

POLICY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

SC44

Date First Adopted: 13 August 2009

Date Last Reviewed:

Division: Executive Services

Status:

Administrative: Business Unit: Executive Support Department

Service Unit: Executive Services

Background:

In recent times, it has become customary to acknowledge that various Aboriginal communities throughout Australia are the traditional custodians of the land. Such acknowledgement is generally provided in the form of a short statement in recognition of the local Aboriginal community whose ancestors originally inhabited the place upon which an event is occurring.

It is a practice which is now widely promoted as public policy and is popularly used at official functions and events as a show of respect for the cultural significance of the locality.

Purpose:

To acknowledge the Noongar people as the traditional owners of the lands upon which all formal City of Cockburn Council Meetings and Civic Ceremonial functions and/or events take place.

Policy:

(1) The City of Cockburn acknowledges that the Noongar people originally inhabited the South West area of Western Australia, including that land contained within the City of Cockburn.

(2) In expression of this, the City of Cockburn will recognise the Noongar people as the traditional owners of the land upon which all Council meetings and Civic ceremonies/events/functions take place.

(3) This recognition shall be presented by the Mayor, or other Council official presiding at the meeting or event, in the following statement:

I would like to acknowledge the Noongar people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land.

I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Noongar nation and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who are or may be present.

(4) this statement will be displayed on Council's web site.