

**Submission
No 134**

**INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Ms Jane Becketl
Date received: 22 February 2018

I formed and direct a self supporting community choir of 50 singers. That means that the singers pay a fee to sing, and out of that fee comes all the expenses of running a choir: insurance, venue hire, music licensing etc.

My concern is that we receive no support from local or state govt. even in ways where it costs the govt nothing. We are not even permitted to put flyers in local libraries about upcoming concerts because we are not a "non-profit" organisation. We are just a small no-profit group and do not wish to form a npo.

We can't afford any of the fees to hire the local venues e.g Wyong Art House which charges thousands of \$ per night.

We have to prove we have public liability insurance at any venue we do perform at, which is only tiny community halls - all we can afford - even though all of those venues also carry insurance. The doubling up of insurance is outrageous.

This lack of support is in direct contrast to other places in the world e.g California where I lived for 22 years. There venue fees for rehearsals and concerts are waived or vastly lowered for small community groups, and it goes without saying that of course you can advertise your little concerts in the local library. Isn't that the community hub of info?

Thank you.