

## Aboriginal Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, 03 June, 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 - 3 March 2026 ..... 1

### 6. Declarations of Interest

### 7. Presentations

AA26.6 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Review Update

The Vibrant Communities Team is currently conducting a review of Council's advisory structures. This is an ongoing process focused on ensuring our partnership with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) is effective, respectful, and impactful.

### Current Review Findings

At our upcoming meeting, we will present the evidence gathered so far from members, staff, and Councillors. This analysis helps us understand:

- The strengths and challenges of our current meeting and reporting structures.
- The desire for more flexible, culturally grounded ways of engaging with Council projects.
- How to improve transparency regarding the impact of the committee’s advice.

### Looking to the Future

This review is an open conversation about how we best work together. It provides a space to imagine a model that ensures culturally appropriate collaboration and that provides opportunities for Aboriginal leadership. This includes exploring how we might better integrate diverse voices, such as Elders and Traditional Owners, to ensure our collective work delivers the best outcomes for the Shoalhaven.

Committee members are encouraged to consider alternative ways of sharing advice with Council and methods of engaging with Council to be discussed at the meeting.

#### AA26.7 Jerry Bailey Burial Ground Project Update

Council staff will provide the Aboriginal Advisory Committee with an update on the Jerry Bailey Burial Ground Project, in particular acknowledging the outcomes of the Elders Meeting on 20 May.

## 8. Reports

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## 9. General Business

**Membership**

Chairperson - Ms Natalie Lloyd  
All Councillors  
Chief Executive Officer or nominee  
Ms Nicole Moore  
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.

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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, 3 March 2026  
**Location:** Osprey & Orchid Training Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 5:09 PM

The following members were present:

Ms Natalie Lloyd (Remotely)  
Mayor Patricia White  
Cr Gillian Boyd (Remotely)  
Uncle Paul McLeod  
Cr Jemma Tribe (Remotely)  
Cr Debbie Killian  
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank  
Mr Charlie Ashby (Remotely)  
Mr Allen Bloxsome  
Uncle Sonny Sims - Nowra LALC

Others present:

Mr Andrew Constance - Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Lauren Buckingham – Manager Customer and Community Services (Acting Chairperson)  
Mr Colin Moore – Aboriginal Communities Partner  
Ms Katie Buckman – Director City Performance (Remotely)  
Ms Jessica Richardson – Lead Vibrant Communities  
Mr Alexander Aronsson - Floodplain & Stormwater Coordinator  
Ms Jenna Anderson – Governance Coordinator  
Mrs Krystal Krizanovic – 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 Lauren Buckingham – Manager Customer and Community Services assumed the role of chair for the meeting.

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from:

Ms Caryn Carpenter  
Aunty Margaret Simoes – Shoalhaven High School  
Ms Cleone Wellington – Waminda  
Ms Karen Tronier - Ulladulla LALC

### Confirmation of the Minutes

**RESOLVED** (Sharlene Cruickshank / Allen Bloxsome)

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 04 November 2025 be confirmed.  
CARRIED

### Declaration of Interests

Nil

## REPORTS

### AA26.1 Action Table Report - March 2026

HPERM Ref:  
D26/69037

#### 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

#### RESOLVED (Sharlene Cruickshank / Allen Bloxsome)

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
3. Continue to support and pursue.
  - a. AA24.12 - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure.
4. The nomination of two members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee to be representatives on the reconciliation action plans Yarning Group.
  - a. Mr Allen Bloxsome - Representative
  - b. Mr Charlie Ashby - Representative
  - c. Uncle Paul McLeod - Substitute Representative

CARRIED

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### **AA26.2 Additional Item - Lower Shoalhaven River & St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans**

Lower Shoalhaven River & St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans  
Presenter: Alexander Aronsson, Floodplain & Stormwater Coordinator

Alexander's team has completed the draft Lower Shoalhaven River and St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Plans.

All draft documents are currently on public exhibition, and Council is seeking community feedback on the recommendations within each plan.

The studies aim to reduce flood risk to properties and assets on both public and private land and to improve preparedness and response for future flooding events in the study areas.

Alexander has provided a copy of the presentation for the committee to review.

### **AA26.3 Additional Item - Jerry Bailey Burial Ground Project Update**

Phase One commenced late last year and focused on informing the most affected stakeholders, including descendants, landholders, residents, and Aboriginal communities with connections to the site. Broader stakeholders were also engaged.

#### **Phase One Completion:**

1. Included support from Aboriginal stakeholder Aunty Julie Moore from Koorimunication, who attended a meeting and presented to the group.
2. Proactive resolutions assisted with consultation activities, particularly with homeowners and residents of Hay Avenue.
3. Council is now progressing from Phase One to Phase Two, with strong support to ensure a positive project outcome. Learnings from Phase One have been consolidated to guide the next stage.

Phase Two will involve establishing a Steering Committee to ensure careful and culturally appropriate engagement. This includes speaking with the right representatives, particularly local Elders.

#### **Next Steps:**

1. Invitations will be issued to Elders to participate in the Steering Committee.
2. Ongoing engagement will also include the Mayor, CEO, and community members to ensure the project continues steadily and respectfully.
3. The focus remains on progressing the project thoughtfully to achieve the best possible outcome for the Jerry Bailey Burial Ground.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 6:33 pm.

Ms Lauren Buckingham – Manager Customer and Community Services  
ACTING CHAIRPERSON

## **AA26.8 Action Table Report - June 2026**

**HPERM Ref:** D26/193806

**Department:** Customer & Community Services

**Approver:** Katie Buckman, Director - City Performance

**Attachments:** 1. Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table as at 12 May 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. AA26.1 - Action Table Report - March 2026 - Membership Yarning Group -Allen Bloxsome Charlie Ashby & Paul McLeod - AA24.12
  - b. AA24.12 - Additional Item - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure

### **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 item in the June 2026 Action Table, the Group is requested to adopt the Recommendation to note completion of:

- AA26.1 - Action Table Report - March 2026 - Membership Yarning Group - Allen Bloxsome, Charlie Ashby, & Paul McLeod - AA24.12
- AA24.12 - Additional Item - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure

(as this item is a duplication of AA24.6 - *Additional Item - Proposed Road Closure - Part Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Further Information Required and Report*

*Back - Committee Feedback - Contact Aboriginal Parties - Provide DA Updates, which will remain open in the Action Table)*

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.

<b>Aboriginal Advisory Committee</b> <b>Uncompleted as at 6 May 2026</b> <b>Completed: 12 February 2026 to 6 May 2026</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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**Uncompleted Actions**

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 03/03/2026	<b>Item No:</b> AA26.1	<b>Officer:</b> Moore, Colin	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Action Table Report - March 2026 - Membership Yarning Group -Allen Bloxsome Charlie Ashby & Paul McLeod - AA24.12			
<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (Sharlene Cruickshank / Allen Bloxsome)</p> <p>That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Receive the Update on Actions Report for information.</li> <li>2. Acknowledge the following actions as complete and remove from the action table:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. AA25.12 - Additional Item - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Membership Appointment - Paul McLeod</li> <li>b. AA25.5 - Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Action Table Report - 25 August 2025</li> <li>c. AA25.7 - Implementation Update - Reconciliation Action Plan - Defer - Nomination - Yarning Group</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Continue to support and pursue.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. AA24.12 - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. The nomination of two members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee to be representatives on the reconciliation action plans Yarning Group.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Mr Allen Bloxsome - Representative</li> <li>b. Mr Charlie Ashby - Representative</li> <li>c. Uncle Paul McLeod - Substitute Representative</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>CARRIED</p>		<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p><b>06 May 2026 9:11am Moore, Colin</b></p> <p>Part 1 &amp; 2. Completed at meeting on 3 March 2026.</p> <p>Part 3. Action remains open, see action item 24.6.</p> <p>Part 4. These members have been invited to participate in the Yarning Group and have attended recently.</p> <p>This item is now considered complete.</p>	

<b>Aboriginal Advisory Committee</b> <b>Uncompleted as at 6 May 2026</b> <b>Completed: 12 February 2026 to 6 May 2026</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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<b>Meeting Date:</b> 04/11/2025	<b>Item No:</b> AA25.11	<b>Officer:</b> Moore, Colin	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Additional Item - Jerry Bailey burial grounds project - Provide update Next meeting - Email presentation			
<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (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><b>Notes:</b></p> <p><b>04 Dec 2025 9:52am Bowley, Kay</b> Provide presentation to Governance to email with minutes. Provide update at next meeting.</p> <p><b>18 Feb 2026 1:42pm Moore, Colin</b> Strategic Planning Team have provided the presentation slides with the minutes attached. This action will remain open for Project Staff to provide further updates when appropriate.</p>		

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 07/05/2024	<b>Item No:</b> AA24.12	<b>Officer:</b> Tipton, Micaiah	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Additional Item - Provide a Report Back - Status Update on Comberton Grange Rd Comberton - Road Closure			
<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (By consent)</p> <p>That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive a report back on the status of the Comberton Grange Rd, Comberton road closure.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p><b>23 May 2024 2:37pm Goodman, Rylee</b> This item has been assigned to you for action. Please reassign if required.</p> <p><b>13 Jun 2024 10:45am Goodman, Rylee - Reallocation</b> Action reassigned to Tipton, Micaiah by Goodman, Rylee - Carly requested to reassign action to Micaiah Tipton.</p> <p><b>17 Jul 2024 3:39pm Goodsell, Kiralee</b> Completed</p> <p><b>30 Jan 2025 11:39am Goodsell, Kiralee - Completion</b> Completed by Goodsell, Kiralee on behalf of Tipton, Micaiah (action officer) on 30 January 2025 at 11:39:09 AM - Item completed</p> <p><b>11 Feb 2026 3:15pm Bowley, Kay - Completion</b> Uncompleted by Bowley, Kay - target date changed to 06 June 2024</p> <p><b>11 Feb 2026 3:15pm Bowley, Kay</b> AAC requested that this action remain open until a report is submitted.</p>		

<b>Aboriginal Advisory Committee</b> <b>Uncompleted as at 6 May 2026</b> <b>Completed: 12 February 2026 to 6 May 2026</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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<b>Meeting Date:</b> 26/02/2024	<b>Item No:</b> AA24.6	<b>Officer:</b> McLeod, Tim	<b>Completed:</b>
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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><b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr White / Clr Gray) <span style="float: right;">MIN24.79</span></p> <p>That Council as requested by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. Contact the Registered Aboriginal Parties in the Extent report to seek comment.</li> <li>3. Provide further information to the Committee on any updates on the DA provided by the Department.</li> </ol> <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><b>Notes:</b></p> <p><b>05 Jun 2024 2:19pm Bennett, Hannah</b> 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><b>17 Jul 2024 3:19pm Goodsell, Kiralee</b> 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&amp;3 still in progress</p> <p><b>09 Oct 2024 5:50pm Goodsell, Kiralee</b> 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&amp;3 still in progress</p> <p><b>30 Jan 2025 11:43am Goodsell, Kiralee - Reallocation</b> Action reassigned to McLeod, Tim by Goodsell, Kiralee - Allocation to responsible officer</p> <p><b>30 Jan 2025 11:44am Goodsell, Kiralee</b> A Councillor briefing was held 20 June 2024. 2&amp;3 still in progress.</p> <p><b>30 Jan 2025 10:59pm McLeod, Tim</b> 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><b>31 Mar 2025 9:09am McLeod, Tim</b> Proponent considering access provision associated with proposed road closure. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council.</p> <p><b>06 Jun 2025 12:45pm McLeod, Tim</b> 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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**Aboriginal Advisory Committee**  
**Uncompleted as at 6 May 2026**  
**Completed: 12 February 2026 to 6 May 2026**

**Action Sheets Report**

	<p><b>08 Aug 2025 10:26am McLeod, Tim</b> Waiting for further information from the proponent and whether proceeding</p> <p><b>28 Aug 2025 2:47pm McLeod, Tim</b> Waiting further information from the proponent and whether proceeding</p> <p><b>26 Sep 2025 9:40am McLeod, Tim</b> Proponent is considering access provision and road closure. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council</p> <p><b>31 Oct 2025 3:20pm McLeod, Tim</b> 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><b>27 Nov 2025 3:24pm McLeod, Tim</b> 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><b>18 Dec 2025 4:26pm McLeod, Tim</b> 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><b>08 Jan 2026 2:01pm McLeod, Tim</b> 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><b>30 Jan 2026 8:14am McLeod, Tim</b> 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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<b>Aboriginal Advisory Committee</b> <b>Uncompleted as at 6 May 2026</b> <b>Completed: 12 February 2026 to 6 May 2026</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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	<p><b>25 Mar 2026 12:52pm McLeod, Tim</b>          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><b>30 Apr 2026 8:48am McLeod, Tim</b>          Attempts to contact the lead consultant for Shaolin Temple for status on access arrangements/road closure in association with the proposed development have been unsuccessful. To be reported to Advisory Committee and future report to Council if the applicant proceeds with the road closure.</p>
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<b>Meeting Date:</b> 09/12/2025	<b>Item No:</b> AA25.8	<b>Officer:</b> Richardson, Jessica	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Acknowledgement and Welcome to Country - Support - Cultural Awareness Training - Formal Policy - Protocols			
<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (Clr Killian / Clr Proudfoot) MIN25.622</p> <p>That Council, as recommended by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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).</li> </ol> <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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a formal policy to guide the appropriate and consistent use of Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols.</li> </ol> <p>FOR: Mayor White, Clr Clancy, Clr Casmiri, Clr Dunn, Clr Wilkins, Clr Proudfoot, Clr Tribe, Clr Norris, Clr Boyd and Clr Killian</p>		<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p><b>12 Jan 2026 4:20pm McWalters, Carly</b>          CL25.409 Report of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 4 November 2025 went to Ordinary meeting 9 December 2025 with this action's recommendation and was resolved by Council.</p> <p><b>10 Feb 2026 3:10pm Bowley, Kay - Completion</b>          Uncompleted by Bowley, Kay - target date changed to 08 January 2026</p> <p><b>10 Feb 2026 3:11pm Bowley, Kay - Reallocation</b>          Action reassigned to Richardson, Jessica by Bowley, Kay - Jessica is acting Lead - Vibrant Communities.</p> <p><b>18 Feb 2026 12:58pm Richardson, Jessica</b>          The Vibrant Communities Team will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.,</li> </ol>	

<p><b>Aboriginal Advisory Committee</b>  <b>Uncompleted as at 6 May 2026</b>  <b>Completed: 12 February 2026 to 6 May 2026</b></p>	<p><b>Action Sheets Report</b></p>
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<p>AGAINST: Clr Kemp and Clr Steele          CARRIED</p>	<p>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.</p> <p><b>19 May 2026 10:32am Richardson, Jessica</b></p> <p>The Vibrant Communities Team has completed the following tasks in the interim,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Worked with People and Culture to include an introduction to the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in the Corporate Induction with all new staff.</li> <li>2. Drafted an Acknowledgement of Country Tip Sheet in consultation with the RAP Yarning Group to support staff to personalise their verbal Acknowledgement of Country.</li> </ol>
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**Completed Actions**

Nil

## **AA26.9 Membership - Resignation of Committee Member**

**HPERM Ref:** D26/215860

**Department:** Business Assurance & Risk

**Approver:** Katie Buckman, Director - City Performance

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to inform the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) of the resignation received from Ms Caryn Carpenter and to advise that the current Expression of Interest (EOI) process has been updated to include the additional community membership vacancy created by this resignation.

### **Recommendation**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Receive the resignation of Ms Caryn Carpenter and thank her for her contribution to the Committee.
2. Note that the current Expression of Interest (EOI) process has been updated to include an additional local Aboriginal community representative position to fill the vacancy.

### **Community Strategic Plan:**

- 4 Transparent leadership with good governance
  - 4.2 Transparent leadership
  - 4.3 Effective collaboration and engagement

### **Delivery Program / Operational Plan:**

- 4.2.1 Provide support to the elected Council to enable effective leadership
- 4.3.2 Provide opportunities for the community to have genuine engagement on Council planning and decision making

### **Background**

Council received notification on Monday 4 May 2026 from Ms Caryn Carpenter that she wished to resign from the Committee. Ms Caryn Carpenter was appointed to the AAC as a Local Aboriginal Community Representative in December 2018 and has served on the Committee for seven (7) years.

The updated EOI, incorporating an additional position for a local Aboriginal community representative to reflect the recent resignation, will support the timely recruitment of a suitable candidate and ensure the Committee maintains its intended membership structure.

### **Risk Implications**

The resignation of a Committee member presents a potential risk to maintaining full community representation and quorum; however, this risk is mitigated by the update to the current EOI process to include the resulting vacancy. This will support the timely recruitment of a suitably qualified local Aboriginal community representative.

**Internal Consultations**

Council's Governance team consulted with Council's Vibrant Communities team to confirm the resignation of the Committee member and to coordinate the update to the current EOI process to include the additional vacancy.

**External Consultations**

No external consultation was undertaken in relation to this report as the matters addressed are administrative in nature and relate to internal governance processes, including the resignation of a Committee member and the update to the current EOI process.

**Community Consultations**

Council is currently inviting applications for a Local Aboriginal Community Representative through an open Expression of Interest (EOI) process. Information about this opportunity is publicly available on Council's website:

<https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/News-and-feedback/Participation-opportunities/Council-Committees/Aboriginal-Advisory-Committee>

**Policy and Statutory Implications**

There are no direct statutory implications arising from this report. In accordance with the AAC Terms of Reference, this report ensures the continued integrity and transparency of the Committee's membership and recruitment processes.

**Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **AA26.10 New Badagarang Open Space - Reserve Naming Process**

**HPERM Ref:** D26/226565

**Department:** Technical Services

**Approver:** Kevin Norwood, Director - City Services

**Attachments:** 1. Moss Vale Road South - Stage 3 Open Space - Concept Plan [↓](#)

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Aboriginal Advisory Committee with an overview of the Badagarang Stage 3 Open Space project and the naming engagement undertaken to date, and to seek feedback on the shortlisted Aboriginal place name suggestions.

### **Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Endorse the following proposed Badagarang Stage 3 Open Space place name suggestions for referral to, and consideration by, the Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council:
  - a. Mirrang Park
  - b. Calboonya Park
  - c. Booroo / Buru Park

### **Community Strategic Plan:**

- 4 Transparent leadership with good governance
  - 4.3 Effective collaboration and engagement

### **Delivery Program / Operational Plan:**

- 4.3.2 Provide opportunities for the community to have genuine engagement on Council planning and decision making

### **Background**

#### A Growing New Suburb

The suburb of Badagarang – located on Moss Vale Road southeast of Cambewarra Village and to the north of Bangalee is now largely established to the south side of Moss Vale Road.

Various open spaces will be delivered by developers and Shoalhaven City Council over the coming months and years.

The purpose of this report relates to identifying a name for one of those open spaces.

#### Naming New Open Spaces

To support recreational outcomes for the community, four areas of public open space are planned for delivery across Badagarang. These spaces will include a range of embellishments such as playgrounds, fenced off-leash dog areas, shared user pathways, picnic facilities, shelters and open lawn areas.

### Stage 3 Open Space

The Stage 3 Open Space is the first of these areas to be delivered. The site is located at 109 Taylors Lane (off Runway Street) and will provide a mix of passive and active recreation opportunities. Key features include:

- A fenced off-leash dog area
- Open grassed area suitable for informal ball play
- Picnic shelter and accessible seating
- Shared pathways and connections
- Landscaping and tree planting



Please see the concept plans in **Attachment 1** for further details on the project.

The site contains a large stand of existing mature trees, which will provide immediate shade and contribute to the overall landscape amenity for park users.

The open space is currently under construction, with a targeted completion date of December 2026.

### Request for Feedback / Advice

The Committee's advice is sought on the appropriateness of the following shortlisted place names based on Aboriginal language:

- Mirrang Park
- Calboonya Park\*

- Booroo / Buru Park\*

Feedback from the Committee is sought to confirm whether these names are considered culturally appropriate, accurately represented, and suitable for progression to further consideration by the Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council and subsequent referral to the Elected Council and NSW Geographical Names Board.

### Risk Implications

There are no significant risk implications associated with the contents of this report.

### Internal Consultations

Work associated with the contents of this report is being led by City Services (Technical Services), coordinated with Vibrant Communities.

### External Consultations

There has been no external consultations undertaken associated with the contents of this report.

Following a determination from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, it is proposed that external consultation will be undertaken with the Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council and subsequent referral to the Elected Council and NSW Geographical Names Board.

### Community Consultations

Community consultation for the Stage 3 Open Space was undertaken from **25 November 2025 to 22 December 2025**. The purpose of this engagement was to invite naming suggestions for the park, consistent with Council's naming processes. A total of 23 name suggestions were received.

An initial assessment of these suggestions was undertaken against the NSW Geographical Names Board Place Naming Policy, resulting in a refined shortlist of eight names for further consideration, including three suggestions based on Aboriginal language (highlighted below):

- **Mirrang Park**
- **Calboonya Park\***
- **Booroo / Buru Park\***
- Cockatoo Reserve
- Taylors Reserve
- Gumtree Park
- Firefly Park
- Runway Park

\* Denotes names referred to the Committee in 2021, as part of the engagement process undertaken to identify a name for the new suburb, Badagarang.

### Policy and Statutory Implications

The naming of the Stage 3 Open Space is required to comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB) Place Naming Policy.

The GNB is responsible for the official naming of places in NSW and sets out principles to ensure that place names are appropriate, unique, easy to use and reflective of local context or heritage.

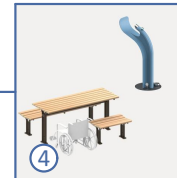
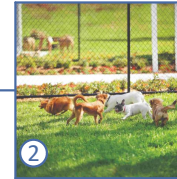
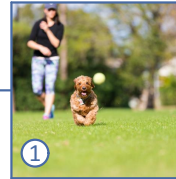
All shortlisted names have been subject to a preliminary assessment against these requirements. Any preferred name endorsed by Council will be formally submitted to the GNB for assessment and approval prior to gazettal.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with the contents of this report.



Site Features



**Fenced Off Leash Area.**  
New turf.  
New fence. 2x gated entries.  
New bin at entry to park.

**Open turfed area.**  
New turf. New picnic shelter.  
New accessible picnic tables.  
New drinking fountain.

**Boundary Screening.**  
New native screen planting.  
New timber boundary fence.

**Pedestrian amenity.**  
New Concrete pathways.  
New seating.  
New native ground covers.

**Remnant bushland.**  
New timber post and wire fence.  
Retain and protect existing trees.

