

National Cultural Policy Submission

Name Ava Hubble,

Thursday, August 18, 2022

To the Office for the Arts,

Submission on National Cultural Policy

I am a long-time member of the Australian Society of Authors.

Writers, including regular contributors to our newspapers and magazines, are being shamelessly financially penalized. They have been treated this way for decades. Publishers and other employers have even thought up and introduced schemes and found “loopholes” that enable them to avoid paying their workers superannuation.

Writers, even the most committed, eventually become exhausted from attempting to do two or more jobs at once. For example, trying to complete their novels or scripts while working long hours as “freelancers” for publishers or toiling all day or night as casuals in coffee shops.

Please think about giving Australian workers a break. Perhaps by introducing decent hours and conditions for all, including would-be artists who have been exploited for so long as “casuals.”

Give Australia’s writers a chance to show what they can do when properly supported.

I would be happy to see my letter to be made public and published on the Office for the Arts website.

With best wishes,

Ava Hubble