

POL	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS	SC44
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DIRECTORATE:	Executive Services
BUSINESS UNIT:	Executive Support
SERVICE UNIT:	Executive Support
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Director, Governance & Community Services
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DAPPS Meeting:	22 March 2012 28 November 2013 24 August 2017
OCM:	13 August 2009 12 April 2012 12 December 2013

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 Nyungar people originally inhabited the South West area of Western Australia, including that land contained within the City of Cockburn.

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- (2) In expression of this, the City of Cockburn will recognise the Nyungar 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:

‘Kaya, Wanju Wadjuk Budjar’ which means ‘Hello, Welcome to Wadjuk Land’.

I acknowledge the Nyungar (phonetic is Noongar) people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land.

I pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Nyungar (phonetic is 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.