



POLICY

Community Relations – Acknowledgement of Country

Date adopted by Council	29 April 2024
Minute number	24/076
Endorsed by	Senior Management Group - 22 April 2024
CM Ref	CD-60/23
Due for review	29 April 2028
Related documents	
Responsible officer	Director Environmental and Community Services
Department/Section	Community Services
Category	Community
Community Strategic Plan goal	Goal 1 A supported Community Goal 2 Promote wellbeing and a connected, healthy and happy Community CS4 Facilitate partnerships which create and support a safe, inclusive and caring Community CS9 Value our heritage and cultural diversity, celebrating together and fostering creativity



Policy Statement

At ceremonial events organised by Council within the Shire, Council will formally acknowledge the traditional owners, custodians and their descendants.

Objective

To set a protocol for the formal recognition of the traditional owners, custodians and their descendants.

Scope

This policy applies to Councillors, staff, contractors and volunteers of Council.

Definitions

Ceremonial Event	Where the event is deemed of cultural importance to the First Nations people of Australia and the Mayor or his/her delegate preside in a public forum. Examples of such events are smoking ceremonies, Reconciliation Week and Flag raising ceremonies where the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander flags are being raised.
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Policy Details

At any Council ceremonial event or ordinary Council meeting the Chair, Master of Ceremonies or invited delegate will commence the event with a brief formal acknowledgement as shown below:

I would like to show respect and acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land and of elders, past, present and those to come, on which this meeting takes place.

Responsibilities

Councillors

Councillors will, when performing the role of Chair, Master of Ceremonies or Council delegate at Council ceremonial events, commence the event with a formal acknowledgement of country.

All Staff

All staff involved in the planning and organisation of Council ceremonial events will ensure that official events begin with a formal acknowledgement of country.



References and Related Legislation

- DLG – Engaging with Aboriginal Communities – A Resource Kit for Local Government in NSW 2007
- Department of Education local protocol

Version History

Version No.	Date	CM Ref	Reason for Review
1	28/5/2013	INT-4319/13	
2	26/9/2016	INT-27944/16	
3	23/06/2017	CD-22/21	
4	14/12/2020	CD-210/20	Policy Review
5	29/04/2024	CD-60/23	Timed Review