

EXAMPLES: ROLE DESCRIPTION OF FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY GROUPS TO RURAL, REGIONAL AND OLG GROUP 4 COUNCILS

MID COAST COUNCIL

Aboriginal Reference Group

The purpose of the Aboriginal Reference Group is focused on improving outcomes for Aboriginal people in the MidCoast Council Local Government Area. The Aboriginal Reference Group is a mechanism for addressing the six key focus areas that have been identified as priorities in consultation with Aboriginal people and community service providers.

The group focuses on providing advice and feedback on Council's strategic plans and initiatives for recognising and respecting Aboriginal culture and history and reducing the disadvantage experienced by the MidCoast Aboriginal community.

The group has a key role in helping Council understanding community needs and advise on prioritising the implementation of The Aboriginal Action Plan and advocating on behalf of the community to Council.

It reflects Council's commitment to standing with the Aboriginal community to advocate for increased support, improved services, and collective action to address the needs that have been identified which fall outside Council's scope of delivery.

The membership of the Reference Group will include:

- up to two Councillors
- up to four Local Aboriginal Land Councils representatives – one from each
- up to four Aboriginal Working Parties representatives – one from each
- up to eight Aboriginal community member representatives who may be: Elders or Traditional Owners, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people from the MidCoast, Aboriginal young people aged 18+, The 355c Aboriginal Strategic Committee consists of representatives from both the Aboriginal community and Council. Representatives from both the Karuah Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council are represented on the Committee.

Aboriginal Reference Group - MidCoast Council

PORT STEPHENS COUNCIL

Aboriginal Strategic Committee

The role of the committee is to:-

- provide advice in relation to issues of concern between Council and the Aboriginal community
- promote a positive public image with respect to issues for Aboriginal people in Port Stephens
- provide a consultative mechanism with respect to development issues
- improve relations between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community of Port Stephens
- exchange information between the Aboriginal community and Council on issues affecting Aboriginal people
- promote mutual awareness and respect for the cultures of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities
- promote an increased awareness of the needs of Aboriginal communities and to assist with the development of programs to address those needs where possible and appropriate
- provides advice on applications to the *Aboriginal Projects Fund* grant program to fund local projects that empower Aboriginal people. Most recently, the program has supported cultural awareness activities in schools and improved educational outcomes for the Aboriginal students
- Council hosts an annual dinner for 355c committee members, their guests, Councillors and Council staff. The evening features great entertainment as well as a special guest speaker, discussing their experiences and achievements
- Originated from [Yabang Gumba-Gu](#) (road to tomorrow 2020-2023), A living moving roadmap of ongoing actions to achieve a shared vision for the future of Port Stephens

[Committees and advisory panels | Port Stephens Council](#)

SHOALHAVEN COUNCIL

Aboriginal advisory Committee

The role of the Committee is to:

- Advise Shoalhaven City Council on necessary matters relating to Aboriginal communities in the LGA
- Promote and increase knowledge & understanding of Aboriginal society, history & culture throughout Shoalhaven City Council and in the Community.
- Advocate and support Councils plan to promote access and accessibility to services and facilities for Aboriginal people
- Provide advice towards and monitor the implementation of relevant Council plans and strategies with respect to the needs, issues and interests of Aboriginal people and communities
- Support and encourage cultural competency across Shoalhaven City Council
- To support and work with Aboriginal and other organisations committed to increasing Reconciliation and respect for Aboriginal culture and history, past and present
- Foster and safeguard a spirit of mutual trust and respect which allows the AAC and Shoalhaven City Council to work together in their commitment towards well-informed decision-making processes that are respectful to matters that affect Aboriginal people
- Recognise, support & preserve past and present local cultural heritage and its place in future Council planning and strategies
- Offers a platform for the communication of information from Aboriginal community voices that identify local needs for services, facilities and activities
- To work with Council to develop and promote appropriate commemorations and celebrations of First Nations culture including Sorry Day and NAIDOC Week
- Provide relevant information to other Committees of Council when needed or requested

[Aboriginal Advisory Committee | Shoalhaven City Council](#)

EUROBODALLA

Aboriginal Advisory Committee

The Eurobodalla Aboriginal Advisory Committee (EAAC) aims to promote the importance of Aboriginal culture within Eurobodalla. It advises and makes recommendations to Council on matters that are of importance to the local Aboriginal community.

Objectives

- To inform development, implementation and review of Council's corporate plans.
- To assist Council with joint projects and information sharing.
- To advise and liaise with Council regarding issues impacting on local Aboriginal communities.

Members

- Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) nominees, one from each group (6), plus 1 alternate designated representative from each LALC.
- 1 Gulaga Joint Board Management Chairperson or nominee.
- 1 Eurobodalla Indigenous Interagency chairperson or nominee
- Up to 7 community members will be selected by Council that will ensure all sectors and geographic regions of the Aboriginal community are represented.
- Aboriginal youth representative/s drawn from Eurobodalla Shire Council's Youth Committee and/or other sources.
- One Councillor representative, plus one designated alternate (selected by Council).
- Director – Community, Arts and Recreation Services or nominee/s (non-voting).

Members include local Elders, youth, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, Eurobodalla's Koori Employment Network, the Gulaga Board of Management and individuals belonging to Eurobodalla's Aboriginal community, as well as two Councillors

[Aboriginal Advisory Committee | Eurobodalla Council](#)