

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

RSL Memorial Building Mural

Artist Brief

Commissioning body	District Council of Elliston
Site	One or more identified external wall areas of the RSL Memorial Building, Elliston
Opportunity	Permanent, site-specific mural commission
Funding	Proposed CreateSA - Projects: Public Art and Design application
Brief date	16 September 2026
Version	Revised - RSL and former kindergarten history

The opportunity

Council invites a professional practising South Australian artist or artist team to propose a high-quality mural that connects the building's RSL and memorial identity with its former use as a kindergarten, Elliston's local history and continuing community life. Artists may propose a strong treatment for one available wall area or a coordinated treatment across more than one available wall area, as appropriate to the concept and budget.

1. About the commissioning body

The District Council of Elliston serves communities across the western Eyre Peninsula, including Elliston, Lock, Port Kenny, Venus Bay, Bramfield and Sheringa. The district is shaped by its remote coastal setting, agricultural and fishing industries, strong volunteer networks and close community relationships. Council seeks public art that is professionally conceived, locally meaningful and able to endure in a regional coastal environment.

2. Project background

The RSL Memorial Building has a special place in Elliston's community landscape. Its memorial identity connects the building to service, sacrifice, remembrance and the experiences of local people during and after periods of war and military service. It also remains part of the community's everyday civic and social story.

The building also previously served as a kindergarten. For former pupils, families, educators and the wider community, this use forms another important layer of the building's identity: a place associated with childhood, learning, care, play, belonging and the early experiences of local generations. Specific dates, people and stories connected with the kindergarten are to be confirmed through local research rather than assumed.

Council wishes to use one or more suitable external wall areas to create a public artwork that respectfully carries both histories into the future. The RSL and kindergarten uses should each be meaningfully recognisable within the concept, although they do not need to occupy equal visual space. The mural should invite reflection, reward close viewing and provide a strong visual contribution to the township. It must not be a generic military image or a collection of unrelated symbols; it should respond to the building, place and verified local stories.

2.1 Township mural context

Elliston already has a recognised series of large public murals on community buildings that tell locally grounded stories about the district's people, farming, fishing and coast. The new mural should extend this public-art story through remembrance, service, childhood, learning and community life, contributing to a coherent experience of art across the township.

Artists are not required to imitate the imagery, palette or individual style of existing works. Alignment means a thoughtful relationship in scale, public visibility, narrative clarity, colour intensity, artistic quality and sense of place, while the new mural retains an original identity appropriate to the memorial building.

3. The site

The commission may occupy one or more of the external wall areas identified in the Site Information Schedule below. Artists may propose a single-wall solution or a coordinated multi-wall treatment. The concept must remain within the identified areas, respond to the building as a whole and distinguish any optional additional wall components in the quotation.

Site information	Detail to be completed by Council before issue
Building and location	34 Beach Terrace, Elliston SA 5670
Available wall area(s)	Labelled marked photographs are provided in Appendix A. All walls are available
Dimensions	Building Plans are provided as Appendix B. Dimensions are included on these plans.

- The site is outdoors, visible to the community and accessible from the public realm.
- The artist must allow for doors, windows, vents, plaques, service fixtures and architectural elements identified by Council.
- The wall area(s) selected for the final commission must be inspected and measured by the appointed artist before design completion; any resulting scope or price change requires prior written agreement.
- The environment is exposed to strong sun, wind, salt, rain and temperature variation. Materials and installation methods must be suitable for coastal conditions.
- Public access, adjacent activities and the commemorative character of the building must be protected throughout installation.

4. Creative vision

The desired artwork is thoughtful, memorable and distinctly connected to Elliston. It should recognise the building as both a place of commemoration and a former place of early learning: honouring service and sacrifice while also acknowledging childhood, care, family connection and the generations whose lives intersected with the building.

4.1 Required themes

- A clear RSL, historical, war or military service connection.
- Meaningful recognition of the building's former use as a kindergarten and its importance to former pupils, families, educators and the wider community.
- The local relevance of the RSL Memorial Building and its importance to the Elliston community.
- A considered relationship to Elliston's wider collection of township murals and their locally grounded storytelling.
- Respect for those who served, those who did not return, veterans, families and the wider community affected by war and service.
- A sense of remembrance, resilience, return, peace, continuity or connection between generations.

4.2 Possible areas of interpretation

- Locally verified stories of enlistment, service, farewell, communication, return and remembrance.
- The contribution of families, women, volunteers, workers and the home front.
- Locally verified memories of the former kindergarten, including learning, care, play, friendship, family involvement and connections across generations.
- The Elliston landscape as a place of home, departure, waiting and return.
- Symbols of remembrance or service used with care and any required permission.
- A layered or intergenerational narrative that connects history with the building's continuing community presence.

4.3 Creative boundaries

- The work must be respectful and suitable for a broad public audience, including children and older residents.
- Graphic violence, political advocacy, recruitment messaging, triumphalism and the glorification of war are not appropriate.
- The relationship between the RSL and kindergarten histories must be handled with care. The design should not trivialise remembrance, sentimentalise the kindergarten history or inappropriately associate children with warfare.
- The artwork must not reproduce another artist's work, archival photographs, published text, flags, emblems, badges or military insignia without documented permission or a lawful basis.
- The RSL badge or other protected RSL branding may only be used with written authorisation from the relevant rights holder.
- Specific historical details must be accurate. Where evidence is uncertain, the artist should use an interpretive approach rather than present conjecture as fact.
- Any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural material, stories, symbols or knowledge must be developed only with appropriate cultural authority, consultation and consent.

5. Audience and experience

The primary audience is the Elliston community, including veterans and their families, former kindergarten pupils, families and educators, school-aged children, community groups and people with long connections to the district. Visitors and people passing through the town are also important audiences. The work should be legible and engaging from normal public viewing points and should reveal further detail at closer range.

The desired tone is reflective, dignified, warm and grounded in place. The mural may carry emotional weight, but it should contribute positively to the public setting and support respectful conversation across generations.

6. Community and stakeholder engagement

Community input is intended to enrich the artist's research and verify local material, not replace professional artistic decision-making. Council will coordinate access to relevant contributors and will act as the single contact point.

- Research discussions with relevant historical representatives, together with former kindergarten pupils, families, educators or other people able to speak to that period of the building's use.
- Review of available local photographs, records, anecdotes and building information, subject to permissions and verification.
- One structured opportunity for stakeholders to respond to the developed concept before final approval.
- A clear record showing how feedback was considered and which changes were or were not incorporated.
- If children are directly involved in art-making, the artist must follow child-safe and Working with Children requirements and hold any necessary clearances.

7. Materials, durability and maintenance

- Use a professional exterior mural system compatible with the wall substrate and manufacturer specifications.
- Allow for cleaning, repair, sealing and priming required to produce a sound surface. Any material wall defect is to be reported before work proceeds.
- Use lightfast, UV-resistant and weather-resistant materials appropriate to wind, salt and moisture exposure.
- Recommend a compatible protective or anti-graffiti coating where appropriate, including impact on colour, sheen, breathability and future repair.
- Target a minimum useful life of 10 years with reasonable maintenance, recognising that conservation needs will depend on exposure and substrate condition.

- Provide product data, colour references, touch-up method, cleaning instructions, inspection frequency and advice for repair or eventual deaccession.
- Protect all adjoining surfaces, fixtures, plaques, landscaping and public areas during the works and leave the site clean.

8. Access, safety and approvals

- The selected artist will complete Council contractor induction and provide a site-specific Safe Work Method Statement before installation.
- Work at height, scaffold or elevated work platform use must be undertaken by appropriately trained and licensed persons and in accordance with legislation and equipment requirements.
- The artist must establish safe public exclusion and manage wind, heat, rain, overspray, spills, chemicals, storage and daily site security.
- Council approval of the final design is required before surface painting begins. Approval does not transfer responsibility for the artist's technical method, safety or permissions.
- The project remains subject to any planning, heritage, landlord, RSL branding or other approvals identified by Council.

9. Artist eligibility and capability

The lead artist must be a professional practising South Australian artist who meets the applicable CreateSA general eligibility requirements. Artist teams are welcome; the lead artist and responsibilities of each team member must be clear.

- Demonstrated artistic merit and an active professional practice.
- Relevant experience delivering murals or public art of comparable scale and complexity.
- Ability to research and interpret sensitive historical material and communicate with a broad community.
- Capacity to manage a regional project, travel, equipment, contractors, weather and a fixed program and budget.
- Current ABN and appropriate public liability, workers compensation and other insurance required for the proposed delivery model.
- Availability to commence funded activity no earlier than 7 May 2027, subject to funding, contract and written notice to proceed.

10. Required preliminary submission

Council is seeking enough information to select a preferred artist and support a grant application. A fully resolved final design is not required at quotation stage.

1. A short concept statement of up to 500 words explaining the proposed narrative, visual approach, treatment of the building's RSL and former-kindergarten histories, local connection, relationship to Elliston's existing murals and response to the selected wall area(s).
2. One or two preliminary colour sketches, annotated drawings, digital mock-ups or a concise mood board showing how the idea relates to the selected wall area(s). These may be indicative rather than production-ready.
3. A proposed method for local research, stakeholder engagement, design development, historical verification and final approval.
4. An itemised quotation using the RFQ Pricing Schedule, including all fees, materials, preparation, access equipment, travel, accommodation, freight, installation, protective coating, documentation and GST.
5. A realistic program from design development to practical completion, including weather contingency.

6. A biography of up to 300 words or relevant CV, plus up to five examples of recent relevant work with captions identifying location, commissioner, date, role and scale.
7. Two relevant referees and evidence of required licences, insurances and capacity to work safely at the site.
8. A short maintenance and durability statement and a preliminary project risk statement.
9. Confirmation that the artist consents to Council using the submitted concept, biography/CV, images and quotation confidentially for evaluation and in the CreateSA application, with attribution and without acquiring copyright.

11. Deliverables for the appointed artist

Deliverable	Minimum requirement
Research and engagement	Meet agreed contributors, review supplied material, identify permissions and document key design implications.
Developed concept	Accurate wall mock-up(s), concept statement, palette, materials, major details, balanced treatment of the RSL and former-kindergarten histories, treatment of fixtures, verified content, maintenance approach and refined budget/program.
Final design package	Scaled artwork layout suitable for approval and installation; paint/material schedule; permissions and attribution register; installation plan; final risk/SWMS documents.
Installation	Surface preparation within agreed responsibility; complete mural; coatings; daily protection; site clean-up; defects rectification.
Close-out	High-resolution images, final artist statement, maintenance and repair guide, colour/product record, warranties and reasonable input to acknowledgement or launch.

12. Budget and quotation

Respondents must provide a whole-of-project price for their base proposal and identify assumptions, exclusions and items proposed as Council contributions. A proposal involving additional optional wall areas must price those components separately so Council can assess a deliverable base scope and any scalable additions. GST must be shown separately. Council is preparing an application under the CreateSA Projects: Public Art and Design category and must demonstrate at least a 50% applicant contribution to the total implementation budget. The final project budget will be determined through quotation, Council approval and the funding outcome.

The quoted price must remain valid until 31 May 2027 and should separate artist fees from pass-through costs. Any unavoidable future cost assumption or proposed adjustment mechanism must be clearly stated. Variations will require prior written approval under the final contract.

13. Intellectual property and moral rights

- Copyright in original concepts and the completed artwork remains with the artist unless otherwise agreed in writing.
- By submitting, the artist grants Council a limited, non-exclusive licence to reproduce submission material for evaluation and the associated grant application, with appropriate attribution.
- The commission contract will include a licence allowing Council to photograph and reproduce the completed mural for non-commercial Council, tourism, reporting, grant, archival and promotional purposes, with attribution where reasonably practicable.
- The artist's moral rights will be respected. Council will consult the artist about material alteration, restoration, relocation or deaccession where reasonably practicable.

- The artist is responsible for declaring third-party material and obtaining necessary licences, releases and cultural permissions for material they introduce to the project.

14. Selection criteria

Criterion	Weight
Artistic merit and response to the wall area(s), building and township setting	30%
Understanding of the RSL, former-kindergarten, community and Elliston mural context	20%
Relevant public art/mural experience and capacity	15%
Methodology, collaboration and community engagement	10%
Durability, maintenance, risk and safety approach	10%
Price and value for money	15%

15. Commissioning process

1. Council receives and assesses compliant quotations using the published criteria.
2. Council may seek clarification, interview respondents, contact referees or request a presentation. Any material clarification will be documented.
3. A preferred artist may be identified and asked to provide a conditional confirmation for the CreateSA application.
4. No appointment is final and no work is authorised until Council issues a written contract and notice to proceed. The commission may be conditional on grant funding.
5. Following appointment, the artist completes paid design development and agreed engagement before final design approval.
6. Installation proceeds only after approvals, site readiness, insurance, safety documentation and written authorisation are complete.

16. Indicative timetable

Milestone	Indicative date
Questions close	5.00 pm (ACDT), 16 October 2026
Quotations close	12.00 noon (ACDT), 6 November 2026
Preferred artist confirmation	24 November 2026
February 2027 CreateSA round opens	16 December 2026
CreateSA application closes	5.00 pm, 8 February 2027
Published grant notification date	23 April 2027
Earliest funded activity commencement	7 May 2027
Research and developed design	May-July 2027

Target installation	August-December 2027, subject to weather and approvals
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17. Contact and enquiries

All enquiries, optional site inspection requests and submissions are to be directed to the District Council of Elliston through the contact details stated in the accompanying Request for Quotation. Respondents must not approach individual elected members, stakeholder representatives or building users about the procurement unless Council has arranged the contact. Any information that could materially affect a response will be shared with all respondents by written addendum.

Appendix A – Building Photos



Front of Building



Side of Building

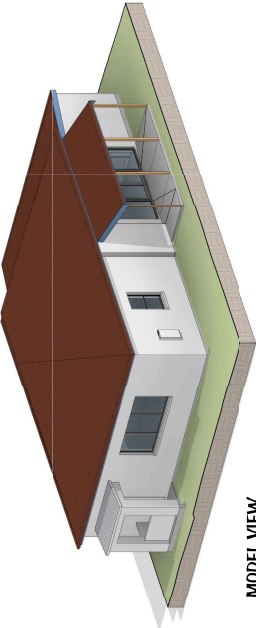


Side of Building



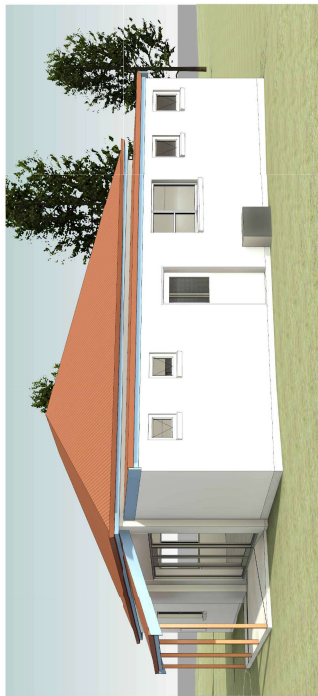
Back of Building

Appendix B – RSL Memorial Building Plans



MODEL VIEW

NOTE: 3D VIEWS ARE INDICATIVE ONLY.
PERSPECTIVES • 3D VIEWS ARE INDICATIVE ONLY.
NOT ALL BUILDING ELEMENTS ARE SHOWN



REAR PERSPECTIVE VIEW

NOTE: ALL PERSPECTIVES & 3D VIEWS ARE INDICATIVE ONLY.
NOT ALL BUILDING ELEMENTS ARE SHOWN

NAME/ID	6	RECEIVED AT 12.00 PM, 17 FEBRUARY 2016
AMENDMENTS	1	1
PROPOSED ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS TO EXISTING RSL PREMISES		
THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ELLSTON		
LOCATION	24 BEACH TERRACE ELLSTON	
DESIGNED BY	JASON PERRY / JANE LUNN / ALEX DUNN	
DATE	27.04.2016	DATE RECEIVED
BY	MR JASON PERRY	BY
FOR	MR JASON PERRY	FOR
TO	MR JASON PERRY	TO



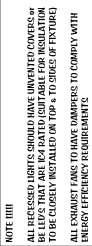
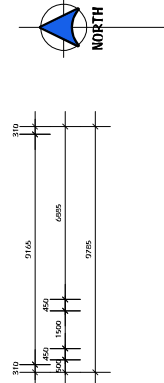
12 LOSELYN STREET
PO BOX 1170
PORT LINCOLN SA 5608
PHONE: (08) 8683 3355
FAX: (08) 8683 4533

BUILDING DESIGNERS

ASN 74 435 976 302
EMAIL: plans@pennadesign.com.au

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SCALES:	DATE:	PROJECT REF. NO:
1 : 100	OCT 2022	
SHEET NO:	FOUR:	22 - 106 22106/031
1 OF 4	C	



FLOOR PLAN

EXISTING MAIN AREA	152.2 m ²
EXISTING VERANDAH	12.7 m ²
EXISTING PORCH	3.5 m ²
GRAND TOTAL	168.4 m ²