

# GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

## ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### NOTICE OF MEETING

**Monday, 6 February 2017**

24 January 2017

Mr John Rayner

An Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting will be held at 12noon on Level 2 Kogarah Civic Centre on Monday, 6 February 2017 for consideration of the business available on Council's website at <http://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings>.

Gail Connolly  
General Manager

### **BUSINESS**

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting
4. Disclosures of Interest
5. Agenda Items
6. General Business
7. Next meeting Monday, 1 May 2017 at 12noon



# ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

## Summary of Items

Monday, 6 February 2017

### Agenda Items

<b>AAC001-17</b>	<b>Welcome to Country &amp; Acknowledgment of Country</b> (Report by Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer, Jamal Bassam) .....	2
<b>AAC002-17</b>	<b>Museum New Project</b> (Report by Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer, Jamal Bassam) .....	3
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## **AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**  
**[ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 10 OCTOBER 2016](#)**
- 3. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**
- 4. Disclosure of Interest**

## 5. Agenda Items

**Item:** AAC001-17 **Welcome to Country & Acknowledgment of Country**

**Author:** Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer, Jamal Bassam

**Directorate:** Community and Culture

**Matter Type:** Agenda Items

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Georges River Council is proposing to develop a written protocol to cover the new Local Government Area for Acknowledgment of Country and Welcome to Country.

### Recommendation

(a) THAT the Committee advise on appropriate Acknowledgment protocols for civic events.

### Background

1. Acknowledgments of Country have been embedded in the protocols of the former Hurstville and Kogarah Councils major meetings and events for many years prior to amalgamation. Georges River Council is now proposing to develop a written protocol covering the new Council's area following consultation with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee. The Acknowledgment is a way of showing awareness of and respect for the traditional owners of the land on which a meeting or event is being held.
2. The Committee's advice and guidance is sought on the development of the new protocols.

### Financial Implications

3. No budget impact for this report.

### File Reference

16/2124

**Item:** AAC002-17 **Museum New Project**  
**Author:** Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer, Jamal Bassam  
**Directorate:** Community and Culture  
**Matter Type:** Agenda Items

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council's museum is proposing to host a new exhibition from Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA) which features Indigenous Elders wearing their language group's possum skin cloak.

## **Recommendation**

(a) THAT the Committee provides feedback on the proposed exhibition.

## **Background**

1. The proposed exhibition is called *Home / On Country* and is a travelling exhibition from Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA). The exhibition showcases photographic works by Sarah Rhodes, which feature Indigenous Elders wearing their language group's possum skin cloak.
2. The images celebrate the role of the possum skin cloak in strengthening cultural identity, connection to Country and the Elders' pride in the revitalisation of this traditional cultural symbol.

## **Financial Implications**

3. Within budget allocation.

## **File Reference**

16/2124

**Item:** AAC003-17 **Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference (LGAN)**  
**Author:** Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer, Jamal Bassam  
**Directorate:** Community and Culture  
**Matter Type:** Agenda Items

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The annual LGAN Conference was hosted by Tweed Shire Council between 24 and 26 August 2016.

## **Recommendation**

(a) THAT the information received and noted.

## **Background**

1. The Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference in Tweed Heads this year was held between 24 and 26 August and was attended by Jamal Bassam, the Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer. It involved a range of activities over three days including panel sessions, cultural tours, networking sessions and an official conference dinner.
2. Jamal will present a verbal report to the Committee.

## **Financial Implications**

3. Within budget allocation.

## **File Reference**

16/212



**Item:** AAC004-17 **Reconciliation Week**  
**Author:** Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer, Jamal Bassam  
**Directorate:** Community and Culture  
**Matter Type:** Agenda Items

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is celebrated across Australia each year between 27 May and 3 June. A local celebration is planned to be held on Thursday 25 May 2017.

## **Recommendation**

(a) THAT the Committee provides advice on the program and the invite list.

## **Background**

1. The event this year aims to continue achieving reconciliation and involves raising awareness and knowledge of Aboriginal culture, history and heritage. The Committee's input is sought on the program and guest speakers with the aim of encouraging community members to take actions in building a better relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

## **Financial Implications**

2. Within budget allocation.

## **File Reference**

16/102

**Item:** AAC005-17 **Feedback on 2016 NAIDOC Week Program**  
**Author:** Multicultural and Indigenous Development Officer, Jamal Bassam  
**Directorate:** Community and Culture  
**Matter Type:** Agenda Items

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Local NAIDOC Week celebrations were held from 5-9 July 2016. The Committee will be asked to provide feedback regarding the activities including the book launch '*I am Aboriginal: this is my story.....*' This will enable the NAIDOC Week Program to continue to improve.

## **Recommendation**

- (a) THAT the Committee provides feedback on the general administration of the program and to discuss the NAIDOC Week Program for this year.

## **Background**

1. As part of Georges River Council's commitment to implement programs and initiatives that raise awareness of and promote Aboriginal culture and heritage, Council organises an annual program to celebrate NAIDOC Week in the region.
2. Over 600 people attended Council's NAIDOC Week celebrations last year. The Committee's feedback is sought on each activity including: the Opening Ceremony and the book launch, the Lime Kiln Bay Bush Walk at Oatley Park including discussion on future tours, book reading at Hurstville library, Hurstville Museum Art session and the Kogarah Library event.

## **Financial Implications**

3. Within budget allocation.

## **File Reference**

16/104

**6. General Business**

**7. Next Meeting – Monday, 1 May 2017 – 12 noon**