

Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians Policy

Policy Number:	2005/17	Directorate:	Community Services
Approval by:	Council	Responsible Officer:	Manager, Community Wellbeing
Approval Date:	25 June 2018	Version Number:	5
Review Date:	25 June 2021		

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to Council and Council staff for the acknowledgement of traditional custodians at Council meetings, Council Committees, Council and Civic Events, Corporate Council documents and establishment of plaques on Council facilities.

2. Context

The aim of this policy is to promote greater community awareness about our Aboriginal history and to demonstrate leadership by formally acknowledging this history at Council meetings, Council Committees, Council and Civic Events, in Corporate Council documents, and on plaques for new and upgraded Council facilities in the spirit of reconciliation.

3. Scope

This Policy applies to staff and Councillors involved in Council meetings, Council Committees, Council and Civic Events and in the development of Corporate Council documents and plaques for new and upgraded Council facilities as described in Section 5 (Definitions) of this Policy.

Council staff and Councillors are encouraged and can use at their own discretion an acknowledgement of traditional custodians at meetings and events that fall outside of this Policy.

4. References

4.1 Community & Council Plan 2017-2021

- Goal 1. We value our natural and built environment
- Goal 6. We are healthy, happy and well
- Goal 7. We are inclusive, feel a sense of belonging and value our identity
- Goal 8. We have confidence in decision making

4.2 Relevant Legislation

- Local Government Act 1989 – Conflict and Interest Provisions

4.3 Charter of Human Rights

- This policy has been assessed against and complies with the charter of Human Rights as well as builds a culture of human rights in the community.

4.4 Related Council Policies

- Council Committees Policy
- Civic and Mayoral Receptions Policy
- Council Meeting Structure Policy
- Plaque Inscription Policy

4.5 Related Council Procedures

- Nil

5. Definitions

Detail any definitions within the policy.

Council	Means Knox City Council, whether constituted before or after the commencement of this Policy.
Council staff	Means staff that are employed by Knox City Council
Council Meeting	Ordinary Meetings of Council
Council Committees	As defined in the Council Committees Policy and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory Committees • Special Committees – as formally appointed under section 86 of the Local Government Act. Council currently has one Special Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee • Specific Purpose Committees • Working Groups
Council and Civic Events	Major events, festivals and openings hosted by Council, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Festivals and events including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knox Local Australia Day Awards - Citizenship Ceremonies - Knox Festival - Stringybark Festival - Carols by Candlelight - Sorry Day Flag Raising Ceremony - Pets in the Park - Events Covered in the Civic and Mayoral Receptions Policy • Official Opening Ceremonies
Corporate Council documents	Important council documents and digital assets, which includes: <p>Tier 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Strategic Statement

- Community and Council Plan 2017- 2021
- Council’s Annual Report
- Vision 2025
- State of Knox
- Structure Plans

Tier 2:

- Knox City Council Digital Assets – Website home page and Social Media where appropriate
- Knox News
- Council Implementation Plans
- Major Festivals and Events Programs
- Council E-newsletter templates

Plaques

Plaques developed for new and upgraded Council facilities

6. Council Policy

- 6.1 Council will read the following statement at the commencement of Ordinary Council meetings, Council Committee meetings and Council and Civic Events:

“Knox City Council acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation and pay our respects to elders both past and present.”

- 6.2 Council will include the following statement in corporate Council documents, as a stand alone statement and on plaques of new and upgraded Council facilities:

“Knox City Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the city of Knox, the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation.”

7. Administrative Updates

From time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this policy. Where an update does not materially alter this policy, such a change may be made administratively. Examples of minor administrative changes include changes to names of Council departments or positions, change to names of Federal or State Government departments or a minor amendment to legislation that does not have material impact. Where any change or update may materially change the intent of this policy, it must be considered by Council.