



**The Hon Tony Burke MP**  
Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations  
Minister for the Arts  
Leader of the House

MS23-003095

Mr Nicholas Moore  
Chair  
Screen Australia Board  
GPO Box 3984  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

  
Dear Mr Moore

My expectations of Screen Australia for the 2023-24 financial year are set out below.

*Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place* launched by the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP and myself on 30 January 2023, sets Australia's cultural policy for the next five years. Among the key priorities of *Revive* is the principle that Australian stories are seen and heard, regardless of platform. As the Government's primary agency for supporting Australian film, television, documentary and digital media makers, Screen Australia is vital to Australia's cultural sector and has an important role to play in achieving outcomes in the National Cultural Policy.

I expect Screen Australia to clearly reflect the aims of *Revive* in its 2023-24 strategic priorities, noting that the policy is aimed at guiding the Australian Government's actions and investment in the cultural sector over the next five years. The five interconnected pillars of *Revive* strongly resonate with Screen Australia's objectives and aims and I expect continued commitment to the pillars as guiding principles as Screen Australia carries out its work.

I expect Screen Australia to focus on the following strategic priorities in 2023-24:

- building on the work of the First Nations Department to recognise the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture to Australian society;
- supporting productions to secure the strongest pathway to audiences;
- working collaboratively with federal and state entities to address capacity gaps in the screen and broadcasting sectors;
- engaging with the Australian games development industry to support it to take advantage of the government's new Digital Games Tax Offset;
- continuing to undertake data collection and research to strengthen understanding of the challenges and opportunities for the sector; and
- harnessing and strengthening the sector's contribution to innovation and the economy.

I recognise that the coming months will be a period of transition for Screen Australia as Mr Graeme Mason's time as Chief Executive Officer ends this November. I am confident that through this change, Screen Australia will continue to deliver on its core work in the areas of First Nations story telling, industry support and development, promoting screen culture, international partnerships and professional development.

First Nations stories, told by First Nations peoples, are vital in developing and reflecting a sense of Australian identity. Productions such as *Sweet As*, *Kindred*, *Mystery Road: Origin* and *Barrumbi Kids* tell culturally significant Australian stories. Consistent with *Revive*, I expect Screen Australia to maintain its support of First Nations storytelling and its First Nations Department.

As Arts Minister, I am committed to supporting the screen sector's growth and prosperity. *Revive* advocates for Australian screen content to be accessible across streaming platforms. Minister for Communications, Michelle Rowland, and I conducted consultations with the industry in the first half of this year in preparation to introduce requirements for Australian content obligations on streaming services. I ask that Screen Australia continue to work cooperatively with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts and other portfolio agencies to help support the implementation of these important reforms.

*Revive* is underpinned by a commitment to recognise the value of Australia's cultural and creative practitioners, to create safe and secure workplaces (including cultural safety), and to provide sustainable pathways for artists and creative workers throughout the different stages of their careers. The appointment of a dedicated Training and Industry Development Manager in Screen Australia sends a clear message to Australian screen industry workers about the importance of creative workers in our creative economy. *Revive* also established Creative Workplaces and its Council in Creative Australia. I have appointed Tony Ayres to this Council. Creative Workplaces will support workers across the creative sector to have safe and inclusive workplaces. Compliance with codes of conduct developed by Creative Workplaces will be a condition of government funding.

Screen Australia should continue its industry development work. The support Screen Australia provides for both domestic festivals and for Australian screen practitioners traveling to, and connecting with, international markets has given our filmmakers the opportunity to develop their skills and sell their products locally and on the world stage.

Through *Revive*, the Government will provide Screen Australia with \$12 million over four years from 2023-24 in ongoing funding to support domestic digital games developers and independent games studios. Together, this funding and the Digital Games Tax Offset creates a complementary and integrated plan to support Australia's digital games sector, and represents unprecedented support for the industry.

I look forward to your response to this letter in the form of a Statement of Intent as to how Screen Australia will meet the Government's expectations. This Statement of Expectations and your corresponding Statement of Intent form an important component of Screen Australia's governance framework. As such, I expect both documents will be made publicly available. I am writing to all arts portfolio agencies in similar terms and have copied this letter to the Chief Executive Officer of Screen Australia, Mr Graeme Mason.

I wish Screen Australia every success in meeting its objectives and its continuing contribution to the cultural growth of Australia, including through the supporting the objectives of *Revive*, in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely



**TONY BURKE**

15 / 9 / 2023