

Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Monday, 07 May, 2018
Location: Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.00pm

Please note: Council's Code of Meeting Practice permits the electronic recording and broadcast of the proceedings of meetings of the Council which are open to the public. Your attendance at this meeting is taken as consent to the possibility that your image and/or voice may be recorded and broadcast to the public.

Agenda

1. **Apologies**
2. **A Minute Silence in Respect of Aboriginal Elders, Past and Present**
3. **Confirmation of Minutes**
 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 27 March 2018**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
4. **Declarations of Interest**
5. **Reports**

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AA18.17	Update - Bulk South Coast Aboriginal Land Claim	18
6. **General Business**

Membership

Ms Sue-Anne Cutmore - Chairperson
Clr Cheyne
Clr Levett
Clr Kitchener
Clr Proudfoot
Mr Russ Pigg or nominee
Ms Janet Atkins
Ms Sylvia Timbery
Ms Patricia Lester
Mr Shane Brown
Ms Leonie Ebzery
Ms Valda Corrigan (NPWS)
Mr Noel Wellington
Mr Paul McLeod
Ms Janaya Hennessy
Ms Morgan Blakeney
Mr Charlie Ashby
Nowra LALC – Sharlene Cruickshank
Jerrinja LALC - Rebecca Woods
Ulladulla LALC

Quorum – Five (5)

Purpose

- To advise Shoalhaven City Council on necessary issues relating to Aboriginal communities in the LGA.
- Promote and increase knowledge & understanding of Aboriginal society, history & culture in the LGA.
- Facilitate access and accessibility to services and facilities for Aboriginal people.
- Advise on the development and implementation of the Shoalhaven City Council Community Strategic Plan.
- Develop strong collaborative partnerships between Aboriginal communities and Shoalhaven City Council.
- Maintain strong links between Council and Aboriginal communities throughout the Shoalhaven to accomplish the relationships and outcomes required for genuine reconciliation.
- Foster and safeguard a spirit of mutual trust and respect which allows the AAC and Shoalhaven City Council to work together in their commitment towards intelligent, well informed decision making processes that are sensitive to all Aboriginal issues.
- Recognise, support & uphold past and present local cultural heritage and its place in future Council directions.
- Remain a meaningful 'place' for the communication of messages and information from Aboriginal community voices that identify local needs for services, facilities and activities.
- Support and promote significant celebrations and events within the Shoalhaven Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

MINUTES OF THE ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 27 March 2018
Location: E-Meeting

The following members responded:

Clr Nina Cheyne
Clr John Levett
Clr Patricia White
Ms Janet Atkins
Ms Leonie Ebzery
Ms Leslie Halls
Ms Morgan Blakeney
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank (Nowra LALC)

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Nil

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee held on Monday 12 February 2018 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Business arising from previous Minutes:

Note: Correct spelling of Cruickshank

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS

AA18.13 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards

**HPERM Ref:
D18/73939**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That

The Aboriginal Advisory Committee financially contribute an additional \$1,000 each year in addition to the budgeted contribution of \$2000 to support the 2018 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards effective from Financial Year 2018/19 onwards.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee financially contribute an additional \$1,000 of their budget each year in addition to the budgeted contribution of \$2000 to support the 2018 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards effective from Financial Year 2018/19 onwards.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded.

Ms Sue-Anne Cutmore
CHAIRPERSON

AA18.7 Election of Chairperson

HPERM Ref: D18/3103

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group
Section: Human Resources, Governance & Customer Service

Aboriginal Advisory Committee at its meeting on 12 February 2018 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 07 May 2018.

Purpose / Summary

To advise the Committee and reaffirm the election of Chairperson from 2016 to 2020.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the committee reaffirm the following as resolved at the Aboriginal Advisory Committee 24 November 2016 (tenure to conclude in November 2020):

1. Sue Cutmore be appointed as Chairperson of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
2. Clr Kitchener be appointed as Co-Chairperson of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

Options

1. As Recommended

Background

Following the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held 12 February 2018 it was found that an administrative error had been made in submitting the Election of Chairperson report. The Terms of Reference state that the Chairperson be limited to a four year tenure. The previous election of the Chairperson was held on the 24 November 2016, therefore an election is not required prior to November 2020.

AA18.8 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Action Plan

HPERM Ref: D18/14307

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

Section: Recreation Community & Culture

Attachments: 1. Progress Action Plan - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 12/2/18 [↓](#)

Aboriginal Advisory Committee at its meeting on 12 February 2018 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 07 May 2018.

Purpose / Summary

To report to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on the progress and completion of actions from Aboriginal Advisory Committee meetings.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That

1. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee receives the Progress Action Plan report
2. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee discuss and consider any further actions from the Progress Action Plan report.

Options

1. Adopt the recommendations

Implications: This will allow the finalisation of actions in the plan.

2. Adopt the recommendations with amendment(s)

Implications: Advisory Committee may resolve to remove or add to the recommendations and this may require further considerations or actions.

Background

The Aboriginal Advisory Committee was established in 1997 to advise Council on the needs of Aboriginal people living in the Shoalhaven local government area. This Advisory Committee provides an opportunity for Council to develop both a structure for effective consultation and communication with Aboriginal communities.

The Aboriginal Advisory Committee continue to work towards building stronger collaborative partnerships between Council and Aboriginal communities and plays a vital role in promoting and increasing knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal people's history, cultures and experiences to achieve positive outcomes.

The Advisory Committee identified key issues and actions to work towards achieving improved outcomes for Aboriginal communities of the Shoalhaven and the advancement of reconciliation. Attached is the Progress Action Plan report with the current status actions.

Community Engagement

Shoalhaven City Council values its culturally diverse communities and lifestyles and is deeply committed to building stronger collaborative working partnerships with local Aboriginal communities and to provide opportunities for genuine community engagement.

File No.	Date added to action table	Issue	2017-2018 Actions	Outcome of Actions	Comments
1209E 43400E 30080E	7 March 2011 D11/46450	The Regional NAIDOC Awards provides an opportunity for celebrating NAIDOC Week and for promoting and recognising the significant contributions Aboriginal people and their organisations make to their own and broader communities in the Illawarra & Shoalhaven regions.	Wollongong City Council hosted the 2017 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards at the Fraternity Club on the 22 July.	<p>Award recipients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cullunghutti Aboriginal Child & Family Centre - Organisation of the Year • Ivern Ardler - Elder of the Year • Berrima Blakeney - Young Achiever of the Year <p>Shoalhaven Award recipients attended a Mayoral Morning Tea on 19 September to acknowledge their achievements.</p>	<p>Kiama Municipal Council will host the 2018 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Advisory Committee (1) Support the 2018 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards (2) Nominate an Advisory Committee representative to the 2018 Regional NAIDOC Awards Committee.</p>
1209E 43400E 24224E	20 June 2016	The annual Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference provides an opportunity for information exchange and a forum for discussion on Local Government issues relating to Aboriginal communities, business and the wider community.	Recommended to Council to support for AAC representative to attend the Local Government Conference and funded from the General Manager and Councillors budget. AAC Meeting – 15 May 2017 (AA17.12)	<p>Noel Wellington attended the LGAN conference held in Albury. Noel presented a verbal report at the meeting on the 6 November. A written report to be included in the Minutes.</p> <p>Narrabri Council will be hosting the 2018 LGAN conference.</p>	Aboriginal Advisory Committee to consider future attendance at the Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference.
MIN17.493 D17/187746	21/8/2017 13/6/2017		Resolved: That the cost of attending the conference be funded from the		

File No.	Date added to action table	Issue	2017-2018 Actions	Outcome of Actions	Comments
			Conference Budget. MIN17.493		
1209E	24 November 2016	Coralie Bell, Manager Shoalhaven Tourism informed the Advisory Committee that Tourism is keen to consult with the AAC on Tourism projects.	Coralie Bell gave an overview of Tourism projects and consulted with the Committee, at the meeting held on 11 September 2017 with the new Walking Guide and the 2018 Shoalhaven Tourism Guide.	AAC to provide any feedback to Coralie Bell, Manager Shoalhaven Tourism as required.	
1209E D17/378307	24 November 2016	AA17.4. Advisory Committee Action Plan. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee discussed the need to identify five (5) key issues as Action Plan focus areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop held on 20 March for AAC members to identify five key focus areas. • The key focus areas received and tabled at the AAC meeting on 15 May 2017. • AAC to workshop the draft Action Plan on 24 October at the AAC Meeting Room, Shoalhaven Regional Art Gallery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonnie Hittmann, SCC Social Planner & ACDO met with AAC representatives to discuss formats for the AAC Action Plan. • Bonnie Hittmann presented to the Advisory Committee on 6 November suggested formats for the Action Plan. <p>AA17.23: The Aboriginal Advisory Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreed to develop the AAC Action Plan based on the framework of the Collaborate NSW. 2. Hold a workshop in 2018 to discuss a way forward with the Action Plan framework. 	Bonnie Hittmann to attend AAC meeting on 12 February 2018 to confirm a workshop date to further develop the Action Plan.

File No.	Date added to action table	Issue	2017-2018 Actions	Outcome of Actions	Comments
1209E D16/185525	20 June 2016	Resolved at the AAC meeting held on 20 June 2016 that a report on the 2010 SCC Statement of Commitment be considered for review.	AAC reviewed Statement of Commitment in a workshop held on 6 February 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested changes emailed to AAC members for further consultation. • Draft discussed on 21 March 2017. 	Statement of Commitment to be incorporated into the AAC Action Plan as a focus area.	
1209E D17/349502	6 November 2017	Actions from AAC meeting held on 6 November 2017: Action (3) Aboriginal Advisory Committee provide the Wagirra Murray River Experience Walking Trail to the Councillors. Action (4) Council investigate the project that Albury is conducting on the Wagirra Murray River Experience and provide feedback on how the Shoalhaven can utilise the Shoalhaven River for a similar project.	To be discussed at the AAC on 12 February 2018. ACDO liaised with Michael Strachan, Infrastructure/ Project Manager, Assets and Works and provided a copy of the Wagirra Trail CD for his information.	This project would be eligible for funding under Council's community pathway program. Up to \$10,000 could be provided for a project driven and constructed by the local community e.g. Callala Around the Bay project.	

File No.	Date added to action table	Issue	2017-2018 Actions	Outcome of Actions	Comments
1209E D17/327881	6 November	AA17.18 Additional Item – Recognition and Reconciliation Stones	That a report be submitted to the next meeting in relation to options for reflection stones and reconciliation.	To be discussed and considered at AAC meetings in 2018.	

AA18.14 Review of Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol

HPERM Ref: D18/88310

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group
Section: Recreation Community & Culture

Attachments:

1. Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol [↓](#)
2. Part 2 - Protocols for the Appropriate Use & Flying of the Flag (under separate cover) [↔](#)

Purpose / Summary

Request that the Aboriginal Advisory Committee endorse the Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol Policy and recommend to Council that the Policy be adopted without change.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the existing Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol Policy POL16/145 (Attachment 1).

Options

1. That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee accept the existing Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol Policy as recommended.

Implications:

Flying the Australian Aboriginal flag is a highly visible symbol of respect and can be used to promote a sense of community and create a culturally welcoming environment.

The Aboriginal flag demonstrates Australia's recognition of Aboriginal people as the first peoples of this nation, promoting a sense of community partnership and a commitment toward reconciliation.

2. That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee consider minor amendments to the existing Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol Policy.

Implications:

The committee members are to be fully aware of Part 2 – Protocols for the Appropriate Use & Flying of the Flag (Attachment 2) before recommending suggested changes. The protocols for the Appropriate Use and Flying of the Flag is a Federal Government document and opportunities to change / amend the Council Policy are bound by the Federal document.

Background

The Australian Aboriginal Flag was designed by artist Harold Thomas and was first flown at Victoria Square Adelaide, South Australia, on National Aborigines Day July 1971. It became the official flag for the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in Canberra after it was first flown there in 1972. Since then, it has become a widely recognised symbol of the unity and identity of Aboriginal people.

In view of the flag's wide acceptance and importance in Australian society, the Commonwealth took steps in 1994 to give the flag legal recognition. After a period of public consultation, in July 1995 the Aboriginal flag was proclaimed a 'Flag of Australia' under the Flags Act 1953.

In 1997 the Federal Court recognised Harold Thomas as the designer of the flag. (<http://www.naidoc.org.au/indigenous-australian-flags>).

In accordance to Shoalhaven City Council's Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol, the Aboriginal flag is flown on all days of the year.

Additionally, the Australian Aboriginal Flag will be flown at half-mast upon a death of a local Aboriginal Elder until the end of that working week.

Community Engagement

The purpose of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee is to provide appropriate and considered advice to Council on all relevant issues affecting Aboriginal people within the Shoalhaven local government area.

Policy Implications

This is a review of the existing Aboriginal Flag protocol POL16/145. The policy is to be reviewed within one year of the election of every new council.



City Administrative Centre
Bridge Road (PO Box 42), Nowra NSW Australia 2541 - DX 5323 Nowra
Phone: (02) 4429 3111 - Fax: (02) 4422 1816

Southern District Office
Deering Street, Ulladulla - Phone: (02) 4429 8999 – Fax: (02) 4429 8939

Email: council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

For more information contact the Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

Australian Aboriginal Flag Protocol

Policy Number: POL16/145 • Adopted: 21/10/1997 • Reaffirmed: 31/8/2004 • Amended: 28/04/2009, 26/03/2013 • Minute Number: MIN97.1897, MIN04.985, MIN09.488, MIN13.257 • File: 3821E • Produced By: Finance Corporate & Community Group • Review Date:

1. PURPOSE

To recognise the significance of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the Shoalhaven context.

2. STATEMENT

Council recognises the significance of the original custodians of our land and their importance in our community and its history.

3. PROVISIONS

- 3.1. The Australian Aboriginal Flag will be flown on all days of the year in conjunction with the Australian National Flag and Council's own Flag in accordance with established flag protocol.
- 3.2. The Australian Aboriginal Flag will be flown at half mast upon the death of a local Elder until the end of the working week.
- 3.3. The Torres Strait and other flags will be flown on other significant days as notified by the Commonwealth Flag Network, Department of Prime Minister and cabinet.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

The Finance Corporate & Community Services Group have responsibility for implementing this policy.

5. REVIEW

The Finance Corporate & Community Services Group will review this policy within one year of the election of every new Council.

6. APPLICATION OF ESD PRINCIPLES

None applicable.

AA18.15 Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Resignation - Leslie Halls

HPERM Ref: D18/104943

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

Section: Human Resources, Governance & Customer Service

Purpose / Summary

To advise of the resignation of Ms Leslie Halls from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That:

1. The resignation of Ms Leslie Halls from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee be accepted.
2. Council write to Ms Leslie Halls to thank her for her contribution to the Committee
3. A member be sought to fill the vacancy created on the Committee by the resignation of Ms Halls.

Options

1. As recommended

Implications: The vacancy for a community representative will be filled by further report to the Committee

2. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee adopt an alternate recommendation.

Background

On Tuesday 27 March 2018, Council received Ms Leslie Halls' resignation to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee. Ms Leslie Halls has been a community member of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee since August 2011.

In the resignation, Ms Leslie Halls thanked Margaret Simoes and the Committee for their years of service and wished them all the best for the future.

AA18.15

AA18.16 For Information - Uluru Statement from the Heart

HPERM Ref: D18/139519

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group
Section: Human Resources, Governance & Customer Service

Attachments: 1. Uluru Statement from The Heart [↓](#)

Purpose / Summary

To provide the Uluru Statement from the Heart for Information.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Uluru Statement from the Heart be received for information.

Options

1. As recommended
2. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee adopt an alternate recommendation.

Background

Correspondance was received from The Chairperson - Clr Cheyne requesting that this document be placed on the agenda for information.

In May 2017, a constitutional convention bringing together over 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders met at the foot of Uluru in Central Australia on the lands of the Anangu people.

The majority resolved, in the ‘Uluru Statement from the Heart’, to call for the establishment of a ‘First Nations Voice’ in the *Australian Constitution* and a ‘Makarrata Commission’ to supervise a process of ‘agreement-making’ and ‘truth-telling’ between governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from ‘time immemorial’, and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is *a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or ‘mother nature’, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty.* It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?

With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia’s nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is *the torment of our powerlessness.*

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take *a rightful place* in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: *the coming together after a struggle.* It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

AA18.17 Update - Bulk South Coast Aboriginal Land Claim

HPERM Ref: D18/138954

Group: Planning Environment & Development Group
Section: Development Services

Attachments: 1. Map of Bulk South Coast Aboriginal Land Claims [↓](#)
2. Advice to Local Government - Update on the Bulk South Coast Aboriginal Land Claims - ALC Investigation Unit [↓](#)

Purpose / Summary

Provide an update on the NSW Land and Environment Court decision regarding the bulk South Coast Aboriginal Land Claims (ALCs), which were lodged during December 2016.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

Receive the report regarding the status of the bulk South Coast Aboriginal Land Claims for information.

Options

1. Receive this report for information.

Implications: Council is not required to do anything further at this stage. Advice will be provided to the NSW Crown Lands Aboriginal Land Claims Investigation Unit (ALCIU) regarding individual lots or properties as the claims are investigated in detail in the future.

Background

In January 2017, Council was advised of the lodgement of multiple ALCs over a large proportion of Crown Land within the Shoalhaven Local Government Area (LGA) and surrounding coastal Council areas. These claims were lodged in December 2016, and are often referred to as the 'bulk' or 'blanket' claims, which affect the following Crown Land:

- All land reserved for Future Public Requirements pursuant to Government Gazette No. 83 of 29 June 2007 (Folios 4182 – 4213 and Folio 4226);
- All Travelling Stock Reserves as defined by s61 of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*; and
- All Reserves within the meaning of s78 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*.

Attachment 1 is a map of the areas potentially covered by these claims within the Shoalhaven LGA.

In April 2017, the NSW Minister for Lands commenced legal proceedings in the NSW Land and Environment Court (LEC), challenging the way the land was identified in these claims. As a result, investigation into the subject claims was placed on hold awaiting the outcome of these legal proceedings.

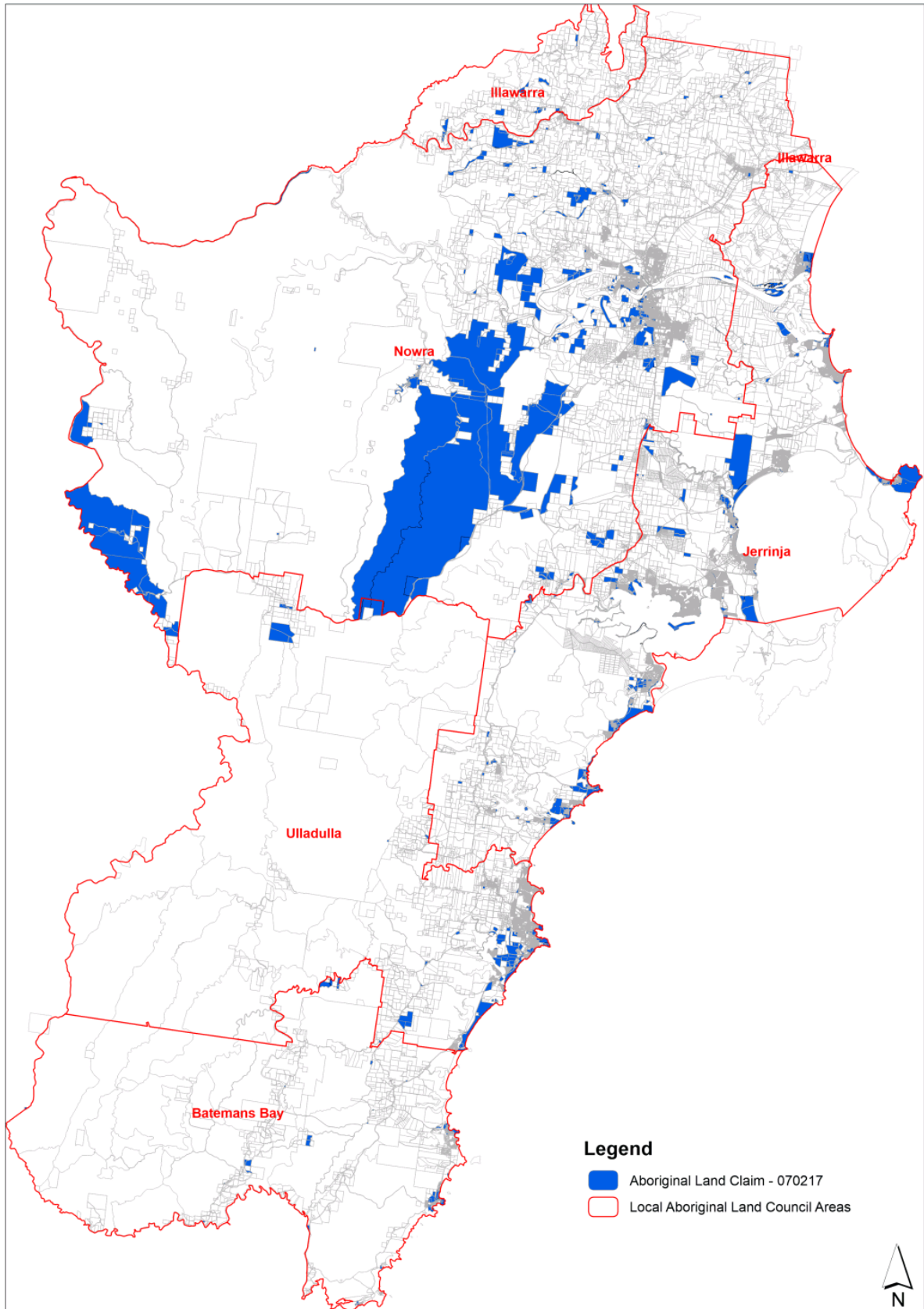
Council has received advice (see **Attachment 2**) that, on 8 March 2018, the LEC handed down its decision, finding that the land was adequately described for the claims to be registered and accepted as valid. There LEC decision can be viewed on the internet at the following link:

<https://www.caselaw.nsw.gov.au/decision/5a9f75c6e4b087b8baa874b2>

This decision has been accepted by the NSW Minister for Lands, and investigation of the bulk claims may now be conducted on a lot-by-lot basis as per standard ALC investigation processes and timeframes.

Council is not required to provide any additional information to the ALCIU at this stage. Advice will be provided upon request as each of the claims are investigated on a lot-by-lot basis at the relevant point in the future.

This report is provided to the Committee for their information.



AA18.17 - Attachment 1



4 April 2018

Reference to Local Government Area via email:

To whom it may concern

Update on the bulk South Coast Aboriginal land claims

In January 2017 Council was advised the Aboriginal Land Claim Investigation Unit (ALCIU) as the responsible authority for the investigation of Aboriginal Land Claims had been notified by the Office of the Registrar, *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (NSW) of multiple Aboriginal Land Claims lodged over;

- All land reserved for Future Public Requirements (FPR) pursuant to Government Gazette No. 83 of 29 June 2007 (Folios 4182 – 4213 and Folio 4226).
- All Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs) as defined by s 61 of the Local Land Services Act 2013.
- All Reserves within the meaning of section 78 of the Crown Lands Act 1989.

For the following Local Government areas (LGA's)

- Eurobodalla
- Shoalhaven
- Bega Valley
- Kiama
- Sutherland
- Sutherland
- Shellharbour
- Wollongong

And the following Local Aboriginal Land Council areas

- Batemans Bay
- Cobowra
- Illawarra
- Merrimans
- Tharawal
- Bega
- Eden
- Jerrinja
- Mogo
- Ulladulla
- Bodalla
- Gandangara
- La Perouse
- Nowra
- Wagonga

Due to the geographical boundaries of the Local Aboriginal Land Council areas the following LGAs were also impacted or partially impacted by some of the Claims lodged over the entire Local Aboriginal Land Council areas.

- Snowy Monara
- Wingecarribee
- Camden
- Randwick
- Snowy Valleys
- Goulburn Malarwee
- Campbelltown
- Canterbury Bankstown
- Palerang
- Wollindilly
- Liverpool

Our initial advice to you contained a list of all the specific Aboriginal Land Claim numbers, lodgement dates in December 2016 and their related areas.

PO Box 2185, Dangar NSW 2309, Australia
45 Wingewarra Street, Dubbo NSW 2830, Australia,
Tel: 02 6883 3396 Fax: 02 6884 2067 alc@crowland.nsw.gov.au www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands

In April 2017 the Minister for Lands commenced legal proceedings in the Land and Environment Court challenging the way the land was identified in these claims.

Due to these court proceedings the ALCIU was unable to commence investigation of any of the subject claims.

On 8 March 2018 the Land and Environment Court handed down its decision finding the land was adequately described for the claims to be registered and accepted as valid Aboriginal land claims.

The full judgement of the Land and Environment Court can be accessed via the link below.

[Minister Administering the Crown Lands Act 1989 v New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council \[2018\] NSWLEC](#)

The decision of the Land and Environment Court has been accepted by the Minister for Lands and the investigation of these claims will now be conducted on a lot-by-lot basis as per standard Aboriginal land claim investigation processes, procedures and timeframes.

Please be aware lodging of an Aboriginal Land Claim creates an interest in the land. Prior to any future dealings in this land, consultation should be undertaken with Crown Lands.

Aboriginal Land Claims are investigated against criteria set out in Section 36 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*. Regardless of when an investigation is conducted the key date for the investigation is the date the claim was lodged.

If you have any queries concerning this matter, please contact the Aboriginal Land Claim Investigation Unit on 02 6883 3396 or email to alc@crowland.nsw.gov.au

Regards,



For Manager
Aboriginal Land Claim Investigation Unit
Dol – Crown Lands, Dubbo