especially other National Collecting Institutions, to efficiently achieve the objectives of *Revive*.
- Provide strong leadership and collaboration within national and international galleries and cultural sectors, including developing networks and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific and working with Pacific diaspora communities.
- Ensure policies and procedures are in place to promote diversity, sustainability, reconciliation and inclusion.

- Ensure Bundanon has a current Disability Action Plan to support greater equity, access and inclusion for d/Deaf and disabled artists and arts workers, and audiences with disability, in line with the government's *Equity: the Arts and Disability Associated Plan.*
- Provide greater opportunities for all Australians to access arts and culture, including through a diverse range of exhibitions, programs, events and digital offerings, and engage in activities to enrich arts and cultural education at all levels.
- Support and promote artists and arts and cultural workers, and ensure they are remunerated appropriately and able to work safely.
- Manage information in accordance with the *Archives Act 1983* and the National Archives of Australia's *Building trust in the public record: managing information and data for government and community* policy.
- Ensure those appointed to the Bundanon Board understand their obligations, including under the *Corporations Act 2001* and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, and that Board members and Bundanon staff are aware of, and abide by, the requirements of Bundanon's social media policy.

Funding Commitment

The government made a landmark funding commitment to the National Collecting Institutions in the 2023-24 Budget to respond to legacy issues. Bundanon should have well developed plans for how best to use this additional funding to protect existing jobs, support ongoing and long-term financial sustainability, and better maintain facilities so it can continue to preserve and share Australia's collective history and cultural heritage. Importantly, this funding also enables Bundanon to maintain its public and environmental management programs.

Capital works and additional reporting

I thank Bundanon for its timely and thorough contributions to the biannual reporting process introduced from 2023-24 to raise awareness of forecast funding pressures and financial performance, and for maintaining an accurate Asset Management Plan to enable capital maintenance to be managed proactively to mitigate any risks to the safety and security of staff, members of the public and collections.

While decisions about the expenditure of available resources remain subject to Accountable Authority decisions, I expect Bundanon to prioritise the allocation of government funding across staffing, suppliers and asset replacement by need within the allocation. Bundanon should work to maximise own-source revenue through philanthropic and private sector opportunities. I trust Bundanon will continue to responsibly manage available resources to ensure that any future funding requests are limited to essential needs and are cost-effective.

This Statement of Expectations and your corresponding Statement of Intent form important components of your organisation's governance framework. As such, I expect both documents will be made publicly available. I am writing to all National Collecting Institutions in similar terms and have copied this letter to Bundanon's Chief Executive Officer.

I wish Bundanon every success in taking on these responsibilities.

Yours sincerely

TONY BURKE

4 / 11 / 2025

cc Ms Rachel Kent, Chief Executive Officer, Bundanon Trust