



Mark Howard <alwmgroup@gmail.com>

Councillor Perspective on Cultural Protocols

2 messages

Mark Howard <alwmgroup@gmail.com>
To: peter.feasey@kwinana.wa.gov.au

Sat, Nov 29, 2025 at 12:29 PM

Dear Mayor Peter Feasey ,

I am seeking your view on the City of Kwinana's Cultural Protocols, including Acknowledgements, smoking ceremonies, and Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). activities.

The City has advised ALWM Group that Council did not vote to adopt the protocols, there was no public consultation, and decisions are made by the CEO with the Boola Maara Aboriginal Consultative Committee (BMAC), not by Council.

Could you please share if you were aware of these protocols before implementation, and whether you think Council should have had a more formal role?

Kind regards,

Mark Howard

ALWM Group
ALWMGroup@gmail.com

Peter Feasey <Peter.Feasey@kwinana.wa.gov.au>
To: Mark Howard <alwmgroup@gmail.com>

Sat, Nov 29, 2025 at 4:35 PM

Good afternoon Mr Howard,

Thank you for your email. I, along with the Council are fully aware of the City of Kwinana's Aboriginal Cultural Protocols, including the use of Acknowledgements and Welcomes to Country and activities arising from our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). Council is very supportive of these cultural practices, which are consistent with the City's RAP and our broader commitment to reconciliation and working respectfully with Aboriginal people and communities.

As has already been outlined to you in writing by the City's Manager Governance and Legal, the Aboriginal Cultural Protocols were considered by the Boola Maara Aboriginal Consultative Committee (BMACC) at its meeting of 7 April 2025, and the minutes of that meeting – including the protocols and officer report – were then presented to Council for noting at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 16 April 2025.

Council has also resolved that the Boola Maara Aboriginal Consultative Committee be established as a formal committee of Council, which makes it one of the first Aboriginal advisory committees of its kind in Western Australia.

In line with the Local Government Act 1995, Council sets the strategic direction (including endorsement of the RAP and the establishment of BMACC), while the detailed implementation of cultural protocols at events sits appropriately with the Chief Executive Officer as an operational matter. That is the basis on which these practices have been implemented.

You have received detailed responses from officers on a number of occasions, including clarification of the decision-making process.

From my perspective as Mayor, Council is comfortable with both the intent and the governance arrangements that support our cultural protocols and RAP-related activities.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, I am more than willing to meet with you in person, together with the CEO and/or relevant officers. However, we will not be entering into any further email correspondence on these same issues.

Regards



Peter Feasey

Mayor

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Views expressed are my own and do not necessarily reflect a formal position of the City of Kwinana.



The City of Kwinana acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land in which we live, work and play, the Nyoongar people, and we pay our respect to Elders past and present.

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On 29 Nov 2025, at 12:29, Mark Howard <alwmgroup@gmail.com> wrote:

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