

Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 03 March, 2026
Location: Osprey & Orchid Training Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 5:00 PM

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. Meeting Conduct Statement**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Acknowledgement of Country**

Walawaani (welcome),

Shoalhaven City Council recognises the First Peoples of the Shoalhaven and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Walawaani njindiwan (safe journey to you all)

Disclaimer: Shoalhaven City Council acknowledges and understands there are many diverse languages spoken within the Shoalhaven and many different opinions
- 4. A Minute Silence in Respect of Aboriginal Elders, Past and Present**
- 5. Confirmation of Minutes**
 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 4 November 2025..... 1
- 6. Declarations of Interest**
- 7. Reports**
 - AA26.1 Action Table Report - March 2026.....6
- 8. General Business**

Membership

Chairperson - Ms Natalie Lloyd
All Councillors
Chief Executive Officer or nominee
Ms Nicole Moore
Ms Caryn Carpenter
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank
Mr David Blakeney
Ms Belinda Little
Mr Allen Bloxsome
Ms Cleone Wellington
Aunty Margaret Simoes
Mr Charlie Ashby
Uncle Paul McLeod
Mr Uncle Sonny Henry - Nowra LALC
Mr Alfred Wellington - Jerrinja LALC
Ms Karen Tronier - Ulladulla LALC

Quorum – Five (5) local Aboriginal community members

Purpose

The purpose of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, hereby known as the Committee, is to provide cultural advice to Council on its Strategies and Plans.

The Committee will also seek to gain Council's support in achieving the objectives for the current Statement of Commitment 2010 (SoC), the Shoalhaven City Council (SCC) Community Strategic Plan 2027 (SCCSP) and endorsement of the Uluru Statement of the Heart June 2020.

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee is to:

- Advise SCC on matters relating to Aboriginal communities in the LGA.
- Promote and increase knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal society, history and culture throughout SCC and in the Community.
- Advocate and support Council's plan to promote inclusive and accessible services and facilities for Aboriginal people.
- Provide advice towards and monitor the implementation of relevant Council plans and strategies with respect to the needs, issues and interests of Aboriginal people and communities.
- To support and work with Aboriginal and other organisations committed to increasing respect for Aboriginal culture and history, past and present.
- Foster and safeguard a spirit of mutual trust and respect which allows the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) and SCC to work together in their commitment towards well-informed decision-making processes that are culturally respectful.
- Support the recognition and preservation of past and present local cultural heritage and its place in future Council planning and strategies.
- Offers a reciprocal platform for the communication of information from Aboriginal community voices and others that identify local needs for services, facilities and activities.
- Work together with Council to develop and promote appropriate commemorations and celebrations of Aboriginal culture including, but not limited to Sorry Day and NAIDOC Week.
- Provide relevant information to other Committees of Council when needed or requested.

Ordinary Meeting 21 December 2009 – Item 43 – MIN19.1808

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

This Statement commits Shoalhaven City Council to continue building mutually respectful relationships with the Aboriginal Communities of the Shoalhaven.

Shoalhaven City Council values its culturally diverse communities and lifestyles and is deeply committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal people of the Shoalhaven. This Partnership will be based on mutual respect and equality to further employment, social, cultural and economic community development.

Shoalhaven City Council recognizes and acknowledges the history and treatment of Aboriginal people in Australia and supports the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation's vision and values.

Shoalhaven City Council recognises Aboriginal people's valuable contribution made in strengthening and enriching our communities and the heritage of all Australians.

Shoalhaven City Council Acknowledges and Recognises:

- Aboriginal people as the first people of Australia
- Past practices and policies that impacted on Aboriginal people's lives, cultures and society
- The customs and traditions of Aboriginal people and their spiritual relationship with the land
- The rights of Aboriginal people to live according to their own beliefs, values and customs, and
- The significant contribution made by Aboriginal people in the past, present and future.

Shoalhaven City Council commits itself to:

- Ensuring local Aboriginal involvement in events and celebrations of significance which respect the dignity and protocols of the local Aboriginal communities
- The ongoing development of strategies to improve and increase the level of participation of local Aboriginal people in the local Government decision making processes
- Undertake holistic community planning to address wellbeing, employment and social economic or cultural disadvantage experienced by local Aboriginal people in the Shoalhaven
- Ensuring all council staff and Councillors are exposed to ongoing education and cultural training and development programs to increase knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal Cultural heritage and the needs of the Aboriginal communities
- Celebrate and support significant Aboriginal ceremonies and events, e.g. NAIDOC week, Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week and Survival Day
- To continue to fly the Aboriginal flag in places such as City Administrative Centre, Council Chambers, Reception room and in other prominent Council locations.

MINUTES OF THE ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 4 November 2025
Location: Osprey Training Room, Level 1, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 5:30pm

The following members were present:

Mayor Patricia White
Clr Gillian Boyd (Remotely)
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank – arrived 5:31 pm
Mr Charlie Ashby – arrived 5:28 pm
Mr Allen Bloxsome – (Remotely)
Ms Cleone Wellington – (Remotely)
Aunty Margaret Simoes
Ms Natalie Lloyd – (Remotely)

Others present:

Ms Katie Buckman – Director City Performance (Acting Chairperson)
Mr Andrew Constance - Chief Executive Officer
Ms Lauren Buckingham – Manager Customer and Community Services
Ms Kristy Mayhew – Tourism Marketing Specialist
Mr Colin Moore – Senior Community Capacity Builder – Aboriginal
Ms Carly McWalters - Lead - Community Capacity Builder
Mr Eric Hollinger – Coordinator - Special Projects Team
Ms Peta Fuller – Governance Officer (Minute taker)

Note: The chairperson declined to chair the meeting as she was attending remotely, and no community members volunteered to act as Chair. Ms Katie Buckman – Director City Performance assumed the role of chair for the meeting.

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Mr David Blakeney, Ms Caryn Carpenter and Mr Uncle Sonny Henry.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Sharlene Cruickshank / Allen Bloxsome)

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee held on Monday 25 August 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declaration of Interests

Nil

REPORTS

AA25.5 Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report - 25 August 2025

**HPERM Ref:
D25/361774**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Receive the Update on Actions Report for information.
2. Acknowledge the following actions as complete and remove from the action table:
 - a. AA24.12 - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure
 - b. AA24.11 - Update on Reconciliation Action Plan via Email
 - c. AA24.5 - Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme - National Indigenous Australians Agency
 - d. AA24.12 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report July 2024
 - e. AA25.3 - Membership - Reappointment - Resignation - Expired - Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd / Janet Atkins / Sylvia Timbery / Shane Brown / Paul McLeod / Charlie Ashby.

RESOLVED (Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Receive the Update on Actions Report for information.
2. Acknowledge the following actions as complete and remove from the action table:
 - a. AA24.11 - Update on Reconciliation Action Plan via Email
 - b. AA24.5 - Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme - National Indigenous Australians Agency
 - c. AA24.12 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report July 2024
 - d. AA25.3 - Membership - Reappointment - Resignation - Expired - Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd / Janet Atkins / Sylvia Timbery / Shane Brown / Paul McLeod / Charlie Ashby
3. The following action remain open until completed:
 - a. AA24.12 - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure.

CARRIED

AA25.7 Implementation Update - Reconciliation Action Plan

**HPERM Ref:
D25/330467**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Receive this report, *Update on Reconciliation Action Plan - Implementation*, for information.
2. Nominate two members to represent the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on the Reconciliation Action Plan Yarning Group.

RESOLVED (Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Receive this report, *Update on Reconciliation Action Plan - Implementation*, for information.
2. Defer Item 2 “*Nominate two members to represent the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on the Reconciliation Action Plan Yarning Group*” until the new year.

CARRIED

AA25.8 Notice of Motion referred to Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Acknowledgement and Welcome to Country - Support

HPERM Ref: D25/364983

Discussion was held around SCC supporting Acknowledgement and Welcome to Country and creating a policy.

There is currently no formal policy or framework. Carly McWalters - Lead - Community Capacity Builder to review Reconciliation Action Plan.

Consensus around Acknowledgement and Welcome to Country to continue with policy put in place. Internal cultural awareness training should be provided to councillors and staff.

The recommendation was altered as per the discussion.

Recommendation

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee discuss the resolved Notice of Motion MIN25.371 and provide any feedback that they deem appropriate.

Recommendation (Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee provided the following feedback on notice of motion MIN25.371:

1. The Committee emphasises the importance of cultural awareness training and development opportunities for both staff and Councillors. Members noted that this training should extend beyond general awareness to build confidence in delivering personal Acknowledgements of Country—encouraging individuals to move beyond standardised templates and speak with genuine understanding of their meaning and purpose.

The Committee also highlighted the importance of progressing from cultural awareness to cultural responsiveness—supporting staff and Councillors to understand how to incorporate this learning into their work, policies, and practices, and to embed respectful engagement with Aboriginal communities across all areas of Council’s operations.

2. The Committee recommends that Council develop a formal policy to guide the appropriate and consistent use of Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols.

CARRIED

AA25.9 Information Report - Planning Proposal (rezoning) for Nebraska Estate, St Georges Basin

HPERM Ref: D25/219990

Eric Hollinger – Coordinator - Special Projects Team gave a presentation on the Proposal (rezoning) for Nebraska Estate, St Georges Basin.

The committee acknowledged that 2009 was the last time a site survey was conducted and suggested the survey be reconducted and updated.

Committee members discussed the location and protection of the cultural artefacts. Eric advised the artefacts are legally protected and are within the land zoned for conservation.

The committee requested council provide physical protection or a barrier around the artefact sites.

The sites are located on council road reserves or council land.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

RESOLVED (Sharlene Cruickshank / Charlie Ashby)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

Carly McWalters advised that council are currently developing the Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP). Council are currently in the community engagement phase and committee members are encouraged to provide feedback before it closes on 7 December.

AA25.12 Additional Item - Membership - Paul McLeod

Carly McWalters sought the committee's feedback on accepting Uncle Paul McLeod's membership re-nomination to the committee for another term. The committee endorsed Paul McLeod's membership. The committee was asked to encourage young people to be a part of the committee to fill the 2 x youth positions (18-25 age range).

RECOMMENDATION (By consent)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee endorse Paul McLeod's membership and note the importance of committee members being committed to the committee.

CARRIED

Kristy Mayhew – Tourism Marketing Specialist presented a copy of the new visitor guide and drew the attention of the committee to the disclaimer, Welcome to Country and cultural & community protocols. Kristy invited members to provide feedback to her.

Kristy Mayhew advised she is now on the Booderee Joint Board. The Committee discussed the 30th anniversary celebration of hand back on 22 November at Green Patch.

Lauren left the meeting at 6:48pm.

Eric left the meeting at 6:49pm.

AA25.11 Additional Item - Jerry Bailey burial grounds project

Colin Moore - Senior Community Capacity Builder – Aboriginal, provided an update on The Jerry Bailey Burial ground project. The committee discussed community consultation and Natalie Lloyd reiterated the need for a community members of Shoalhaven Heads (ancestors) consultation. Carly McWalters advised Council is currently working with Aunty Julie who is the Aboriginal consultant for the project. The committee was advised stage 2 of the project will include broader community consultation which will be informed by feedback from stage 1.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That staff provide further updates on the current feedback and next phase of the Jerry Bailey Burial ground project at the next committee meeting and that the update presentation be emailed to the members.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 7:05pm.

Ms Katie Buckman
ACTING CHAIRPERSON

AA26.1 Action Table Report - March 2026

HPERM Ref: D26/69037

Department: Customer & Community Services
Approver: Katie Buckman, Director - City Performance

Attachments: 1. AAC Action Table March 2026 [↓](#)

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Aboriginal Advisory Committee with a progress report on outstanding actions.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Receive the Update on Actions Report for information.
2. Acknowledge the following actions as complete and remove from the action table:
 - a. AA25.12 - Additional Item - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Membership Appointment - Paul McLeod
 - b. AA25.5 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report - 25 August 2025
 - c. AA25.7 - Implementation Update - Reconciliation Action Plan - Defer - Nomination - Yarning Group

AA26.1

Community Strategic Plan:

- 1 Vibrant, active and safe communities
 - 1.1 Community life, civic engagement and community support

Delivery Program / Operational Plan:

- 1.1.1 Deliver plans and strategies which help to create an inclusive community and improve equitable access to opportunities

Background

This report is to update the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on outstanding and completed actions from previous meetings.

Attachment 1 provides information regarding the status of actions and resolutions made at previous meetings.

Subject to the Committee concurring that satisfactory progress has been made to complete the items in the March 2026 Action Table Report, the Group is requested to adopt the Recommendation to note completion of:

- AA25.12 - Additional Item - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Membership Appointment - Paul McLeod
- AA25.5 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report - 25 August 2025

- AA25.7 - Implementation Update - Reconciliation Action Plan - Defer - Nomination - Yarning Group

Should AAC members require further information on the status of the actions in the table attached, Council staff will provide as requested.

Risk Implications

Council recognises the importance of maintaining good relationships and upholding core organisational values in all interactions with members of our Section 355 Committees. Council will tolerate appropriate and effective interventions to improve the functioning of these Committees.

Internal Consultations

It is important that the members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee are kept informed on progress towards the completion of actions and projects. This report provides a structured approach to facilitate this information exchange.

External Consultations

Members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will be informed about the progress of outstanding actions at the next sitting of the committee.

Community Consultations

This report relates to actions that arose from previous Aboriginal Advisory Committee meetings and that are the responsibility of staff to complete. As such, no community consultation was required.

Policy and Statutory Implications

There are no changes required to any Council policy as a result of the production of this report.

Financial Implications

There is no budget associated with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee so there are no financial implications.

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Meeting Date: 26/02/2024	Item No: AA24.6	Officer: McLeod, Tim	Completed:
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Title: Additional Item - Proposed Road Closure - Part Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Further Information Required and Report Back - Committee Feedback - Contact Aboriginal Parties - Provide DA Updates

<p>RESOLVED* (Clr White / Clr Gray) MIN24.79</p> <p>That Council as requested by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request staff to send information on the proposed road closure to the Committee and request the Committee to provide their feedback within 6 weeks on this matter via email or telephone for Council's consideration. 2. Contact the Registered Aboriginal Parties in the Extent report to seek comment. 3. Provide further information to the Committee on any updates on the DA provided by the Department. <p>FOR: Clr Findley, Clr D'Ath, Clr Boyd, Clr Kotlash, Clr Copley, Clr Ell, Clr Christen, Clr White, Clr Wells, Clr Watson, Clr Kitchener and Clr Gray</p> <p>AGAINST: Nil</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <p>05 Jun 2024 2:19pm Bennett, Hannah Council has requested feedback/comments from the required parties. Submissions are due to be received by 14 June 2024. A Councillor briefing is scheduled for 20 June 2024.</p> <p>17 Jul 2024 3:19pm Goodsell, Kiralee 1.Council has requested feedback/comments from the required parties. Submissions were received by 14 June 2024. A Councillor briefing was held 20 June 2024., 2&3 still in progress</p> <p>09 Oct 2024 5:50pm Goodsell, Kiralee 1.Council has requested feedback/comments from the required parties. Submissions were received by 14 June 2024. A Councillor briefing was held 20 June 2024. 2&3 still in progress</p> <p>30 Jan 2025 11:43am Goodsell, Kiralee - Reallocation Action reassigned to McLeod, Tim by Goodsell, Kiralee - Allocation to responsible officer</p> <p>30 Jan 2025 11:44am Goodsell, Kiralee A Councillor briefing was held 20 June 2024. 2&3 still in progress.</p> <p>30 Jan 2025 10:59pm McLeod, Tim Meeting held with proponent 11 October 2024. Proponent further considering access provision associated with proposed road closure. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council</p> <p>31 Mar 2025 9:09am McLeod, Tim Proponent considering access provision associated with proposed road closure. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council.</p> <p>06 Jun 2025 12:45pm McLeod, Tim Proponent considering access provision associated with proposed road closure. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council</p>
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	<p>08 Aug 2025 10:26am McLeod, Tim Waiting for further information from the proponent and whether proceeding</p> <p>28 Aug 2025 2:47pm McLeod, Tim Waiting further information from the proponent and whether proceeding</p> <p>26 Sep 2025 9:40am McLeod, Tim Proponent is considering access provision and road closure. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council</p> <p>31 Oct 2025 3:20pm McLeod, Tim Proponent is considering access arrangements and road closure and is to advise Council if still pursuing. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council is proceeding.</p> <p>27 Nov 2025 3:24pm McLeod, Tim The lead consultant for Shaolin Temple has been contacted for update on access arrangements/road closure in association with the proposed development, however no response has been provided. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council is proceeding.</p> <p>18 Dec 2025 4:26pm McLeod, Tim The lead consultant for Shaolin Temple has been contacted for update on access arrangements/road closure in association with the proposed development, however no response has been provided. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council is proceeding.</p> <p>08 Jan 2026 2:01pm McLeod, Tim Attempts have continued to contact the lead consultant for Shaolin Temple for update on access arrangements/road closure in association with the proposed development, however no response has been received. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council, if the applicant proceeds with the road closure.</p> <p>30 Jan 2026 8:14am McLeod, Tim Attempts have continued to contact the lead consultant for Shaolin Temple for update on access arrangements/road closure in association with the proposed development, however no response has been received. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council, if the applicant proceeds with the road closure.</p>
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Meeting Date: 07/05/2024	Item No: AA24.12	Officer: Tipton, Micaiah	Completed:
Title: Additional Item - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure			
RESOLVED (By consent) That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive a report back on the status of the Comberton Grange Rd, Comberton road closure. CARRIED		Notes: 23 May 2024 2:37pm Goodman, Rylee This item has been assigned to you for action. Please reassign if required. 13 Jun 2024 10:45am Goodman, Rylee - Reallocation Action reassigned to Tipton, Micaiah by Goodman, Rylee - Carly requested to reassign action to Micaiah Tipton. 17 Jul 2024 3:39pm Goodsell, Kiralee Completed 30 Jan 2025 11:39am Goodsell, Kiralee - Completion Completed by Goodsell, Kiralee on behalf of Tipton, Micaiah (action officer) on 30 January 2025 at 11:39:09 AM - Item completed 11 Feb 2026 3:15pm Bowley, Kay - Completion Uncompleted by Bowley, Kay - target date changed to 06 June 2024 11 Feb 2026 3:15pm Bowley, Kay AAC requested that this action remain open until a report is submitted.	

Meeting Date: 09/12/2025	Item No: AA25.8	Officer: Richardson, Jessica	Completed:
Title: Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Acknowledgement and Welcome to Country - Support - Cultural Awareness Training - Formal Policy - Protocols			
RESOLVED (Clr Killian / Clr Proudfoot) MIN25.622 That Council, as recommended by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee: 1. Recognise the importance of cultural awareness training and development opportunities for both staff and Councillors. (Members noted that this training should extend beyond general awareness to build confidence in delivering personal Acknowledgements of Country - encouraging individuals to move beyond standardised		Notes: 12 Jan 2026 4:20pm McWalters, Carly	

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templates and speak with genuine understanding of their meaning and purpose).

The Committee also highlighted the importance of progressing from cultural awareness to cultural responsiveness - supporting staff and Councillors to understand how to incorporate this learning into their work, policies, and practices, and to embed respectful engagement with Aboriginal communities across all areas of Council's operations.

2. Develop a formal policy to guide the appropriate and consistent use of Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols.

FOR: Mayor White, Clr Clancy, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd and Clr Killian

AGAINST: Clr Kemp and Clr Steele

CARRIED

CL25.409 Report of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 4 November 2025 went to Ordinary meeting 9 December 2025 with the following recommendation from Aboriginal Advisory Committee in response to the Notice of Motion AA25.8 Notice of Motion referred to Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Acknowledgment and Welcome to Country – Support, Recommendation:, That Council, as recommended by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee: , 3. Recognise the importance of cultural awareness training and development opportunities for both staff and Councillors. (Members noted that this training should extend beyond general awareness to build confidence in delivering personal Acknowledgements of Country - encouraging individuals to move beyond standardised templates and speak with genuine understanding of their meaning and purpose)., The Committee also highlighted the importance of progressing from cultural awareness to cultural responsiveness - supporting staff and Councillors to understand how to incorporate this learning into their work, policies, and practices, and to embed respectful engagement with Aboriginal communities across all areas of Council's operations., 4. Develop a formal policy to guide the appropriate and consistent use of Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols.

10 Feb 2026 3:10pm Bowley, Kay - Completion

Uncompleted by Bowley, Kay - target date changed to 08 January 2026

10 Feb 2026 3:11pm Bowley, Kay - Reallocation

Action reassigned to Richardson, Jessica by Bowley, Kay - Jessica is acting Lead - Vibrant Communities.

18 Feb 2026 12:58pm Richardson, Jessica

At the Ordinary Meeting on 9 December 2025, Council resolved (see MIN25.622) that Council, as recommended by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Recognise the importance of cultural awareness training and development opportunities for both staff and Councillors. (Members noted that this training should extend beyond general awareness to build confidence in delivering personal Acknowledgements of Country - encouraging individuals to move beyond standardised templates and speak with genuine understanding of their meaning and purpose).

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	<p>The Committee also highlighted the importance of progressing from cultural awareness to cultural responsiveness - supporting staff and Councillors to understand how to incorporate this learning into their work, policies, and practices, and to embed respectful engagement with Aboriginal communities across all areas of Council's operations.</p> <p>2. Develop a formal policy to guide the appropriate and consistent use of Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols.</p> <p>The Vibrant Communities Team will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support People and Culture to develop a training approach in line with the endorsed Reconciliation Action Plan actions. Input will continue to be drawn from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Aboriginal staff, and the RAP Yarning Group to support the development of the training capsules and inform the selection of any training facilitators, with a strong emphasis on ensuring the training is grounded in the local Aboriginal context. 2. Identify an approach with Council Teams to develop a formal policy to guide the appropriate and consistent use of Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols.
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Meeting Date: 04/11/2025	Item No: AA25.11	Officer: Moore, Colin	Completed:
Title: Additional Item - Jerry Bailey burial grounds project - Provide update Next meeting - Email presentation			
<p>RESOLVED (By consent)</p> <p>That staff provide further updates on the current feedback and next phase of the Jerry Bailey Burial ground project at the next committee meeting and that the update presentation be emailed to the members.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>		<p>Notes:</p> <p>04 Dec 2025 9:52am Bowley, Kay Provide presentation to Governance to email with minutes. Provide update at next meeting.</p> <p>18 Feb 2026 1:42pm Moore, Colin Strategic Planning Team have provided the presentation slides with the minutes attached.</p> <p>This action will remain open for Project Staff to provide further updates when appropriate.</p>	

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Completed Actions

Meeting Date: 27/01/2026	Item No: AA25.12	Officer: Krizanovic, Krystal	Completed: 18/02/2026
Title: Additional Item - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Membership Appointment - Paul McLeod			
RESOLVED* (Clr Norris / Clr Krikstolaitis) MIN26.15 That Council, as recommended by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, endorse Paul McLeod's membership and note the importance of committee members being committed to the committee. FOR: Mayor White, Clr Clancy, Clr Kemp, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Steele, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd, Clr Krikstolaitis and Clr Killian AGAINST: Nil CARRIED		Notes: 05 Feb 2026 3:15pm Krizanovic, Krystal Waiting on confirmation from Colin regarding Uncle Pauls current email address. ewok, folder notes and Infocouncil updated. 18 Feb 2026 4:15pm Krizanovic, Krystal Colin has provided Governance with contact details for Uncle Paul. Governance have informed Uncle Paul of his successful membership appointment, have invited him to the next meeting of the AAC, and have added his contact details to the AAC Mailing List. This action is now considered complete and can be removed from the action table.	

Meeting Date: 04/11/2025	Item No: AA25.5	Officer: Bowley, Kay / Moore, Colin	Completed: 11/02/2026
Title: Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report - 25 August 2025			
RESOLVED (Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd) That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee: 1. Receive the Update on Actions Report for information. 2. Acknowledge the following actions as complete and remove from the action table: a. AA24.11 - Update on Reconciliation Action Plan via Email b. AA24.5 - Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme - National Indigenous Australians Agency		Notes: 11 Feb 2026 3:19pm Bowley, Kay - Completion Completed by Bowley, Kay (action officer) on 11 February 2026 at 3:19:14 PM - Infocouncil updated	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. AA24.12 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report July 2024 d. AA25.3 - Membership - Reappointment - Resignation - Expired - Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd / Janet Atkins / Sylvia Timbery / Shane Brown / Paul McLeod / Charlie Ashby <p>3. The following action remain open until completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. AA24.12 - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure. <p>CARRIED</p>	
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Meeting Date: 04/11/2025	Item No: AA25.7	Officer: Britton, Beth	Completed: 09/12/2025
Title: Implementation Update - Reconciliation Action Plan - Defer - Nomination - Yarning Group			
<p>RESOLVED (Sharlene Cruickshank / Natalie Lloyd)</p> <p>That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receive this report, <i>Update on Reconciliation Action Plan - Implementation</i>, for information. 2. Defer Item 2 “<i>Nominate two members to represent the Aboriginal Advisory Committee on the Reconciliation Action Plan Yarning Group</i>” until the new year. <p>CARRIED</p>		<p>Notes:</p> <p>09 Dec 2025 2:53pm Britton, Beth - Completion</p> <p>Completed by Britton, Beth (action officer) on 09 December 2025 at 2:53:27 PM - Resolution noted</p>	