



## Reconciliation Committee

Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 5 March 2025, at 2.30 pm  
in the Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

### Committee Members:

Dual Chairpersons:

City of Adelaide Council Member:

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith (Ex-Officio)

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representative:

Yvonne Agius

City of Adelaide Council Members:

Councillor David Elliott (Deputy Lord Mayor), Councillor Janet Giles and Councillor Dr Mark Siebentritt

Strategic Agency Representatives:

Jason Downs and Ian Liddy

Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation Representative:

Mitzi Nam

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representatives:

Ivan-Tiwu Copley and Deanne Hanchant-Nichols

Proxies:

Lynette Crocker and Kveta Vlotman (Proxy Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representatives)

Dennis Rigney (Proxy Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation Representative)

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People Warning

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are advised that reports contained in this Agenda may contain names, images, or references to deceased persons*



# Reconciliation Committee

Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 5 March 2025, at 2.30 pm  
in the Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

## Agenda

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

**2. Acknowledgement of Country**

*'The City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.*

*City of Adelaiderlu ngadlu Kurna Yartangka tampinhi.*

*Kurna miyurna yaitya mathanya Wama Tarntanyaku.*

*Ngadlurlu Kurna Miyurna, puki-unangku, yalaka, tarrkarrila tampinhi.*

*We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land.*

*We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.*

*And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.'*

**3. Moment Silence in Remembrance of Departed Community Members**

**4. Confirmation of Minutes**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee held on 4 December 2024, be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

View public [Minutes](#) here.

**5. Reports**

<b>5.1</b>	Culture the Life of Our City - Public Consultation	4 - 53
<b>5.2</b>	World Heritage Bid - Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)	54 - 58
<b>5.3</b>	2025 NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week Activities	59 - 64
<b>5.4</b>	Appointment of Co-Chair and Deputy Chair	65 - 67
<b>5.5</b>	Stretch RAP 2024-2027 Reporting Update	68 - 75

**6. Presentations**

<b>6.1</b>	2024 Reconciliation Achievements Video report	76 - 78
------------	---	---------

**7. Any Other Business**

**8. Exclusion of the Public** 79 - 81

In accordance with sections 90(2),(3) and (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA) the Reconciliation Committee will consider whether to discuss in confidence the

reports contained within section 9 of this Agenda.

**9. Confidential Items**

**9.1** Statues Commemorating South Australian Aboriginal Leaders Proposal [s 82 - 90  
90(3) (j)]

**10. Next Meeting**

Wednesday 7 May 2025, 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm

**11. Closure**

## Culture the Life of Our City - Public Consultation

Wednesday, 5 March 2025  
Reconciliation Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

**Program Contact:**  
Jennifer Kalionis, Associate  
Director City Culture

Public

**Approving Officer:**  
Jo Podoliak, Director City  
Community

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has committed to developing a Cultural Policy as a key action in the Strategic Plan 2024–2028. In October 2024, Council approved a Cultural Policy Discussion Paper – *Culture: The Life of Our City* (the Discussion Paper), for public consultation.

This report and presentation (**Attachment B**) seeks the Reconciliation Committee's feedback on the Discussion Paper as an important part of the consultation that informs the Cultural Policy's development. In particular, feedback is sought on the six draft priorities that have been identified in the Discussion Paper:

1. *People are at the Centre of our City and its Culture*
2. *Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Continuous Cultures*
3. *Celebrating Multiculturalism and Respecting Diversity and Traditions*
4. *Adelaide is Australia's Cultural and Creative Capital*
5. *The City's Culture is Connected to our Built and Natural Heritage, and*
6. *Creativity and Culture Drive our City's Future.*

In addition to general feedback on the Discussion Paper and its six draft priorities, and as outlined in paragraph 9 of this report, Administration seeks the Reconciliation Committee's feedback on the following:

- How can we champion Kaurna culture in our shared future in meaningful ways?
- What steps can we take to ensure that Kaurna and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices influence, and are represented in the city's cultural decisions?
- What collaborative and co-led initiatives and projects would increase the visibility of Kaurna culture in the public realm?

Consultation feedback from the Cultural Forum held in December 2024 and from Panpanpalya in February 2025 has highlighted to the Administration the need for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation to be reflected in the development of the draft Cultural Policy. For example, through community partnerships and visible markers of Kaurna history and culture throughout the city and Park Lands. Key themes reflected in the feedback from Panpanpalya are included in this report at paragraph 25.1.

This report also seeks the Reconciliation Committee's views on opportunities for how the Cultural Policy might be further strengthened in its alignment with the *Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (2024-2027)*, particularly in relation to ways that the City of Adelaide may, through the development of its Cultural Policy, strengthen understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and cultural protocols and improve cultural safety for First Nations peoples working in the cultural and creative sectors in the City of Adelaide.

It is proposed that the Cultural Policy will operate over a ten-year period and will be supported by strategies and action plans developed in alignment with the City of Adelaide's Strategic Plan and Annual Business Plan and Budget process.

Feedback from the Reconciliation Committee on this report and the Discussion Paper will be considered in the development of the draft Cultural Policy, which will be presented to Council for approval in 2025.

# RECOMMENDATION

## THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

1. Receives the Cultural Policy Discussion Paper – Culture: The Life of Our City for consultation, as detailed in Attachment A to Item 5.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Reconciliation Committee held on 5 March 2025, and provides additional feedback complementing insights from Panpanpalya in February 2025.
  2. Authorises administration to draft feedback on the Cultural Policy Discussion Paper – Culture: The Life of Our City, incorporating input from Reconciliation Committee for circulation and review by the Committee outside of session
  3. Notes that a consultation summary and draft Cultural Policy will be presented to Council for consideration and endorsement in April 2025, with a further opportunity for community feedback prior to adoption by Council.
-

## IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	<p><b>Strategic Alignment – Our Community</b> Vibrant, connected and inclusive</p> <p>Our Objective is to support our communities to thrive, create fun, lively and interesting experiences, celebrate and honour community and cultures. An indicator of success for the ‘Our Community’ outcome of “An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging” is: <i>Develop a Cultural Policy by 2024 that promotes and supports the City’s unique cultural identity and opportunities</i>. The draft Cultural Policy will also support these pillars of Council’s Strategic Plan: Our Environment, Our Economy and Our Places.</p>
Policy	Council does not currently have a Cultural Policy. It is proposed that Council’s Cultural Policy will operate from 2025 to 2036 to help set strategic directions for the City of Adelaide and its subsidiaries and focus its resources.
Consultation	Council endorsed the Cultural Policy Discussion Paper for public consultation in October 2024. Key forums, including the Live Music Forum (November 2024) and Culture: The Life of Our City Forum (December 2024), engaged community and industry leaders. Consultation with Panpanpalya occurred in February 2024, and public feedback via Our Adelaide closed on 31 January 2025. A consolidated consultation summary will be presented to the City Community Services and Culture Committee, with the draft Cultural Policy progressing to Council and public consultation before adoption in Q4 2024/25.
Resource	Development and consultation associated with the draft Cultural Policy is through existing resources.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The Cultural Policy aligns with the City of Adelaide’s Strategic Plan 2024-2028, embedding cultural objectives in decision-making. The development of a Cultural Policy will ensure inclusivity, genuine representation, and sustainable funding. Legal considerations include compliance with <i>EPBC Act 1999</i> , <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)</i> , and heritage regulations to protect Kaurna heritage and cultural sites.
Opportunities	The Cultural Policy will define Council’s role, goals, and priorities in celebrating community diversity and reinforcing Adelaide as South Australia’s civic, cultural, and commercial hub. It reflects Council’s leadership as the Capital City’s governing body and its UNESCO Creative City commitments. Success relies on alignment with Federal and State policies and strategic partnerships across government, private, and community sectors
24/25 Budget Allocation	\$15,000 is allocated from the Arts and Cultural budget for documentation design and marketing materials associated with the development of Council’s Cultural Policy.
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	It is proposed that this Policy will be supported by strategies and action plans developed in alignment with the Annual Business Plan and Budget process.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The draft City of Adelaide Cultural Policy has a project life from 2025 to 2036.
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

## DISCUSSION

1. As a key action in its Strategic Plan 2024-2028, Council has committed to, 'Develop a Cultural Policy by 2024 that promotes and supports the City's unique cultural identity and opportunities.' Responsibility for the implementation of the Cultural Policy will extend to all areas of Council including subsidiaries.
2. The Cultural Policy will reflect Council's leadership role and responsibilities as the governing body for the Capital City of South Australia, its commitments to sustainable development as part of Adelaide's designation as a UNESCO Creative City of Music, and its responsibilities to its ratepayers and residents.
3. The Cultural Policy will aim to enable all people to participate in and contribute to the cultural life of our city, celebrate and honour our diverse and multicultural communities, and invest in Adelaide's distinctive heritage and creative sector.
4. Council does not currently have a Cultural Policy. In the absence of a Cultural Policy, delivery of cultural activity in the city remains aligned to Council's previous cultural strategy, '*Cultural Strategy A city designed for creativity 2017–2023*', which had a strong focus on arts and festivals.
5. To inform the development of the Cultural Policy, Council has endorsed public consultation on the Discussion Paper, *Culture - The Life Of Our City (Attachment A)*. A summary of this feedback will be presented to Council with the draft policy in April 2025.

### Current State

6. The City of Adelaide (CoA) demonstrates a strong and ongoing commitment to championing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and communities, particularly the Kaurna people, through cultural recognition, Reconciliation initiatives, and strategic partnerships delivered across the organisation.
  - 6.1 Cultural mapping of the Adelaide Park Lands has been undertaken to acknowledge and highlight culturally significant sites.
  - 6.2 Strategic partnerships with many cultural organisations and groups have been established to promote Reconciliation, and to recognise Kaurna culture and connection to Country.
  - 6.3 Through the Arts & Culture grants programs, the CoA has also seen a notable increase in support for First Nations-led events, rising from 22 initiatives in 2017/18 to 69 in 2022/23.
  - 6.4 Through the First Nations Arts & Cultural Grants program in 2023/24, each funded project has attracted an average of 787 attendees and provided paid employment to 14 First Nations creatives.
  - 6.5 NAIDOC Week activations, including artwork commissions and cultural events at Rundle Mall and Art Pod, further amplify the presence and engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives and cultural practitioners.
  - 6.6 Other key initiatives include the Cultural Burn in the Park Lands, the Knowledge Project, and Kids on Country.
  - 6.7 Significant public art commissions, such as the Place of Reflection, the No Fixed Address City of Music Laneway, the portrait of Auntie Shirley Peisley in the Council Chamber, and Central Market murals, celebrate and share First Nations cultures within public spaces on Kaurna Country.
  - 6.8 The City Library Aboriginal Cultural Collection, developed in consultation with Kaurna community representatives, ensures the preservation and accessibility of First Nations heritage, and Reconciliation programs are regularly delivered across City Libraries and Community Centres.

### Definition of Culture

7. The proposed broad definition of 'culture' for the purpose of developing Council's Cultural Policy includes:
  - 7.1 Adelaide's cultural, creative, arts, and heritage industries
  - 7.2 The heritage, knowledge and cultural practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
  - 7.3 The expressions of identity, shared experience and aspirations of our diverse and multicultural communities that have shaped our society
  - 7.4 Historic and current cultural practices and events that reflect contemporary Adelaide and its broad and diverse communities.

## Discussion Paper and Priorities

8. The Discussion Paper, *Culture – The Life Of Our City* sets out six priorities for a future Cultural Policy that aim to support a culturally vibrant, socially inclusive and equitable city. These priorities will be refined as a result of the consultation process and subsequently presented to Council for consideration and adoption:
  - 8.1 *People are at the Centre of our City and its Culture*

Nurture the ability for the community to connect with culture and express their creativity. Improve our city's appeal, liveability and global profile, through accessible and high-quality cultural experiences, including public art, events and festivals that reflect Adelaide's unique heritage and stories.
  - 8.2 *Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Continuous Culture*

Honour and strengthen awareness of Kaurna culture and connection to Country as central to Adelaide's identity and future.
  - 8.3 *Celebrating Multiculturalism and Respecting Diversity and Traditions*

Observe, fund and facilitate Adelaide's cultural and civic traditions including festive events and other social practices. Provide inclusive and respectful opportunities for people of all cultures, backgrounds, ages and abilities to participate in the cultural life of the city.
  - 8.4 *Adelaide is Australia's Cultural and Creative Capital*

Provide a city-wide approach to embed music, culture and heritage preservation in policy, place and community. Amplify Adelaide's designation as a UNESCO Creative City of Music and our leadership as Australia's creative and cultural capital.
  - 8.5 *The City's Culture is Connected to our Built and Natural Heritage*

Respect, protect and strengthen our world class architecture, cultural assets, collections, and environment. Ensure our cultural identity is easily accessible by the community through engaging and discoverable interpretation and digital resources.
  - 8.6 *Creativity and Culture Drives our City's Future*

Advance the role of culture in enriching the life of the city, our people and the environment. Raise our profile as a creative and cultural capital for the development of the city into the future and the wellbeing of local communities.

## Alignment with the *Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (S-RAP) 2024–2027*

9. A key priority of the Cultural Policy Discussion Paper is *Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Continuous Cultures*. To better inform the policy's development and refine this priority, we seek feedback from the Reconciliation Committee on the following questions:
  1. How can we champion Kaurna culture in our shared future in meaningful ways?
  2. What steps can we take to ensure that Kaurna and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices influence, and are represented in the city's cultural decisions?
  3. What collaborative and co-led initiatives and projects would increase the visibility of Kaurna culture in the public realm?
10. The *Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (S-RAP) 2024–2027* and the opportunities of a Cultural Policy as outlined in the Discussion Paper, share a commitment to embedding First Nations cultures, Reconciliation, and heritage into the CoA's identity, policies, and development strategies.
11. The S-RAP strengthens relationships with Kaurna and other First Nations communities through respect, engagement, and Reconciliation initiatives. The Discussion Paper integrates Kaurna heritage into Adelaide's long-term cultural vision.
12. Both documents promote cultural leadership and inclusion, with the S-RAP focusing on employment, procurement, and governance, and the Discussion Paper amplifying Adelaide's status as a UNESCO Creative City of Music.
13. These documents centre Reconciliation through partnerships, cultural engagement, and public recognition, with the S-RAP driving cultural mapping, events, and naming protocols, and the Discussion Paper ensuring visibility through public spaces, festivals, and arts initiatives with a focus on storytelling and interpretation.

## Benchmarking

14. The Discussion Paper and priorities within it have been benchmarked against the cultural policies of other capital cities in Australia, all which have their own respective policies, strategies and action plans relating to culture and creativity.
15. International cultural policy follows UNESCO's best practice principles, promoting cultural diversity, creativity, and sustainable urban development. As a UNESCO Creative City of Music, Adelaide is part of the [Creative Cities Network](#), fostering global cooperation and cultural vibrancy. International cultural policy is informed and guided by the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), [MONDIACULT 2022 Declaration](#), and [UNESCO's Indigenous Engagement Policy](#).
16. The [Australian Cultural Policy Revive](#) prioritises First Nations storytelling, cultural diversity, artist support, and audience engagement. National cultural policy is informed and guided by [Creative Australia's First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property Protocols](#) and industry insights.
17. The State Government's Cultural Policy is currently in development and Administration has been engaged with counterparts in State Government on their process.
18. Alignment with the State Government's [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Strategy for South Australia](#) has been undertaken.
19. The Australian Local Government Association has held an endorsed [Arts and Culture Policy Position](#) since 2020 which outlines that the creative sector is essential to the liveability and economic sustainability of all communities.

## Consultation To Date

20. In November 2024, the *Live Music Forum* brought together 100 musicians, industry professionals, and cultural leaders to discuss challenges, strengths, and strategies for fostering a diverse and thriving UNESCO Creative City of Music.
21. In December 2024, *Culture: The Life of the City Forum* brought together 100 city shapers, community and business leaders, educators, creative practitioners, producers, policy developers, planners, and cultural advocates to explore the CoA's cultural identity, opportunities, and future vision.
22. Jack Kanya Kudnuitya Buckskin, Founder of Kuma Kaaru Cultural Services, was a keynote speaker at the forum and spoke on Adelaide's evolution through diverse experiences and the integration of old and new knowledge.
23. Administration sought feedback on the Discussion Paper from Panpanpalya in February 2025. The feedback highlights the need for stronger Aboriginal representation, respect for self-determination and cultural practice, and meaningful partnerships in shaping Adelaide's cultural identity. Key themes reflected in the feedback from Panpanpalya included:
  - 23.1. *Aboriginal Representation and Visibility* – Increase Kurna presence in policies, public spaces, images, and cultural videos.
  - 23.2. *Inclusivity and Multicultural Engagement* – Ensure policies reflect all communities, strengthening cultural connections and partnerships.
  - 23.3. *Truth-Telling and Storytelling* – Commit to truth-telling through signage, exhibitions, media, and digital storytelling.
  - 23.4. *Cultural Preservation* – Support Kurna language, traditions, songlines, and intergenerational knowledge-sharing.
  - 23.5. *Council's Role and Partnerships* – Align with the Stretch-RAP 2024-27 to ensure that Cultural Policy, strengthen ties with Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation, and promotes self-determination.
  - 23.6. *Kurna Heritage and Mapping* – Develop cultural trails, heritage recognition, and Kurna naming across the city.
  - 23.7. *Artistic and Cultural Recognition* – Amplify Aboriginal artists, poets, and musicians through policy and initiatives.
  - 23.8. *Action and Implementation* – Move beyond surface engagement, ensure meaningful inclusion, and embed truth-telling in civic processes.
24. Public consultation engagement activities to date have included pop-up community sessions at City of Adelaide venues including Adelaide Town Hall, Adelaide Central Markets, Art Pod, Libraries and Community Centres, industry networking and youth advisory events to engage key demographics and ensure that diverse perspectives are reflected in the feedback. This has been complemented by a social media and

online campaign to support the Cultural Policy's Our Adelaide survey which was open for submissions between December 2024 to the end of January 2025.

### Next Steps

25. A consolidated consultation summary and a draft Cultural Policy will be presented to the City Community Services and Culture Committee and then to Council in April 2025, for the purposes of final public consultation and subsequent adoption by Council in Quarter 4 of the 2024/25 financial year.
26. Once adopted, the Cultural Policy will provide a framework to drive Council's strategic objectives and ensure that responsibility for culture is embedded across operational decision making.

---

## ATTACHMENTS

**Attachment A** – Cultural Policy Discussion Paper, *Culture - The Life Of Our City*

**Attachment B** – Workshop Presentation – *Culture - The Life Of Our City*

---

- END OF REPORT -

# Culture. The Life of our City.

Discussion Paper to Inform a Cultural Policy  
for the City of Adelaide 2025–2036



OUR ADELAIDE.  
**BOLD.**  
**ASPIRATIONAL.**  
**INNOVATIVE.**

The background of the page features a warm, orange-toned sunset or sunrise scene. In the foreground, the silhouettes of two Indigenous people are visible. On the left, a person stands facing right, wearing a traditional fringed dress. On the right, another person is partially visible, also in traditional dress. The overall mood is respectful and cultural.

## Acknowledgment of Country

City of Adelaide acknowledges that we are located on the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, water and seas. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. And we also extend our respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.





# Contents

<b>Culture: The Life of Our City</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>A Cultural Policy for Adelaide</b>	<b>6</b>
Defining Culture	<b>8</b>
How Culture Contributes to the Life of a City	<b>9</b>
<b>Who We Are</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>What Our Community is Saying About Culture</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Our Adelaide/Tarntanya</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>City of Adelaide's Role in Cultural Life</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Cultural Policy Themes and Priorities</b>	<b>26</b>
Engagement Strategy	<b>27</b>
Conversation Starters	<b>27</b>

Cover Image: Electric Fields, WOMAdelaide 2022.

Supported by Adelaide Economic Development Agency. Photo: Saige Prime.

# A Cultural Policy for Adelaide

Cultural activity in Adelaide occurs with the acknowledgement that the Kaurna people are the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains and that their cultural heritage and beliefs continue to form a foundational part of the life of the city. Adelaide's cultural identity is built on generations of people, from all over the world, who have made Adelaide/Tarntanya their home.

Culture and creativity are fundamental to this place and its people. We are the beneficiaries of cultural and community leaders who have come before us, and together we have an opportunity to build on that legacy, to shape the future, of who we are.

Culture and creativity are critical to Adelaide's future growth and success, and the City of Adelaide is a custodian of this future.

Adelaide's cultural, arts and creative practitioners and community make vital contributions to the fabric of our society. They strengthen the vibrancy and the economic growth of our city, through their passion, talent, expertise, resilience, connectivity and adaptability. The sustainable development of our city depends on the neighbourhoods, networks, jobs, employment, and opportunities they create.

Council's Strategic Plan 2024–2028 includes a commitment to develop a Cultural Policy that promotes and strengthens the city's unique cultural identity and opportunities. A Cultural Policy will provide the framework for Council's future decisions in relation to culture.

This discussion paper is designed to stimulate critical thinking and seek the thoughts and views of residents, community and cultural organisations and groups, creative practitioners, organisations and businesses. It encourages consideration of some priorities to further enrich community life through the creation and expression of culture and creativity

in the City of Adelaide. We encourage all readers to engage with the topic and share with us your considered opinions and unique perspectives.

Once developed, the City of Adelaide's Cultural Policy will be aligned with the pillars of Council's Strategic Plan 2024–2028:

## **OUR COMMUNITY–**

Vibrant, connected and inclusive

## **OUR ENVIRONMENT–**

Resilient, protected and sustainable

## **OUR ECONOMY–**

Growing, innovative and responsive

## **OUR PLACES–**Interesting, purposeful and safe

## **OUR CORPORATION–**

High performing, customer-centric and bold

A Cultural Policy for Adelaide might include:

- An integrated vision for culture and creativity in the City of Adelaide with clear priorities
- A clear articulation of the City of Adelaide's unique culture
- A comprehensive strategic plan to deliver on Council's vision in partnership with cultural, creative and community stakeholders
- A proposed governance model to ensure that the policy is responsive to major developments and community needs.

The development of a Cultural Policy must have the community it serves at its core. Culture, just like the city, is about people, therefore the Cultural Policy will be developed through stages of consultation and planning. It will enable a long-term vision for culture as a key factor underpinning Adelaide's future prosperity, sustainability and wellbeing, enabling a vibrant, connected and inclusive community.





## Defining Culture

Culture is an integral part of our universal and indivisible human rights. In its breadth and depth, it enriches our lives and expands our horizons, fosters creative expression and innovation, and celebrates who we are. Culture, in its broadest sense incorporates social meaning, values and aspirations of the community through empowerment, inter-cultural appreciation and understanding, enrichment and joy.

Culture is our way of living together, our beliefs and value systems, traditions, the spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features of our society, and our art, literature, languages and creativity. Culture also means the arts, cultural, creative and heritage industries, institutions, facilities, organisations and individuals who protect, produce, and present culture. It is expressed through food, festivals and events, song, music, visual arts, craft and design, performing arts, film and video, radio and television, gaming and digital arts, architecture and publishing, languages, literature, live and experimental art, our built environment and more.

In Adelaide, culture is created, protected and experienced in many places and spaces, through galleries, museums, archives, libraries, heritage places and collections, in cafés, markets, pubs and churches, in our city squares, Adelaide Park Lands, precincts and neighbourhoods. For the purposes of its Cultural Policy, it is proposed that the City of Adelaide's definition of culture includes:

- Adelaide's cultural, arts, creative and heritage sectors
- The knowledge and cultural practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- The expressions of identity, shared experience and aspirations of our diverse, multicultural communities, that have shaped our society from the period of colonisation of South Australia, through a long history of migration, to the present day
- Historic and current cultural practices and events that reflect contemporary Adelaide and its broad and diverse communities.



Carly Snoswell, Good Job, 2023, on the Popeye. Artwork supported by City of Adelaide. Photo: Sam Roberts.

# How Culture Contributes to the Life of a City

## Identity and Character

A city's unique identity is shaped by culture, which is an integral and inseparable part of our lives. The traditions, memorial days, festivals, languages, foods, expressions, artworks and historical landmarks of the community contribute to a sense of place and belonging for city residents and visitors.

## Community, Multiculturalism and Diversity

Cultural activities bring people together, fostering a sense of community, connection and tolerance. Public spaces, museums, theatres, and cultural festivals are often places where diverse groups interact, share experiences and build social bonds.

## Quality of Life

Access to cultural venues and facilities such as theatres, museums, galleries, and live performances enhances the quality of life for residents. It provides opportunities for leisure, learning, social connection and personal growth.

## Place Making and Social Infrastructure

Cultural initiatives and investments in cultural infrastructure often breathe new life into neighbourhoods and precincts, enhancing strong community identity and making them more attractive to residents and visitors alike.

## Attracting Talent













Cities known for their vibrant cultural life often attract creative and talented individuals, which can drive innovation and contribute to the city's reputation, cultural participation and economic growth.

## Economic Impact

Cultural industries, including tourism, arts, entertainment, and heritage sites, are significant contributors to a city's economy. They create jobs, attract investment, and boost local businesses.

# Who We Are

## Our Community

			
<b>390,000</b> Daily visitors	<b>27,901</b> residents	<b>projected 50,000</b> residents by 2036	
			
<b>47%</b> aged between 18 and 34	<b>20%</b> aged 60 and over	<b>1.4%</b> of the population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	
 <b>45% born overseas</b>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>12% born in China—our largest population group</b></li><li><b>5% born in the UK</b></li><li><b>3% born in India—our fastest growing population group</b></li></ul>		
			
<b>36%</b> speak a language other than English at home	<b>26%</b> of CoA residents study at TAFE or University	<b>50%+</b> of the population have no religion	<b>50%</b> renting



*Yucky, opening night, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental, 2024. Supported by a City of Adelaide Arts and Cultural Grant.  
Photo: Thomas McCammon.*

Adelaide is diverse, young and growing, with 27,901 people currently calling our city home, and an aspiration to grow this to 50,000 residents by 2036. Our daily population of workers, visitors and tourists is 390,000.

Currently, the City of Adelaide has two distinct demographic areas with North Adelaide and the southeast corner of Adelaide polarised in age structure with the young and old. In Central Adelaide 'twenty-somethings' are double the proportion of that demographic in Greater Adelaide.

Statistics suggests the City of Adelaide acts as a demographic hub, importing people from overseas and distributing people overseas, interstate and to the inner suburbs of metropolitan Adelaide. Between 2016 and 2021, 73.9% of the City of Adelaide's population turned over with one in four migrating from overseas and 4 in 10 migrating from elsewhere in Australia.

People migrating to Adelaide bring with them personal possessions and intangible cultural heritage which connects them to their countries of birth within the context of their new home in Australia, socially and culturally.

This presents an opportunity for those people travelling through Adelaide to become cultural ambassadors for our city, and if their experience of the cultural life of the city is positive, are likely to consider returning to and settling in Adelaide.

Of all South Australia local governments, the City of Adelaide has the highest percentage of population born overseas (45%). Multiculturalism, interculturalism and diversity support our open, cohesive and equitable city, where cultural, linguistic and religious diversity is understood and valued.

Adelaide is a place that embraces the communities that have shaped our city and the new communities that are living here today. Here, culture and creativity are nurtured in a culturally rich and diverse community. Adelaide's cultural uniqueness lies in its complexities and constraints which often present as contrasting factors:

- Adelaide is ancient and new
- Adelaide is innovative and traditional
- Adelaide is diverse and distinctive.

# What Our Community is Saying About Culture

In the City of Adelaide, the importance of culture is strongly emphasised by our residents, who see it as a key element in creating a vibrant and engaging city. The Resident Survey 2022 results revealed that:

- A significant majority of residents (84%) believe that arts, culture, and events bring energy and interest to the city.
- Live music is valued by 76% of residents as an essential part of city life, underscoring the cultural activities' role in enhancing the overall liveliness of the city.
- Residents also consider culture crucial for making the city a welcoming place. 73% agree that the city is welcoming to people from diverse cultural backgrounds, highlighting the role of cultural diversity in fostering a sense of community and inclusivity.

Moreover, culture is not only important for community wellbeing, it is also vital to the city's identity. Many residents express a desire to preserve the city's cultural vibrancy for future generations, with 18% emphasising the importance of activities, events, and entertainment as critical elements they want to see maintained. This suggests that cultural activities are not only enjoyed by the current population, they are also seen as integral to the city's future prosperity.

The 2023 City User Profile highlights that both residents and visitors value Council's arts, culture, and events services with residents providing an 88% rating and visitors a 92% rating. Despite Council meeting the expectations of city users, the perceptions of the City of Adelaide as a welcoming

and dynamic city with rich and diverse experiences remain modest. Although the overall mean rating is 7.5, only 57% of respondents gave a high-level agreement which is consistent with 2022, however slightly below 2021. Our residents view the city most positively, with a mean rating of 7.7 and 61% giving high ratings, while workers are less enthusiastic, with a mean of 7.3 and only 50% rating it highly.

Between 2017–2023, the City of Adelaide tracked the benefits of cultural participation using the national Cultural Outcomes framework. As reported in the Dynamic City: Arts and Culture Dashboard residents and visitors highly value their participation in cultural activities, recognising that cultural participation plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of life, and wellbeing by:

- Stimulating creativity, spark imagination, curiosity and original ideas
- Experiencing pleasure, challenge, captivation, feelings of being moved, awe, joy or wonder
- Gaining new knowledge through critical reflection, creative thinking and intellectual stimulation
- Appreciate the diversity of cultural expression including from peoples from diverse cultural backgrounds, life experiences and interests.
- Build a sense of belonging to one's cultural history, heritage and experience of cultural identity and values that is shared with others.

Cultural Outcome scores have rated nine out of ten annually since surveying commenced in 2018.



# Our Adelaide/Tarntanya

## **Adelaide is the capital city of South Australia and the cultural heart of our state.**

Located on the Traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains, Adelaide/Tarntanya is centrally positioned between the hills and sea, with the River Torrens/Karrawirra Pari winding through it. For over 60,000 years, Tarntanya has been a place of celebration and song, land management, trade and knowledge sharing.

Adelaide is the world's only city surrounded by Park Lands, thanks to the vision of Colonel William Light, for a city that enriches its people's quality of life. His vision has been described as genius of place and plan, from a theory dating back to Roman Times, Genius Loci, in which the spirit of place combines with the built urban form in order for people to live authentically and in balance with nature.

Adelaide's cultural vision, history of social reform, and its thriving arts sector and festivals are regarded as some of South Australia's strengths. The state enjoys an impressive reputation for creative achievement and vibrant artistic activities.

Consistently ranked as one of the most liveable cities in the world and named the world's most beautiful city in 2024 by Architectural Digest, Adelaide is a safe, open and democratic society, and an official Refugee Welcoming Zone.

Our renown as a creative city is sustained by a diversity of cultural venues and collections, civic events, live music pubs, bars and dining experiences that enliven city laneways. Our world class architecture and public art adds vibrancy to the city and reflects local histories.

Our places, including our National Heritage Listed Adelaide Park Lands and squares, in our National Park City, provide gathering places for people to celebrate festive events and to practice and exchange cultural traditions.

The Adelaide Town Hall has been the city's premier venue for concerts, civic receptions and public gatherings since 1866. The Adelaide Central Market has been a lively site of exchange for diverse cultures and culinary traditions since the late 1800s when North Terrace became the home of the heritage listed Mortlock Wing and Adelaide's first public sculpture, Veneri di Canova (Pugi Brothers, 1892). Today, North Terrace, or the 'Cultural Boulevard' houses Adelaide's most prominent cultural institutions and collections, including the Art Gallery of South Australia, the South Australian Museum, the State Library of South Australia, the Migration Museum, and the Adelaide Botanic Gardens that have been growing since 1857, featuring some of Australia's finest plant collections. It is also home to Adelaide University and Lot 14 – an innovation district which will soon support over 6,000 workers and researchers.

The Adelaide Festival Centre, Australia's first multi-purpose arts centre, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2023, and remains an icon of Adelaide's contemporary culture. The JamFactory, singular in its support and promotion of innovative and outstanding craft and design through its studios, galleries and shops, also celebrated its 'golden' anniversary last year. In 2024, the Helpmann Academy celebrates 30 years of supporting creative practitioners at the start of their careers. The only



John Martin's Christmas Pageant, Father Christmas on North Terrace, 1967, CC003316, Civic Collection, City of Adelaide Archives.

organisation of its kind in Australia, it is a unique collaborative partnership that unifies the skills and resources of South Australia's universities.

Adelaide is home to the second largest Fringe Festival in the world and is one of just a few cities worldwide to host WOMAD festival sharing music, arts, dance and ideas from around the world. Rundle Mall and its open-air public art gallery continue to enhance the city's shopping experience. Across Adelaide's nightlife hub on Hindley Street, the Lion Arts Centre is the West End's creative heart housing several music and multi-arts organisations.

In North Adelaide, Carclew, Australia's largest multi-artform cultural institution dedicated to children and young people can be found, as well as the David Roche Foundation House Museum—one of the greatest decorative arts collections in a private institution in Australia.

Adelaide's designation as Australia's only UNESCO Creative City of Music since 2015 is testament to the city's proud live music heritage and cultural leadership on the global stage, which are celebrated through the renaming of city laneways to honour some of Adelaide's most iconic musicians and bands.

# City of Adelaide's Role in Cultural Life

## Current State

The City of Adelaide is responsible to its local community, plays a leadership role as a Capital City in supporting the cultural epicentre for South Australia, and as a designated UNESCO Creative City commits to placing culture and creativity at the heart of its planning for sustainable development.

The City of Adelaide fosters Adelaide's cultural life by creating an interesting and lively place where people want to live, work and visit, and by facilitating opportunities for the community to participate and practice cultural and creative activity. This is achieved through policy setting, strategic planning, strategic partnerships, advocacy, provision of cultural and community facilities, placemaking, production of and support for major events and festivals, programming, capacity building, public art, heritage preservation, collections, promotion, storytelling, and grants.

The City of Adelaide complements the State Government's efforts in supporting arts, culture, and economic development of our Capital City. The State Government provides significant and substantial funding for arts and cultural initiatives across South Australia that includes organisational funding, and the City of Adelaide focuses on localised projects within its LGA boundary that enhance cultural activities, community engagement, placemaking and community

capacity building within the city. City of Adelaide's subsidiary, the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA), contributes by driving economic growth and tourism through event and festival sponsorships, partnerships and marketing the city. Together, these entities operate in different yet complementary roles – ensuring both statewide reach and targeted local impact for culture, arts, economic vitality and community wellbeing.

In recent years, the Council's investment in culture has been led and delivered through the Cultural Strategy 2017–2023, supported by a Public Art Action Plan (2019–22) and a Live Music Action Plan (2017–2020), Stretch Reconciliation Action Plans, the Heritage Strategy 2021–2026, and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency's Strategic Plans (since Jan 2021).

Many other areas of the organisation support people to participate in the city's cultural life by delivering services, incentivising and leveraging investment, and facilitating cultural, heritage and creative initiatives and supporting activities that support the development and maintenance of culture and cultural practice.

The spread of this activity means that the total volume and value of Council's investment in culture is not straightforward to quantify. To date, City of Adelaide has invested broadly across the cultural sector.



## Significant Commemorative Days and Celebrations

The City of Adelaide plays a role in curating the entire city for cultural activation, hosting a year-round calendar of events and activities that delight, inspire and engage local, national and international audiences.

Council supports event organisers to hold welcoming, accessible and safe events that leave people of all backgrounds with positive lasting memories of our city. The City of Adelaide works collaboratively with event organisers and the South Australian Tourism Commission to facilitate a year-round calendar of events and activations for Adelaide.

National commemorative days and celebrations that Council observes, funds and facilitates include:

### **Australia Day**

The city is the centre of Australia Day activities for South Australians on 26 January each year. The first citizenship ceremony of the year is held at Adelaide Town Hall on Australia Day. Council, in partnership with the Australia Day Council, hosts and supports a program of events that acknowledges our cultural diversity and multiple histories. This includes the Mourning in the Morning smoking ceremony and Respecting Country Parade.

### **Anzac Day**

Observed annually on 25 April, Anzac Day, comprising the Anzac Day Commemorative March and Anzac Day Service of Remembrance with a Dawn Service, commemorates the anniversary of the Dardanelles Campaign Landing in 1915. The Returned & Services League of South Australia is responsible for the delivery of Anzac Day activities in the City of Adelaide, in partnership with the City of Adelaide and the South Australian Government.

### **Lunar New Year**

Festivities across the city herald the beginning of the Lunar New Year in the rich traditions and spirit of this celebration. A vibrant street party in Chinatown, organised by Chinatown Adelaide South Australia Inc., includes cultural performances, food, and entertainment and attracts an estimated over 30,000 visitors to the precinct.

### **National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant**

Since 1933, the Southern Hemisphere's largest public Christmas parade, has marked the official welcoming of Father Christmas to Australia and the start of our festive season and community tradition. City of Adelaide's broader Christmas Festival is representative and inclusive of Adelaide's multicultural community, with a diverse offering that is meaningful for a wide demographic.

### **NAIDOC Week**

National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the rich and diverse cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and their contributions in various fields. In 2024, Adelaide hosted the National NAIDOC Week.

### **New Year's Eve**

In 2023, Adelaide's New Year's Eve celebration returned to Elder Park/Tarntanya Wama for the first time after a four-year hiatus, drawing over 80,000 people of all ages to the Riverbank precinct to celebrate and watch fireworks in a safe and inclusive environment.

### **Remembrance Day**

On 11 November the Adelaide Remembrance Day service is held at the South Australian National War Memorial on North Terrace. Veterans, families, serving Australian Defence Force personnel and members of the public gather to commemorate the loss of Australian lives from all wars and conflicts.



## Collections

### Civic, Archives and Oral History Collections

Adelaide's heritage is preserved through the City of Adelaide collection, which encompasses the Civic Collection, Oral History Collection, and City Archives. The Civic Collection, featuring over 2800 items gathered since 1853, includes significant relics such as those related to Queen Adelaide and Colonel Light, along with public statues, memorials, silverware, historic photographs, and maps. The Oral History Collection, including 140 interviews conducted between 1978 and 2014, captures the

personal memories and experiences of former Lord Mayors, Councillors, long-serving employees, and community leaders. The Contemporary Art Collection of 60+ artworks by 40 artists who are South Australian or associated with the City of Adelaide through work or study, reflects the dynamic evolution of artistic practice in Adelaide. Additionally, the City Archives holds records dating back to 1840, documents Adelaide's municipal governance through files, maps, plans, and photographs. Together, these collections ensure that Adelaide's cultural heritage and history are preserved and accessible to future generations.



### Public Art Collection

Adelaide's public art collection is valued at over \$40 million and features nearly 150 sculptures, installations, and monuments that enrich public spaces and reflect the diverse stories and identities of its people. Our public art collection is a vital part of the city's cultural landscape, fosters community connection and celebrates Kaurna and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and the contributions of various cultural groups. The public art collection plays a crucial role in positioning Adelaide as a vibrant cultural destination, attracting tourists and contributing to the local economy.

## Cultural and Social Infrastructure

### Park Lands

The national heritage listed Adelaide Park Lands are a vital part of the city's cultural infrastructure, offering a unique network of interconnected public spaces and natural areas that encircle the city. These spaces play a significant role in Adelaide's cultural life, hosting over 600 events annually, including major festivals like the WOMAD hosted in Botanic Park/Tainmuntilla for over 30 years, and the Adelaide Fringe. The Park Lands are classified into various event sites, with premium locations such as Rundle Park/Kadiltipina and Elder Park/Tarntanya heavily utilised for large-scale cultural activities, including the Adelaide Fringe, which sold over 1 million tickets in 2023, contributing approximately \$50.1 million in new money to the state's economy. This commitment to cultural vibrancy has established Adelaide as a global leader in festivals, with the 2022 Tourism Sentiment Index ranking it the fourth best city worldwide for such events.

### Adelaide Central Market

Since 1869, the Adelaide Central Market has been Adelaide's premier destination for world leading food and produce, celebrating cultural diversity year-round, and connecting community. It is one of the largest undercover fresh produce markets in the Southern Hemisphere, and a key space for cultural immersion and exchange in the city, regularly hosting live music, food demonstrations and cultural celebrations. The Market precinct attracts more than 8.5 million visitors each year.

### Adelaide Community Centres

The City of Adelaide's three Community Centres support our communities to thrive by creating welcoming and inclusive spaces and engaging and enriching experiences that build community capacity and celebrate diverse cultures and community spirit. During 2023/24 our Centres welcomed 42,231 people and hosted 1,418 centre-led programs that engaged nearly 8,200 participants, including health and fitness sessions, language classes, gardening and cooking workshops, exhibitions, social clubs and more.





LadyBeatles performing at Adelaide Town Hall, 12 June 2024 for the City of Adelaide's 60th anniversary of The Beatles visit.

## Adelaide Town Hall

Since 1866 the Adelaide Town Hall has been the civic and cultural heart of the city. It is where community gathers and history is made, from Council meetings, Civic Events, Citizenship Ceremonies, to royal visits, weddings, high school graduations, and corporate launches.

In 2023/24, Adelaide Town Hall hosted 98 concerts, 75 conferences, and attracted over 7,700 attendees to its free lunchtime community performances. The Adelaide Town Hall is proud to partner with major music organisations, including Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Music Viva, Adelaide Festival and Australian Chamber Orchestra, to present inspiring and uplifting performances.



Art Work and Wear exhibition, City Library, curated by Lucinda Penn, 2023. City of Adelaide SALA Emerging Curator Program. Photo: Jack Fenby.

## Libraries

The City of Adelaide's three libraries are essential to the cultural and social wellbeing of its 25,507 residents and our daily visitors. Libraries are recognised by UNESCO as vital for education, culture, and inclusion, these facilities generate significant community benefits. A 2018–19 study found that public libraries in South Australia contributed \$252 million in benefits, with a net welfare impact of \$162 million.

The City of Adelaide Libraries are celebrated for supporting diverse and multicultural communities

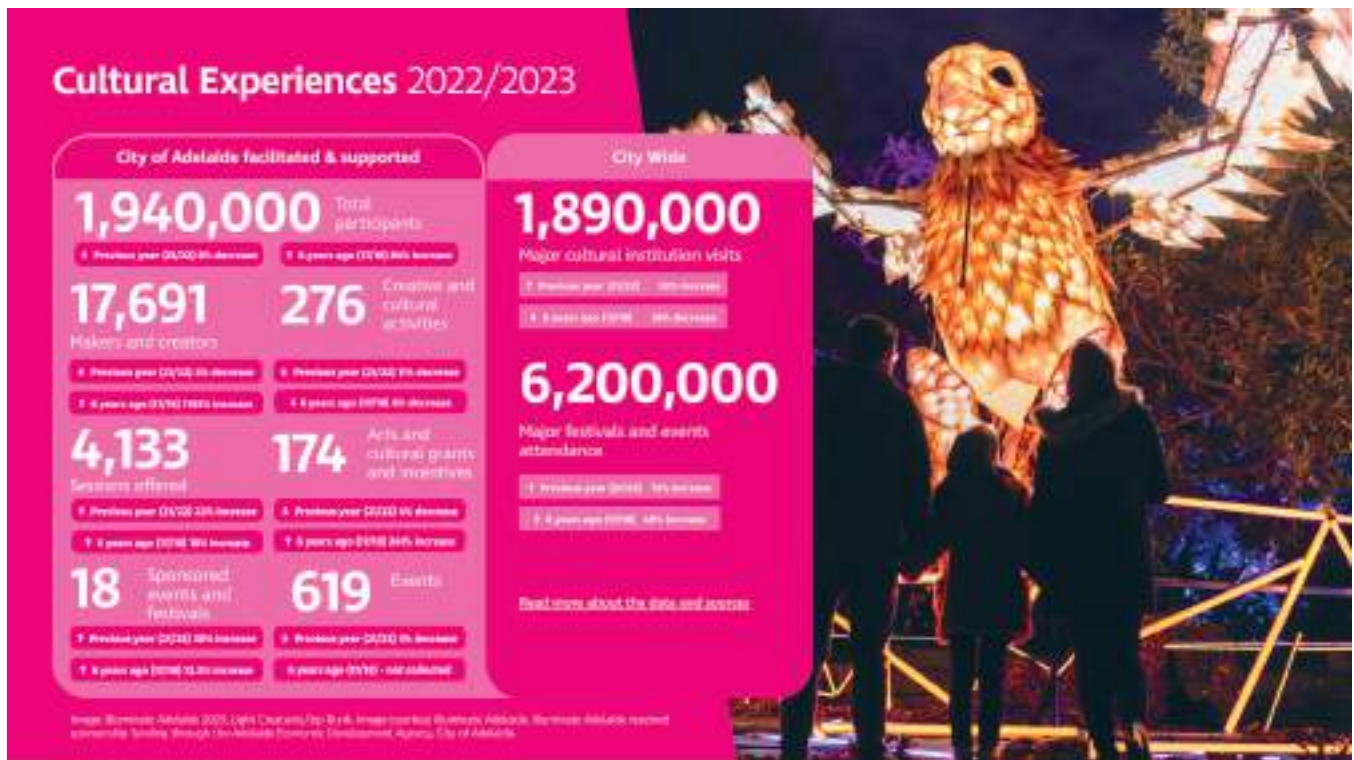
through extensive resources, programs, and partnerships that foster literacy, creativity, and cultural understanding. In 2023/24, the libraries saw nearly 340,000 visitors, a 11.5% increase from the previous year, and a 4% rise in active memberships. Our libraries are places of creative production, curation and display. They promote cultural diversity and reconciliation, through events like Multicultural Storytime and exhibitions for Refugee Week and maintain a strong commitment to Aboriginal culture through engaging programs and collections.



## Cultural Experiences

The City of Adelaide Dynamic City: Arts and Culture Dashboard monitored and reported on the collective achievements and the important contributions of Adelaide's cultural sector to the life of the city between 2017 and 2023. The dashboard

included Council led, facilitated and financially supported activity, alongside information drawn from published external sources. A snapshot of Council's cultural programs and participation outcomes is included below.



## Participation in Adelaide's Cultural Experiences 2017–2023 Trends

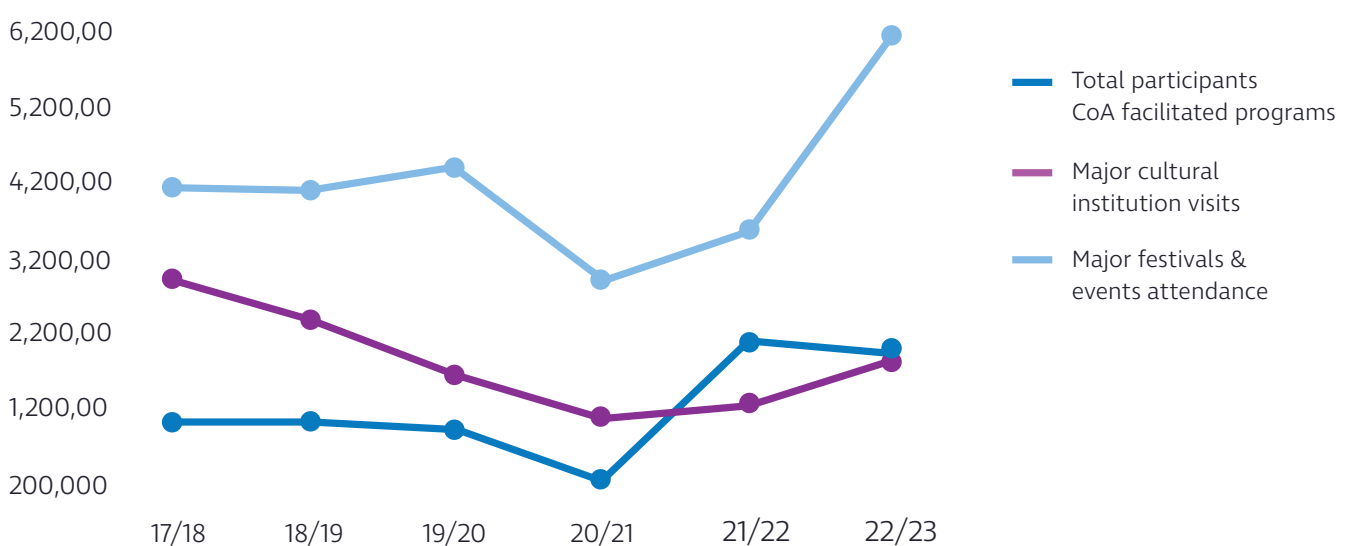


Figure 1. Participation in Adelaide's cultural experiences 2017–2023 trends, as reported in the City of Adelaide Dynamic City: Arts and Culture Dashboard.



DEM MOB single launch at The Lab at ILA. Supported by a City of Adelaide First Nations Arts and Cultural Grant.

## Future State

The development of Council's Cultural Policy will clarify culture's place and priority in our planning processes. It will reflect that cultural participation and creativity are central to our community's social and economic life. It will ensure that responsibility for the Cultural Policy is shared across the organisation and embedded across operational decision making. As a result, Council's resources will effectively focused to maximise benefit for all.

To achieve this, the City of Adelaide will need to take a long-term perspective and a sustainable, partnered, approach to cultural development. This means that its roles in the future may include:

### Lead

Lead the integration of creativity and culture in all aspects of the city's sustainable development to ensure Adelaide is a diverse, inclusive, resilient and joyful society.

### Advocate

Use our influence as a creative capital to advocate for the role of culture in enriching the life of the city, our community and our economy, leveraging opportunities, and uplifting others.

### Safeguard

Protect our tangible and intangible cultural heritage through enabling policy and regulation, and by investing in our cultural infrastructure and assets including our city collections.

## Engage

Empower people to engage in democratic, local decision making and action supporting social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing.

### Enable

Enable all people to contribute to and participate in the cultural life of the city by funding and facilitating inclusive programs at our venues and in our Adelaide Park Lands.

### Facilitate

Facilitate street closures, safety, traffic and busking to support community events, festivals, activations and other forms of cultural expression across the city's public spaces and Adelaide Park Lands.

### Partner

Partner with government, non-government organisations, the private sector and the community to leverage expertise, attract new resources and sustain the city's cultural development into the future.

### Champion

Celebrate what makes Adelaide distinctive and promote its abundant and creative cultures to enhance our city's appeal and profile.

# Cultural Policy Themes and Priorities

Reflecting on Adelaide's strengths, research insights, local strategic tensions, and global trends relevant to capital cities, some key themes are presented to encourage conversation about future cultural priorities for the city.

## People are at the Centre of Our City and its Culture

Nurture the ability for the community to connect with culture and express their creativity. Improve our city's appeal, liveability and global profile, through accessible and high-quality cultural experiences, including public art, events and festivals that reflect Adelaide's unique heritage and stories.

## Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples's Continuous Culture

Honour and strengthen awareness of Kaurna culture and connection to Country as central to Adelaide's identity and future.

## Celebrating Multiculturalism and Respecting Diversity and Traditions

Observe, fund and facilitate Adelaide's cultural traditions including national commemorative days, festive events and other social practices. Provide inclusive and respectful opportunities for people of all cultures, backgrounds, ages and abilities to participate in the cultural life of the city.

## Adelaide is Australia's Cultural and Creative Capital

Provide a city-wide approach to embed music, culture and heritage preservation in policy, place and community. Amplify Adelaide's UNESCO City of Music designation and our leadership as Australia's creative and cultural capital.

## The City's Culture is Connected to Our Built and Natural Heritage

Respect, protect and strengthen our world class architecture, cultural assets, collections, and environment. Ensure our cultural identity is easily accessible by the community through engaging and discoverable interpretation and digital resources.

## Creativity and Culture Drives Our City's Future

Advance the role of culture in enriching the life of the city, our people and the environment. Raise our profile as a creative and cultural capital for the development of the city into the future and the wellbeing of local communities.



## Engagement Strategy

The city's Cultural Policy will be developed in conversation and in partnership with our community so that it reflects, serves, supports and belongs to the people of Adelaide. A range of prompts are provided to start the conversation.

Visit [ouradelaide.sa.gov.au](https://ouradelaide.sa.gov.au) to have your say.

Feedback received through engagement on this discussion paper will inform the development of Council's Cultural Policy.

We intend to invite, listen to and deeply consider all ideas, proposals and feedback offered, respecting the generosity with which they are shared.

The draft Cultural Policy of the City of Adelaide will be refined and improved through this process. A summary of this feedback will be presented to Council to ensure that the voices and views of our community are heard.

## Conversation Starters

- What is the best thing about living in Adelaide?
- What strengths and values do you observe in Adelaide's diverse cultural communities?
- When you describe Adelaide to friends who live interstate or overseas, is there an image, story, song, or artwork that you think of first that best captures this place?
- If you could change something about Adelaide what would it be?
- Can you describe what kind of place you hope Adelaide will be in ten years' time?
- What are the most pressing obstacles to achieving this vision?
- In defining culture, what have we missed, or you would like to see enhanced?
- How would you like to continue to be engaged in community-led policy development?



## People are at the Centre of Our City and its Culture

- How can we enhance our city's appeal and global profile by offering high-quality cultural experiences that reflect the city's unique identity, and heritage?
- What strategies can we use to activate key areas and underutilised spaces in the City of Adelaide with cultural activities to boost visitation, community engagement and our local economy?
- How can we ensure our affordable and accessible cultural spaces, like our Town Hall, community centres and libraries, better support creative communities?

## Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples's Continuous Culture

- How can we champion Kurna culture in our shared future in a meaningful way?
- What steps can we take to ensure that Kurna and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices influence, and are represented in the city's cultural decisions?
- What initiatives and projects can we collaborate on with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to increase visibility of Kurna culture in the public realm?

## Celebrating Multiculturalism and Respecting Diversity and Traditions

- How can we observe and support community events that respect traditions, celebrate multiculturalism and encourage cultural sharing?
- What can we do to ensure everyone can take part in the city's cultural life?
- How can we amplify more community voices and create better connections with and between diverse communities?
- How can we attract more people to improve community bonds and embrace our cultural diversity, and global connections?

## Adelaide is Australia's Cultural and Creative Capital

- How can we strengthen our reputation as Australia's creative and cultural capital as a UNESCO Creative City and City of Live Music status?
- What steps can we take to ensure music, culture, and heritage are deeply integrated into city policies, our everyday experiences and the community life of the city?
- How can we better support creative and culture professionals and venues to boost employment and create sustainable careers in the arts?



## **The city's culture is connected to our built and natural heritage**

- How can we best protect and showcase our city's built architecture, cultural assets, and natural environment?
- What can we do to ensure that the City of Adelaide's cultural identity is more accessible and engaging for our community?
- How can we improve our public spaces to better support cultural activities and community connections?

## **Creativity and culture drives our city's future**

- How can culture improve the City of Adelaide experience, our quality of life and environment?
- What new and different types of partnerships can help sustain and improve the City of Adelaide's cultural growth in the future?
- How can we better promote the City of Adelaide's cultural strengths to boost participation and enhance its reputation as a cultural capital?





# Culture: The Life Of Our City

City of Adelaide: Cultural Policy 2025-  
2036



CITY OF  
ADELAIDE



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



ADELAIDE  
CITY OF MUSIC

Designated  
UNESCO Creative City  
in 2015

# Background and Purpose

Council is developing a Cultural Policy that promotes and supports **the city's unique cultural identity and opportunities** with the aim of:

- **Positioning Adelaide as a cultural leader** aligned with its UNESCO Creative City of Music status.
- **Celebrating cultural diversity**, including Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, and multicultural heritage.
- **Guiding strategic investment** in cultural infrastructure, programs, and partnerships.
- **Encouraging community participation** to strengthen social cohesion.
- **Integrating culture into city development** to drive economic growth and wellbeing.

# Discussion Paper and Policy Priorities

A Cultural Policy Discussion Paper was prepared to invite feedback from residents and stakeholders to help shape Council's cultural priorities for 2025–2036. It highlights Council's role, assets, and resources in supporting the city's cultural development.

## *Draft Priorities*

Page 45

- People are at the centre of our city and its culture
- Honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's continuous culture
- Celebrating multiculturalism and respecting diversity and traditions
- Adelaide is Australia's cultural and creative capital
- The city's culture is connected to our built and natural heritage
- Creativity and culture drive our city's future

The City of Adelaide demonstrates a strong and ongoing commitment to championing Aboriginal culture and communities, particularly the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains, through cultural recognition, reconciliation plans and initiatives, and strategic partnerships.

- **Cultural Mapping:** The Adelaide Park Lands have undergone cultural mapping to strengthen connections with Kaurna heritage with Kaurna history shared through an online interactive trail, videos and personal stories.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Partnerships have been established to promote reconciliation and elevate Kaurna culture and its connection to Country with groups include Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music, Kuma Kaaru, Ochre Dawn, Guildhouse, State Government, U-City, and the Adelaide City of Music Office.
- **Event Growth:** The number of First Nations initiatives supported grew from 22 in 2017/18 to 69 in 2022/23, highlighting increased visibility of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' cultures including a Park Lands Cultural Burn and Kids on Country.
- **Grants and Impact:** First Nations Arts and Cultural Grant projects in 2023/24 have each attracted an average of 787 attendees and provided employment to 14 First Nations creatives.
- **Public Engagement:** Initiatives include the creation of the City Library Aboriginal Cultural Collection, NAIDOC Week activations, and reconciliation programs in libraries and community centres.
- **Public Art:** Investment in Aboriginal-led initiatives and public art commissions to celebrate and share Aboriginal culture and stories, including murals at the Central Market, No Fixed Address City of Music Laneway, Council Chamber portrait of Auntie Shirley Peisley, and the Place of Reflection for the Stolen Generation.

# Case Study – Kaurna Song Book Revival

The **Kaurna Song Book Revival Project** is a cultural initiative led by the **University of Adelaide's Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM)**, in collaboration with **Kaurna Warra Pintyanthi**.

The project is supported by the **City of Adelaide** through a **Cultural Strategic Partnership** and a grant from the Indigenous Languages and Arts (ILA) program from the Federal Government.

The project focuses on refreshing the historic Song Books from 1990 (Kaurna and Ngarrindjeri songs) and 1999 (Kaurna songs) featuring award winning artists Trials (Daniel Rankine), DEM MOB, Tilly Tjala Thomas, Katie Aspel, Marlon Motlop, and Kaurna community musicians.

The revised 2025 Song Book will **launch on 3 March 2025 at Adelaide University's Kaurna Day with FREE community performances of the new Kaurna songs.**

This project supports the Kaurna community with their ongoing language maintenance and revival efforts. The new book and songs will be available online enabling community awareness and understanding of the Kaurna language and culture.



2025 Kaurna Song Book Cover Artwork *Karrawirra Parri* by Gabriel Stengle (Kaurna, Ngarrindjeri, Narungga, Wirangu).  
Artwork commission supported by City of Adelaide funding

# Case Study – Place of Reflection

The **Place of Reflection** is a public artwork in **Murlawirrpurka / Rymill Park (Park 14)**, honouring the **Stolen Generations** and their resilience.

Initiated by the **City of Adelaide** and supported by the **Government of South Australia**, it had a \$265,000 budget.

A key action in the **Stretch Reconciliation Plan (2015–2018)**, it provides a space for gathering, strength, and healing.

Created by **Ngarrindjeri Elder Aunty Yvonne Koolmatrie**, with **Karl Meyer** and **Exhibition Studios**, it features a **sculpture and seating** in a landscaped setting.

Developed with **Aboriginal community consultation and guided by an Advisory Group** of key cultural and reconciliation organisations.

Recognised with two 2024 AILA Awards: **SA Award of Excellence for Small Projects & National Landscape Architecture Award for Small Projects**

A lasting tribute to truth-telling, healing, and Reconciliation in Adelaide.



# Culture: The Life Of the City Forum

- On 9 December 2024, *Culture: The Life of the City Forum* brought together 100 leaders, creatives, and policymakers to discuss Adelaide's cultural future. Reconciliation Committee members were invited to add their voices, values and perspectives to the forum.
- Hosted by **Lord Mayor Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM**, the event featured keynote speakers **Marcus Westbury OAM**, **Kate Fielding**, and **Jack Kanya Kudnuitya Buckskin**, who shared insights on Adelaide's cultural evolution, diversity, and strengths.
- Key themes and feedback included:
  - **Cultural Identity:** Adelaide should embrace its uniqueness, valuing shared culture and experiences.
  - **Local Government's Role:** Leadership and investment in culture are vital for a strong, cohesive, and sustainable future.
  - **National Influence:** Adelaide plays a key role in Australia's cultural landscape with global potential.
  - **Future Vision:** Participants envisioned Adelaide as a leading cultural capital in the next decade

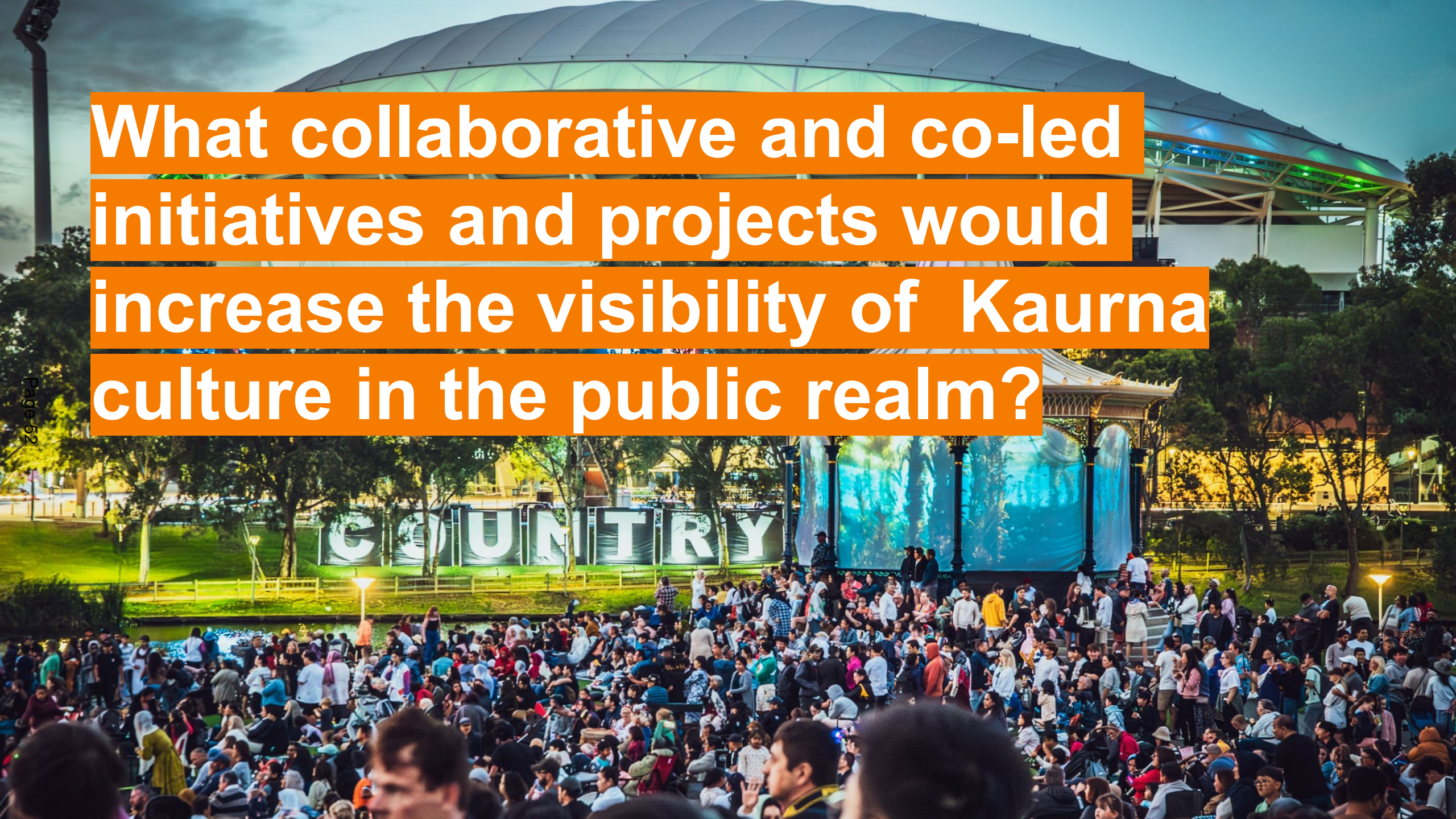


**How can we champion  
Kaurna culture in our  
shared future in  
meaningful ways?**



**What steps can we take to ensure that Kaurna and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices influence, and are represented in the city's cultural decisions?**

**What collaborative and co-led initiatives and projects would increase the visibility of Kaurna culture in the public realm?**



Step	Action
#1.	<b>January 2025:</b> <del>Close of public consultation for the Cultural Policy.</del> <del>E-News to Council on the consultation process for the Cultural Policy.</del>
#2.	<b>From February - 2025:</b> Review of the consultation and feedback from community and stakeholders.
#3.	<b>March 2025:</b> Development of a Draft Cultural Policy informed by the consultation and feedback from community, stakeholders and organisation.
#4	<b>April 2025:</b> Report back to Council on the outcomes of consultation. Draft Cultural Policy presented to Council.

# World Heritage Bid - Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)

Strategic Alignment - Our Environment

Public

Wednesday, 5 March 2025  
Reconciliation Committee

**Program Contact:**

Sarah Gilmour, Associate  
Director Park Lands, Policy &  
Sustainability

**Approving Officer:**

Ilia Houridis, Director City  
Shaping

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Tentative List submission for the World Heritage Bid. The Tentative List submission is being prepared in 2025 and targeting submission to the Federal Government by early 2026.

The report focuses on processes being established to enable consultation with Traditional Owners about the World Heritage Bid using the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC).

The Australian Heritage Council and the Federal Government require the World Heritage Bid to gain consent from First Nations groups through the FPIC process before they will consider submitting a nomination to UNESCO for inclusion on the Tentative List for World Heritage.

FPIC is a fundamental principle that protects Indigenous peoples' rights to make informed decisions about activities affecting their lands, territories, and resources. Central to FPIC are the principles of Early Engagement, Equal Consideration, and Participation. It ensures that consent is given freely, without coercion or pressure, and obtained prior to project approvals or decisions. A short explanation of the FPIC process is provided in [Link 1](#).

The World Heritage Bid aligns with the City of Adelaide's Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2024–2027 Action 5.4: 'Investigate opportunities to embed Kaurna cultural heritage advice within Council resourcing'.

## RECOMMENDATION

### THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

#### THAT COUNCIL

1. Receives and notes the report on the World Heritage Bid – Free, Prior and Informed Consent, as contained in Item 5.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Reconciliation Committee held on 5 March 2025.
2. Notes that Administration will work with South Australian Native Title Services to lead the consultation with Traditional Owners and other Aboriginal stakeholders.

## IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	<p><b>Strategic Alignment – Our Environment</b></p> <p><i>Achieve world heritage listing of our Park Lands, and protect their national heritage listing status and pursue State Heritage listing to strengthen protections</i></p>
Policy	<p><b>Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027</b></p> <p><i>Action 1 - Establish and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and organisations.</i></p> <p><i>Action 5 - Create engagement protocols that enable the representation and partnership of the Kaurna People</i></p> <p><b>Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy</b></p> <p><i>Strategy 3.1 Recognise, promote and protect sites of Kaurna cultural heritage and significance and work with Kaurna people to provide education to the community about these sites.</i></p> <p><i>Strategy 3.16 Progress World Heritage Listing of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout.</i></p> <p><b>Heritage Strategy 2021-2036 and Action Plan</b></p> <p><i>1.9 Prepare tentative bid for World Heritage List nomination</i></p> <p><i>3.1 Work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to support, promote and share their cultural heritage and modern stories, and recognise the Kaurna people as the traditional owners.</i></p>
Consultation	Preliminary engagement with the Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) has commenced. South Australian Native Title Services (SANTS) will support Administration with further consultation with KYAC and other Traditional Owners and Aboriginal stakeholders.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	<p>Opportunities for reconciliation created through World Heritage listing include creating a shared narrative about First Nations culture and history that aligns with colonial settlement. The FPIC process aligns with the Stretch RAP as it progresses governance and engagement protocols that enable representation and partnership with Kaurna and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p> <p>Other opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening trust and inclusivity with Traditional Owners.</li> <li>• FPIC is a principle enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Applying FPIC will position the City of Adelaide as a leader in reconciliation and ethical governance.</li> <li>• Utilising the World Heritage Tentative List submission as a catalyst for truth-telling and greater recognition.</li> </ul>
24/25 Budget Allocation	The 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget did not allocate funding to progress the World Heritage Bid. Project management of the bid is being managed within existing resources.
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	A budget proposal for the World Heritage project, including ongoing engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, is being prepared for consideration in the 2025/26 Annual Business Plan and Budget process. The project is currently unfunded in 2025/26 and subject to budget deliberations and decision by the Council.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The principles of FPIC have the potential to be adopted more broadly by the City of Adelaide in its engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The World Heritage project provides a valuable opportunity to apply FPIC in practice, allowing the City of Adelaide to refine its approach and draw lessons for future engagements.

24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Administration is seeking to progress with FPIC engagement in 2024/25 subject to quarterly budget review processes.
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

---

# DISCUSSION

## Background

1. The City of Adelaide's Strategic Plan 2024-2028 has a commitment to pursuing a World Heritage listing for the Adelaide Park Lands, City Layout and its Rural Settlement Landscapes.
2. The areas considered for World Heritage listing will demonstrate colonial settlement from the 1830s to 1870s, including the experience of settlement by First Nations people.
3. These areas extend beyond the City of Adelaide local government area and incorporate the rural settlements landscapes which reflect how South Australia was surveyed and settled by European colonisers.
4. The World Heritage project is seeking to engage with multiple Aboriginal language groups that are the Traditional Owners of these areas.
5. This report focuses on processes being established by the City of Adelaide to enable consultation with Traditional Owners using the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC).

## Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)

6. The right to FPIC is recognised by native title, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and the World Heritage Convention.
7. FPIC is a collective right of Indigenous people to give or withhold their consent at key decision-making points during a proposed activity affecting their traditional land, or rights in general.
8. Central to FPIC are the principles of Early Engagement, Equal Consideration, and Participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as traditional land custodians.
9. A short explanation of the FPIC process is provided in [Link 1](#).
10. Elements to consider for implementation of FPIC are:
  - 10.1. Policy alignment: Integrate FPIC principles into the City of Adelaide's policies, procedures, and decision-making frameworks.
  - 10.2. Stakeholder engagement: Work collaboratively with Kaurna and Aboriginal community leaders, organisations, and Elders to build trust and mutual respect.
  - 10.3. Transparent communication: Provide clear and accessible information about the purpose, potential impacts, and outcomes of proposed activities.
  - 10.4. Capacity building: Support Administration to engage with FPIC processes by providing resources, training, or independent advice if needed.
  - 10.5. Long-term relationship: Build ongoing partnerships rather than one-off consultations to demonstrate a genuine commitment to reconciliation and trust-building.

## World Heritage Bid – Tentative List Submission

11. The Australian Heritage Council and the Federal Government require the World Heritage Bid to gain consent from First Nations groups through the FPIC process before they will consider submitting a nomination to UNESCO for inclusion on the Tentative List for World Heritage.
  - 11.1. The World Heritage listing process establishes FPIC as a framework for respectful and inclusive decision-making with Traditional Owners.
  - 11.2. FPIC forms part of the processes for identifying, nominating, managing, and protecting World Heritage properties.
  - 11.3. The World Heritage Bid project depends upon a successful FPIC process and gaining endorsement from First Nations groups in accordance with FPIC principles.
12. The City of Adelaide's World Heritage Bid presents an opportunity to implement FPIC principles, setting a precedent for how cultural, environmental, and developmental initiatives can be carried out in genuine partnership with Traditional Landowners and custodians.
13. The City of Adelaide has commenced positive discussions with Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) on the World Heritage Bid and FPIC.
  - 13.1. This includes a workshop held on 4 October 2024 with KYAC Directors, Heritage Consultant Duncan Marshall AM and the Administration, to provide information about the World Heritage Listing process and advice to KYAC on their rights under FPIC principles.

- 13.2. At the 4 October 2024 workshop, the City of Adelaide received confirmation that KYAC will be the primary endorsing body for the FPIC process for the World Heritage Tentative Submission. It was determined that there is in-principle support for further development, engagement with other Aboriginal cultural authorities and collaboration with South Australian Native Title Services (SANTS). This is to ensure the framework is both culturally appropriate and aligned with best practice.
14. Administration has commenced discussions with SANTS' regarding Traditional Owner consultation requesting SANTS' to:
- 14.1. Act as a key liaison with Traditional Owner groups in South Australia. The language groups may include Ngadjuri, Peramangk, Ngarrindjeri and Kaurna.
  - 14.2. Ensure Traditional Owners are familiar with the FPIC Principles and consenting rights.
  - 14.3. Provide advocacy support to Traditional Owners.
  - 14.4. Facilitate culturally appropriate engagement and consultation processes.

#### **Next steps**

15. The next steps to be undertaken for FPIC as part of the World Heritage Bid are:
- 15.1. Partner with SANTS' to commence Traditional Owner engagement in March 2025 and undertake FPIC processes.
  - 15.2. The Tentative List submission is being prepared in 2025 and targeting submission to the Federal Government by early 2026.
  - 15.3. The World Heritage project provides a valuable opportunity to apply FPIC in practice, allowing the City of Adelaide to refine its approach for future engagements.
  - 15.4. Pending the outcomes of this work, the principles of FPIC have the potential to be adopted more broadly by the City of Adelaide in its engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

---

## DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**Link 1** [–Free, Prior and Informed Consent \(FPIC\): World Heritage Bid](#)

---

## ATTACHMENTS

**Nil**

---

- END OF REPORT -

# 2025 NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week Activities

Wednesday, 5 March 2025  
Reconciliation Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Public

**Program Contact:**

Sarah Gilmour, Associate  
Director Park Lands, Policy &  
Sustainability

**Approving Officer:**

Ilia Houridis, Director City  
Shaping

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to communicate the City of Adelaide's planned activities to celebrate National Reconciliation Week, 27 May to 3 June 2025 ([Link 1](#)), and National NAIDOC Week, 6 to 13 July 2025 ([Link 2](#)).

The theme for the 2025 National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is 'Bridging Now to Next'. Action 2.6 of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 commits to organising at least one NRW event each year at the Adelaide Central Market or Rundle Mall.

The theme for the 2025 National NAIDOC Week is 'The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy'. The City of Adelaide's planned activities are NAIDOC in the Mall and the annual Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award event.

The City of Adelaide also supports the SA NAIDOC Committee's annual march from Victoria Square / Tarntanyangga to Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14), Family Fun Day in Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14), and activities that showcase the city.

Implementation of the City of Adelaide's NRW and NAIDOC activities deliver on the Relationships and Respect focus areas in the City of Adelaide's Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027.

---

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the City of Adelaide's proposed activities to celebrate the 2024 National Reconciliation Week, between 27 May and 3 June 2025, and National NAIDOC Week, between 6 and 13 July 2025.
-

## IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	<b>Strategic Alignment – Our Community</b> An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging
Policy	<b>Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027</b> <i>Action 2: Build relationships through celebrating National Reconciliation Week (NRW)</i> <i>Action 9: Engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories by celebrating NAIDOC Week</i>
Consultation	Consultation occurred with the SA NAIDOC Committee and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of the Reconciliation Committee at Panpanpalya on 5 February 2025.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	The City of Adelaide's Reconciliation Officer is staying abreast of the SA NAIDOC Committee discussions regarding opportunities for collaboration.
24/25 Budget Allocation	The City of Adelaide Annual Business Plan includes \$20,000 for NRW 2025 activities. Delivery of the NAIDOC Week 2025 activities is funded through \$54,350 allocated to reconciliation in the City of Adelaide's operating budget.
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	A budget proposal of \$20,000 to deliver NRW activities in 2026 will be considered as part of the 2025/2026 Annual Business Plan and Budget process and is currently unfunded and subject to Council decision.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The current report relates to NRW and National NAIDOC Week activities and celebrations in 2025.
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

# DISCUSSION

## National Reconciliation Week Activity 2025

1. National Reconciliation Week is held annually from 27 May to 3 June and is a time for all Australians to learn about shared histories, cultures and achievements, and recommit to reconciliation and First Nations justice.
2. The week recognises two significant milestones in Australia's reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.
3. The NRW 2025 theme, '*Bridging Now to Next*', reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future. At a time when Australia faces uncertainty in its reconciliation journey, this theme calls on all Australians to step forward together.
4. To bring the NRW theme to life, the City of Adelaide will collaborate with a First Nations artist to create an artwork that captures the connection between the past, present, and future. The artwork will symbolise the bridge between generations and the collective journey towards reconciliation.
5. Banners and flagpoles throughout the city will display designs provided by Reconciliation Australia, reinforcing a cohesive and visual message of the NRW theme.
6. During NRW, speeches will connect the theme to the city's reconciliation path, reflecting its importance to local communities.
7. The week is scheduled for Tuesday, 27 May 2025 to Tuesday, 3 June 2025.
8. The City of Adelaide's activities for NRW are summarised in the table below:

	NRW Activity	Date (2025)	Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Alignment
1.	The City of Adelaide is commissioning a NRW Artwork reflecting the NRW theme.  The artwork will be displayed at the Adelaide Central Market and in Rundle Mall.  A small event will be held in Rundle Mall and the Adelaide Central Market for invited guests and the broader community to engage with the NRW Theme and showcase the artwork.	Artwork to be displayed throughout NRW  Rundle Mall (event) – Tuesday, 27 May 2025  Adelaide Central Market (event) – Wednesday, 28 May 2025	2.6 The City of Adelaide commits to organising at least one NRW event each year at the Adelaide Central Market or Rundle Mall.
2.	Official NRW flagpole and banner displays on King William Street and Gouger Street, Adelaide.	Tuesday, 27 May – Tuesday, 3 June 2025	2.1 Circulate Reconciliation' Australia's National Reconciliation Week (NRW) resources and reconciliation materials to all employees.
3.	External communication of NRW through social media posts  Internal City of Adelaide communication via CEO message, and internal communication 'The Next Edition'.	Commencing Tuesday, 27 May 2025	3.2 Communicate our commitment to reconciliation publicly
4.	The City of Adelaide will seek to purchase two tables at the Reconciliation SA Breakfast, Tuesday, 27 May 2025  Invites for the City of Adelaide's hosted tables will be offered to the Reconciliation Committee Members, Council Members and City of Adelaide Executive and Reconciliation leaders.	Tuesday, 27 May 2025	2.3 <i>Encourage and support employees and senior leaders to participate in at least two external events to recognise and celebrate NRW.</i>

## National NAIDOC (NAIDOC Week) Week 2025

9. NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year (Sunday to Sunday), to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
10. NAIDOC Week is scheduled from Sunday, 6 July 2025 to Sunday, 13 July 2025.
11. The 2025 theme, *'The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy'*, celebrates not only the achievements of the past but the bright future ahead, empowered by the strength of our young leaders, the vision of our communities, and the legacy of our ancestors.
12. To embody the 2025 NAIDOC week theme, the CoA will embed the theme *'The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy'* in the delivery of the activities. This will include:
  - 12.1. In activities, speeches and content creation across the week young people's voices will highlight the vital role and voice of young people. Through storytelling, digital media, and public speaking, we will showcase their achievements, creativity, and connection to Country, ensuring their perspectives are heard and valued.
  - 12.2. Engaging a young First Nations artist to deliver an artwork that brings the theme to *'The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy'* to life.
  - 12.3. Banners and flagpoles will feature designs that are supplied by NAIDOC Australia.
  - 12.4. Speeches throughout the week will reflect on how the NAIDOC Week theme resonates within our city, emphasising its local relevance and impact.
13. The 2024-2027 Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan commits to the following events during NAIDOC week:
  - 13.1. Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award
    - 13.1.1. The Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award has been an annual event since 2019. The award is given each year to a respected member of the Aboriginal community who has made significant contributions towards reconciliation in the City of Adelaide.
    - 13.1.2. In 2024 in recognition of Adelaide being the host city of the 50<sup>th</sup> year of NAIDOC celebrations, the Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award was presented in collaboration with the South Australian NAIDOC Committee, and the Attorney General's Department, in the Adelaide Town Hall.
    - 13.1.3. The SA NAIDOC Committee has approached the Administration to continue to work in collaboration in 2025 and 2026 through a formalised partnership agreement.
  - 13.2. NAIDOC In the Mall
    - 13.2.1. NAIDOC in the Mall is a community event enabling the public to participate in NAIDOC week celebrations.
    - 13.2.2. The 2025 event is scheduled for Tuesday, 8 July 2025, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in the Gawler Place Canopy in Rundle Mall.
    - 13.2.3. The event will consist of various Aboriginal business market stalls, activities for all ages, light refreshments, and entertainment throughout.
    - 13.2.4. The City of Adelaide, with the support of an Aboriginal artist, will develop an artwork based on the NAIDOC theme to be displayed on the City of Adelaide website and publicly in Rundle Mall.
14. Other events being held publicly in the City of Adelaide during NAIDOC Week include:
  - 14.1. The NAIDOC March from Victoria Square / Tarntanyangga to Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) and a Family Fun Day held in Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14).
  - 14.2. These events organised by the SA NAIDOC Committee will be held on Friday, 11 July 2025.
  - 14.3. The City of Adelaide support the SA NAIDOC Committee events through traffic and street management, flag waivers for the community and general NAIDOC resources on display through King William Street.
15. The table below details the NAIDOC Week activities proposed by the City of Adelaide.

	Activities	Date (2025)	Organiser	Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Alignment
1.	Official NAIDOC flagpole and banner displays on King William Street and Gouger Street, Adelaide.	Sunday, 6 July – Sunday, 13 July 2025	City of Adelaide	Ongoing commitment.
2.	Social Media campaign including storytelling content that brings to life the 2025 National NAIDOC theme.  Internal City of Adelaide communication via CEO message, and internal communication in the 'The Next Edition'.	Sunday, 6 July – Sunday, 13 July 2025	City of Adelaide	3.2 Communicate our commitment to reconciliation publicly
3.	NAIDOC in the Mall – community event with activities showcasing Aboriginal businesses and entertainment.	Tuesday, 8 July 2025	City of Adelaide	9.3 Deliver and support employees to participate in NAIDOC Week events in our local area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAIDOC in the Mall</li> <li>• Lord Mayors NAIDOC Awards</li> <li>• NAIDOC artwork commissioning.</li> </ul>
4.	The City of Adelaide, with the support of an Aboriginal artist, will develop an artwork based on the NAIDOC theme to be displayed on the City of Adelaide website and publicly in Rundle Mall at the NAIDOC in the Mall event.	Tuesday, 8 July 2025	City of Adelaide	9.3 Support employees to participate in NAIDOC Week events in our local area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAIDOC in the Mall</li> <li>• Lord Mayors NAIDOC Awards</li> <li>• NAIDOC artwork commissioning.</li> </ul>
5.	Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award Ceremony	Monday, 7 July 2025	City of Adelaide A potential collaboration between the City of Adelaide, SA NAIDOC Committee and South Australian Attorney General's Department is being explored.	9.5 Officially recognise the recipient of the annual Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award on both the website and social media platforms.
6.	NAIDOC March on King William Street – organised by the SA NAIDOC Committee.  The City of Adelaide will support the event with street closures, booking of relevant spaces, and purchase of flag hand (3000) holders.	Friday, 11 July 2025	SA NAIDOC Committee	9.4 Collaborate with the SA NAIDOC Committee to support celebrations in the CBD including the NAIDOC March and Family Fun Day.
7.	Lord Mayor Flag raising ceremony with a potential video or ceremony dependant on availability of Adelaide Town Hall Façade	Monday, 7 July 2025 (Monday morning)	City of Adelaide	9.6 Provide an internal and external CEO NAIDOC week message.

	Activities	Date (2025)	Organiser	Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Alignment
8.	NAIDOC Ball organised by SA NAIDOC Committee	Thursday, 10 July 2025	SA NAIDOC Committee	9.4 Collaborate with the SA NAIDOC Committee to support celebrations in the CBD including the NAIDOC March and Family Fun Day.

#### Next Steps

16. The Reconciliation Committee will be updated on NRW and NAIDOC Week activities via email and at the next Reconciliation Committee meeting on 7 May 2025.

## DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – [Reconciliation Australia website – National Reconciliation Week](#)

Link 2 – [NAIDOC Week website](#)

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT

# Appointment of Dual Chair and Deputy Chair

Wednesday, 5 March 2025  
Reconciliation Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

**Program Contact:**  
Kathryn Goldy, Acting Manager  
Governance

Public

**Approving Officer:**  
Anthony Spartalis ,Chief  
Operating Officer

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks to enable the City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee (the Committee) to appoint a Dual Chair and a Deputy Chair for the remainder of the 2022-2026 Council Term.

In establishing the Committee on 13 December 2022, Council appointed the Lord Mayor to one of the Dual Chair positions and delegated to the Committee the authority to appoint the subsequent positions of Dual Chair and Deputy Chair. In accordance with the Reconciliation Committee Terms of Reference and Meeting Procedures, the Dual and Deputy Chair positions must be filled by Committee Members appointed to the Committee as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representatives.

## RECOMMENDATION

### THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

1. Appoints \_\_\_\_\_ (Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representative) to the role of Dual Chairperson from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2025 until the conclusion of the 2022-2026 Council Term, noting this representative will undertake this role alongside the Lord Mayor.
2. Appoints \_\_\_\_\_ (Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representative) to the role of Deputy Chairperson from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2025 until the conclusion of the 2022-2026 Council Term.

## IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation
Policy	Reconciliation Committee Terms of Reference and Meeting Procedures City of Adelaide Reconciliation Vision Statement (2012) City of Adelaide Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	<i>Local Government Act 1999</i> (SA)
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
24/25 Budget Allocation	Remuneration for the Dual Chair (Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Committee Member) for each meeting of the Reconciliation Committee is \$650 per meeting, in accordance with the Remuneration Schedule approved by Council at its meeting on 13 December 2022, for the 2022-2026 term of Council.
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

## DISCUSSION

1. On 13 December 2022, Council established the City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee (the Committee) for the 2022-2026 Council term.
2. As per Council's decision, the Lord Mayor was appointed to the position of Dual Chair, to preside alongside a Dual Chair to be appointed from the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representative Membership pool.
3. Council delegated the authority to the Committee to appoint both the positions of Dual Chair and Deputy Chair.
4. On 22 March 2023, the Committee appointed Yvonne Agius to the role of Dual Chair for a period of two years and Ivan-Tiwu Copley to the role of Deputy Chair for a period of two years.
5. Selecting Dual Chairpersons enables equal participation by both Council Members and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander members of the Reconciliation Committee and promotes a shared responsibility for advancing reconciliation in the city.
6. In accordance with the Reconciliation Committee's Terms of Reference and Meeting Procedures ([link 1](#)), this report requests that the Committee appoint a Dual Chair and a Deputy Chair from the from the eligible Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community Representative Membership pool which is currently comprised of:
  - 6.1. Yvonne Agius
  - 6.2. Ivan-Tiwu Copley
  - 6.3. Deanne Hanchant-Nichols
7. Proxy members are ineligible for nomination to the Dual Chair or Deputy Chair positions.
8. The nomination and appointment process are subject to provisions under the Reconciliation Committee's Terms of Reference and Meeting Procedures and are summarised below:
  - 8.1. Nominations will be sought
  - 8.2. Nominees will indicate whether they accept or decline the nomination
  - 8.3. Should only one nomination be made and accepted, a vote will be taken and if successful by majority vote, the person is appointed to the position
  - 8.4. Should multiple nominations be made and accepted, a secret ballot will take place
  - 8.5. Administration will collect the ballots and conduct a count
  - 8.6. The Lord Mayor will then declare the successful nominee
  - 8.7. A vote will then be taken, and if successful by majority vote, the person is appointed to the position.
9. Nominees should declare a material conflict of interest and vacate the room whilst the vote is taken as the position is remunerated.
10. The successful appointments will commence their positions from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2025.

---

## DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**Link 1** – Reconciliation Committee Terms of Reference and Meeting Procedures

---

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## Stretch RAP 2024-2027 Progress Update

Wednesday, 5 March 2025  
Reconciliation Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Public

**Program Contact:**

Sarah Gilmour, Associate  
Director Park Lands, Policy &  
Sustainability

**Approving Officer:**

Ilia Houridis, Director City  
Shaping

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on the implementation of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027 (Stretch RAP).

The Stretch RAP was endorsed by the Reconciliation Committee at its meeting on 4 December 2024 ([Link 1](#)) and was subsequently endorsed by the Council at its meeting on 10 December 2024.

The City of Adelaide's 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes \$150,000 for year-one implementation of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027.

**Attachment A** provides an overview of the actions delivered between 1 July 2024 and 31 December 2024.

Key achievements under the Stretch RAP 2024-2027 include:

- A review of the Procurement Policy and Guidelines is in progress to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment.
- Adoption of the revised Terms of Reference which included meeting procedures for the Reconciliation Committee and provisions to enable a live stream of the meetings.
- A joint meeting was held with the Reconciliation Committees of Renewal SA and the City of Adelaide on the Tapangka development.
- Recruitment of an Aboriginal Ranger Program Coordinator is in progress. The Aboriginal Ranger Program will identify opportunities to return cultural land management practices to the management of the Adelaide Park Lands and waterways.
- Two Aboriginal and Cultural Respect employee workshop sessions were held for 47 employees and 14 people participated in a lunchtime cultural walk.
- An internal Aboriginal Employment Coordinator was appointed and is working on the development of strategies and implementation plans to increase, retain and develop our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees.
- A Reconciliation Action Plan Development Working Group was established for the development of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027.
- The Reconciliation Action Plan 2021–2024 Outcomes Report was presented to the Reconciliation Committee in September 2024. Key achievements between 2021–2024 included: Kaurna Voices – cultural mapping project; NAIDOC Week annual celebrations; handing back of Kaurna Artefacts Ceremony at Pirltawardli; Place of Reflection Memorial to the Stolen Generations; the late Aunty Shirley Peisley AM portrait; Adelaide Park Lands cultural burn; the Knowledge Project, an insight into Kaurna history, spirituality and language; and Kids on Country.

The Stretch RAP has received conditional endorsement from Reconciliation Australia and is in the final stages of external endorsement processes for the designed version of the document.

# RECOMMENDATION

## THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

1. Receives the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 progress implementation update for the period 1 July 2024 and 31 December 2024, as contained in Attachment A to Item 5.5 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Reconciliation Committee held on 5 March 2025.
-

## IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	<b>Strategic Alignment – Our Community</b> Establish and deliver a new Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan by 2024
Policy	This report provides a six-month implementation progress update on the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan by 2024 – 2027.
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
24/25 Budget Allocation	The City of Adelaide's 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes \$150,000 for implementation of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027.
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	A budget proposal will be submitted for implementation of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 as a part of the 2025/2026 Annual Business Planning and Budget Process.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 is a strategic document outlining key goals, actions, and milestones over three-years.
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

# DISCUSSION

## Background

1. The Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027 (Stretch RAP) was endorsed by the Reconciliation Committee at its meeting on 4 December 2024 ([Link 1](#)), and was subsequently endorsed by the Council at its meeting on 10 December 2024.
2. The Stretch RAP actions are aligned to the four themes required by Reconciliation Australia to achieve a Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan.
  - 2.1. Theme 1: Relationships
    - 2.1.1. Building meaningful relationships supports the Council to meet the aspirations of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
  - 2.2. Theme 2: Respect
    - 2.2.1. Respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities creates healthy relationships, embraces diversity and promotes harmony.
  - 2.3. Theme 3: Opportunities
    - 2.3.1. Providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to assist Council in its goal of being a socially inclusive city.
  - 2.4. Theme 4: Governance
    - 2.4.1. Tracking progress and reporting.
3. The Stretch RAP is a three-year plan designed to guide reconciliation efforts from 2024 to 2027.
4. The City of Adelaide's 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes \$150,000 for year-one (2024/25) implementation of the Stretch RAP.

## Progress implementation update

5. The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on the implementation of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027 (RAP).
6. Administration will provide six-monthly implementation progress updates to document key actions, successes, and any challenges encountered, allowing for adjustments and strategic improvements in delivering the Stretch RAP.
7. **Attachment A** provides an overview of the actions delivered between 1 July 2024 and 31 December 2024.
8. Key achievements under the Stretch RAP include:
  - 8.1. A review of the Procurement Policy and Guidelines is in progress to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment with finalisation due in early 2025.
  - 8.2. Adoption of the revised Terms of Reference which included meeting procedures for the Reconciliation Committee and procedures to enable live stream of the meetings.
  - 8.3. A joint meeting was held with the Reconciliation Committees of Renewal SA and the City of Adelaide on the Tapangka development.
  - 8.4. Recruitment of an Aboriginal Ranger Program Coordinator is in progress. The Aboriginal Ranger Program will identify opportunities to return cultural land management practices to the management of the Adelaide Park Lands and waterways.
  - 8.5. Two Aboriginal and Cultural Respect employee workshop sessions were held for 47 employees and 14 people participated in a lunchtime cultural walk.
  - 8.6. An internal Aboriginal Employment Coordinator was appointed and is working on the development of strategies and implementation plans to increase, retain and develop our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees.
  - 8.7. A Reconciliation Action Plan Development Working Group was established for the development of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027.
9. The Reconciliation Action Plan 2021–2024 Outcomes Report was presented to the Reconciliation Committee in September 2024. Key achievements between 2021–2024 included:
  - 9.1. Kurna Voices – cultural mapping project

- 9.2. NAIDOC Week annual celebrations
  - 9.3. Handing back of Kaurna Artefacts Ceremony at Pirltawardli
  - 9.4. Place of Reflection Memorial to the Stolen Generations
  - 9.5. The late Aunty Shirley Peisley AM portrait
  - 9.6. Adelaide Park Lands cultural burn
  - 9.7. The Knowledge Project an insight into Kaurna history, spirituality and language
  - 9.8. Kids on Country.
10. A summary of progress against the Stretch RAP has been included in the City of Adelaide Annual Business Plan and Budget report for Quarter 2 of 2024/25.

#### **Next Steps**

11. The progress implementation update on the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 will be made available on the City of Adelaide website [Reconciliation initiatives | City of Adelaide \(Link 2\)](#).
12. The Stretch RAP has received conditional endorsement from Reconciliation Australia and is in the final stages of external endorsement processes for the designed version of the document.
13. Pending the final external endorsement of the Stretch RAP, the document will be launched publicly in the current financial year.

---

## DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**Link 1** – [Reconciliation Committee Agenda – Wednesday, 4 December 2024](#)

**Link 2** – City of Adelaide Website – RAP reporting - [Reconciliation initiatives | City of Adelaide](#)

---

## ATTACHMENTS

**Attachment A** – Progress update on implementation of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027

---

- END OF REPORT -

# Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027

## Year 1 (2024/25) Implementation – Progress update 31 December 2024

The City of Adelaide is committed to deepening our ties with First Nations people, prioritising reconciliation through innovation, collaboration and visibility. We will honour Kaurna people as the Traditional Custodians and work together to embed reconciliation into our work and empower cultural protocols.

This summary sets out achievements for Year 1 of the 3-year Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan and aligns with the City of Adelaide Annual Business Plan and Budget 2024/25.

### Themes

**Relationships, Respect, Opportunities, Governance**

**Icon Key:** ✓ Complete | ● In progress (on track) | ● In progress (behind schedule) | ◆ Not due to commence

2024/25 Commitments		Progress Update
Design an Aboriginal Rangers Program for the Adelaide Park Lands to support traditional land management practices	●	Recruitment for an Aboriginal Rangers Program Coordinator will be undertaken in Quarter 3.
Establish a Protocol for Aboriginal Engagement	●	Work has commenced on a framework for Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as part of the City of Adelaide's pursuit of a World Heritage Tentative Listing.
Review the Procurement Policy and Guidelines to support circular economy, climate resilience, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment and local sourcing by 2024	●	A review of the Procurement Policy and Guidelines is in progress with finalisation due in early 2025.
Deliver Iparrityi Art Commission for Whitmore Square	◆	Delivery of the Iparrityi Art Commission is on hold pending a review of city wide Aboriginal artwork opportunities.
Reconciliation Committee convenes quarterly to offer guidance and make recommendations to Council	●	Adoption of the revised Terms of Reference which included meeting procedures for the Reconciliation Committee and procedures to enable live stream of the meetings.
Build relationships through celebrating National Reconciliation Week (NRW)	◆	NRW will be held from 27 May to 3 June 2025.
City of Adelaide is dedicated to creating engagement protocols that enable the representation and partnership of the Kaurna people	●	A joint meeting was held with the Reconciliation Committees of Renewal SA and the City of Adelaide on the Tapangka development. Engagement protocols will be developed in Quarter 3
Creating an anti-racism approach to become leaders in the space	◆	Due to commence in Quarter 3.

### Acknowledgement of Country

City of Adelaide acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

## Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027

2024/25 Commitments		Progress Update
Collaboration on management of the Adelaide Park Lands waterways and land practices	●	The Aboriginal Ranger Program will identify opportunities to return cultural land management practices to the management of the Adelaide Park Lands and waterways.
Build relationships with the SA Voice to Parliament to ensure open communication	●	Preliminary discussions have commenced with the First Nations Voice Secretariat on building a strong connection between the City of Adelaide's Reconciliation Committee and the Voice to Parliament.
Increase understanding, value and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through Cultural Learning	●	Two Aboriginal and Cultural Respect employee workshop sessions were held for 47 employees and 14 people participated in a lunchtime cultural walk.
Demonstrate respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by observing cultural protocols	◆	A review of the Welcome to Country and Acknowledgment of Country protocols and guidelines will commence in Quarter 3.
Celebrate NAIDOC week and provide opportunities for participation and education	●	Adelaide hosted the 50th anniversary of NAIDOC week. The Lord Mayor hosted the Royal Australian Mint's release of a commemorative 50-cent coin to celebrate the 50th anniversary. Celebrations included a combined Lord Mayor and SA NAIDOC Awards event held on 8 July 2024, and NAIDOC in the Mall on 9 July 2024. Uncle Frank Wangutya Wanganeen received the Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award.
Increase, retain and develop our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees	●	An internal Aboriginal Employment Coordinator was appointed and is working on the development of strategies and implementation plans to increase, retain and develop our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees.
Improve economic participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business	◆	Due to commence in Quarter 3.
Embed cultural burn practices	◆	Due to commence in Quarter 3.
Establish and maintain an effective RAP implementation group to drive activity for the plan	✓	A Reconciliation Action Plan Development Working Group was established for the development of the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027.
Provide appropriate support for effective implementation of RAP commitments	✓	The 2024/25 RAP commitments are funded. This includes the appointment of a Project Coordinator in the Social Planning and Reconciliation team to support the delivery of RAP commitments.

### Acknowledgement of Country

City of Adelaide acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

## Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2027

2024/25 Commitments	Progress Update
Enhance accountability and transparency by reporting on RAP accomplishments, challenges, and insights, both internally and externally	<p>● Reconciliation Action Plan 2021–2024 Outcomes Report was presented to the Reconciliation Committee in September 2024. Key achievements between 2021–2024 included: Kurna Voices – cultural mapping project; NAIDOC Week annual celebrations; handing back of Kurna Artefacts Ceremony at Pirltawardli; Place of Reflection Memorial to the Stolen Generations; the late Aunty Shirley Peisley AM portrait; Adelaide Park Lands cultural burn; the Knowledge Project, an insight into Kurna history, spirituality and language; and Kids on Country.</p>
Recognise the contributions and promote continuous support for the ongoing development of the Reconciliation Committee	<p>● A review of Reconciliation Committee's Terms of Reference was endorsed by the Reconciliation Committee and adopted by Council in September 2024. The review aligned the Reconciliation Committee's terms with other Committees of the Council .</p>

### Acknowledgement of Country

City of Adelaide acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today. And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

2024 Reconciliation Achievements Video Report

Wednesday, 5 March 2025  
Reconciliation Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Public

**Presenter:**  
Sarah Gilmour Associate Director  
Park Lands, Policy &  
Sustainability  
**Approving Officer:**  
Ilia Houridis, Director City  
Shaping

PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

The 2024 Reconciliation Achievements Video Report (2024 Video Report) (**Attachment A**) encapsulates the significant milestones and achievements from the 2021-2024 Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). These include:

**NAIDOC Week:**

The City of Adelaide proudly joined the nation in celebrating NAIDOC Week as time to honour the rich history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. The video features the 2024 celebrations in which the Lord Mayor hosted the annual NAIDOC Awards event, recognising contributions to the community and hosted NAIDOC in Runde Mall, featuring traditional performances, specially commissioned artwork, and a range of engaging activities. These events bring the community together to celebrate the diverse and vibrant heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. The City of Adelaide’s NAIDOC commitment in 2024 included supporting the Royal Australian Mint to launch a 50 Years of NAIDOC commemorative coin.

**Kaurna Artefact Ceremony:**

In a significant moment of cultural exchange, the City of Adelaide supported the Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation’s request to host a handover and smoking ceremony at Possum Park / Pirltawardli (Park 1), the original resting place of Kaurna artefacts. The ceremony was attended by Aboriginal Elders, Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator the Hon. Penny Wong, and Germany’s Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock. The event symbolised the return of important cultural items to their rightful custodians and reinforced the ongoing commitment to Kaurna heritage and cultural preservation.

**Kaurna Voices:**

In partnership with the Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation, the City of Adelaide developed the *Kaurna Voices* project, an initiative that maps the city’s culturally significant Kaurna sites. The project showcases sites through historical text, archival images, oral histories, and video interviews with Kaurna Elders and community leaders. Launched during National Reconciliation Week 2024, the *Kaurna Voices* website is a digital platform to educate and inspire the broader community, preserving and amplifying Kaurna knowledge and heritage.

The 2024 Video Report reflects the City of Adelaide’s ongoing commitment to fostering understanding, respect, and collaboration between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Peoples. The video format aims to enhance accessibility, foster emotional connections, and reach a wider audience within the community.

The video will be publicly hosted on the City of Adelaide website.

- END OF REPORT -

# 2024 Reconciliation Achievements Video Report

Page 77

*End of year video update on Reconciliation progress  
throughout 2024*





## [2024 Reconciliation Wrap Up | City of Adelaide](#)

## Exclusion of the Public

Wednesday, 5 March 2025

Reconciliation Committee

**Program Contact:**

Kathryn Goldy, Acting Manager  
Governance

**Approving Officer:**

Michael Sedgman, Chief  
Executive Officer

Public

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), states that a Council Committee may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting if the Council Committee considers it to be necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to receive, discuss or consider in confidence any information or matter listed in section 90(3) of the Act.

It is the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer that the public be excluded from this Reconciliation Committee meeting for the consideration of information and matters contained in the Agenda.

For the following report seeking consideration in confidence

- 9.1** Statues Commemorating South Australian Aboriginal Leaders Proposal [section 90(3) (j) of the Act]

The Order to Exclude for Item 9.1:

1. Identifies the information and matters (grounds) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
2. Identifies the basis – how the information falls within the grounds identified and why it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public.
3. In addition, identifies for the following grounds – section 90(3) (b), (d) or (j) of the Act - how information open to the public would be contrary to the public interest.

---

## ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 9.1

### THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (j) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the Reconciliation Committee dated 5 March 2025 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 9.1 [Statues Commemorating South Australian Aboriginal Leaders Proposal] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

#### Grounds and Basis

This item contains cultural and community information of a confidential nature which the State Government has requested be considered in confidence on the grounds that the details of the project, including locations, subjects, and design aspects, are still being resolved. The release of this information prematurely may be misleading. The disclosure of draft project details could reasonably be expected to prejudice the cultural sensitivity of the initiative and impact the State Government's ongoing consultation and negotiations with Aboriginal stakeholders and other external parties.

### Public Interest

The City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the disclosure of information may result in release of information prior to the finalisation of the matter by the State Government and the City of Adelaide. The disclosure of this information may materially and adversely affect the viability of the matter and prejudice the ability of the parties to discuss/participate or influence a proposal for the benefit of the State Government, the City of Adelaide and the community in this matter which on balance would be contrary to the public interest.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the Reconciliation Committee dated 5 March 2025 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 9.1 [Statues Commemorating South Australian Aboriginal Leaders Proposal] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (j) of the Act.
-

## DISCUSSION

1. Section 90(1) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act) directs that a meeting of Council Committee must be conducted in a place open to the public.
2. Section 90(2) of the Act, states that a Council Committee may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting if the Council Committee considers it to be necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to receive, discuss or consider in confidence any information or matter listed in section 90(3) of the Act.
3. Section 90(3) of the Act prescribes the information and matters that a Council may order that the public be excluded from.
4. Section 90(4) of the Act, advises that in considering whether an order should be made to exclude the public under section 90(2) of the Act, it is irrelevant that discussion of a matter in public may -
  - (a) *cause embarrassment to the council or council committee concerned, or to members or employees of the council; or*
  - (b) *cause a loss of confidence in the council or council committee; or*
  - (c) *involve discussion of a matter that is controversial within the council area; or*
  - (d) *make the council susceptible to adverse criticism.*
5. Section 90(7) of the Act requires that an order to exclude the public:
  - 5.1 Identify the information and matters (grounds) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
  - 5.2 Identify the basis – how the information falls within the grounds identified and why it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public.
  - 5.3 In addition identify for the following grounds – section 90(3) (b), (d) or (j) of the Act - how information open to the public would be contrary to the public interest.
6. Section 87(10) of the Act has been utilised to identify in the Agenda and on the Report for the Reconciliation Committee meeting, that the following report is submitted seeking consideration in confidence.
  - 6.1 Information contained in Item 9.1 – Statues Commemorating South Australian Aboriginal Leaders Proposal
    - 6.1.1 Is not subject to an existing Order.
    - 6.1.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (j) of the Act
      - (j) information the disclosure of which—
        - (i) would divulge information provided on a confidential basis by or to a Minister of the Crown, or another public authority or official (not being an employee of the council, or a person engaged by the council); and
        - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest

---

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

---

- END OF REPORT -

Document is Restricted

Document is Restricted