


COUNCIL POLICY

Reconciliation	Adopted By Council:	07/10/03	
	Date/s Revised:	18/10/11; 27/07/16	
	Next Review Date:	08/2019	
	*(may be subject to legislative changes)		
	Document No:	CP015	
	Directorate:	Governance & Community	
	Responsible Officer:	Community Development Coordinator	

CONTEXT

The Borough of Queenscliffe supports the idea of reconciliation between indigenous and non indigenous Australians.

Council believes that an important step towards reconciliation is to acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of this area.

POLICY

1. Public Occasions

On official occasions and at formal events held by Council within the Borough of Queenscliffe a statement will be made acknowledging that the Wadawurrung people have lived in harmony with the land and waterways of this area for many centuries.

A representative from the Wadawurrung people may be invited to make this statement or provide 'A Welcome to Country' or the Mayor and/or Councillors or their representative will acknowledge indigenous Australians by reading the following statement:-

"Our meeting/conference/workshop is being held on the traditional lands [or country] of the Wadawurrung people and I wish to acknowledge them as Traditional Owners. I would also like to pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today."

Councillors may wish to write their own Recognition Statement in the spirit of reconciliation.

2. Flying The Aboriginal Flag

Council will fly the aboriginal flag at Council Offices during business hours, when the number of flag poles permit, however it will not be flown in place of the Australian Flag or Borough of Queenscliffe flag.

Council also believes it is important to acknowledge our indigenous Australians at special ceremonies. As such, Council will fly the aboriginal flag during the Australia Day celebrations and conduct 'A Welcome to Country' in conjunction with the registered aboriginal party.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

This policy will be reviewed on a continuous basis, but as a minimum every three years from the date of adoption.

OTHER REFERENCES

<http://www.dpc.vic.gov.au/index.php/aboriginal-affairs/protocols-for-recognising-traditional-owners>

'Australian Flags', 3rd Edition, Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet, Canberra

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