


## COUNCIL POLICY

Reconciliation	<b>Adopted By Council:</b>	07/10/03	
	<b>Date/s Revised:</b>	18/10/11; 27/07/16 03/24	
	<b>Next Review Date:</b>	09/2025	
	*(may be subject to legislative changes)		
	<b>Document No:</b>	CP015	
	<b>Directorate:</b>	CEO Office	
	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	CEO	

### CONTEXT

*Bella Wiyn* is the Wadawurrung name for the lands where the Borough of Queenscliffe is located. The Borough of Queenscliffe acknowledges the Traditional Owners of these lands, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin Nation, pays respect to their Elders past and present, and commits to supporting future leaders. We acknowledge and respect their continuing connections to their lands, waters, skies and culture, and we celebrate the ongoing contribution First Nations peoples make to the life and spirit of our community.

The Borough of Queenscliffe is committed to building strong relationships with all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We are committed to listening, learning, and understanding the experiences of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living on Wadawurrung country.

In 2023 the Borough of Queenscliffe developed a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan. The development of the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan demonstrates Council's commitment to the journey of Reconciliation in all aspects of Council service delivery.

### POLICY

Council is committed to:

- listening and learning from the Wadawurrung, traditional owners of the land known as the Borough of Queenscliffe;
- listening and learning from all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- implementing the actions set out in the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan;
- developing a Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan as the next step of our reconciliation journey.

To support these policy objectives Council will:

- continue to participate in a Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation;
- ensure the Reconciliation Action Plan is incorporated into the Council's Annual Corporate Plan;
- continue to fly the Aboriginal flag in front of the Council offices (Learmonth St);
- continue to acknowledge the Wadawurrung people as the traditional owners of the lands, waters and skies known as the Borough of Queenscliffe at all official events and meetings.
- Conduct a Welcome to Country at Citizenship Ceremonies and other key events where possible (if not possible, an Acknowledgement of Country will be conducted).

## **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**

Borough of Queenscliffe Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2025

Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

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

'Australian Flags', 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet, Canberra

END

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