

Foreword from the Chair

The Guraki Aboriginal Advisory Committee is pleased to work with the City of Newcastle to improve service delivery to the local Aboriginal community and to provide insight to the aspirations of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Membership

1. Luke Russell, Wylaabuuranliyn (Chairperson)
2. Councillor Peta Winney-Baartz
3. Councillor Charlotte McCabe
4. Councillor Deahnna Richardson
5. Aboriginal Affairs, Lee Lazarevic
6. Awabakal Corporation, Jason Smith
7. Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council, Kumarah Kelly
8. University of Newcastle, Nathan Towney/ Loren Collyer
9. Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council, Andrew Smith
10. Theresa Dargin, Community member
11. Maree Edwards, Community member
12. Toni Manton, Community member

From October 2024 - Council Representatives post election:

1. Councillor Mark Brooker
2. Councillor Charlotte McCabe
3. Councillor Deahnna Richardson

Objective of the committee

To provide strategic advice and guidance with relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues, gives life to Council's commitment to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of the City of Newcastle and engages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Local Government.

Summary of key items of business considered

This year the Committee's business focus was around land management and use, building design, artistic opportunities and economic opportunities for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

Summary of key achievements

This year the Committees key achievements included:

- Development of sub-committees for major projects. These included but are not limited to, Broadmeadow Place Making Strategy, Honeysuckle and the Wickham precinct.
- The Committee had input into several significant Strategies, Plans of Management and internal policies.
- The Committee has been able to guide Council around issues concerning Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.
- The Committee has pursued delivery of the Notice of Motions brought by the Council elect.

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Summary of performance and governance

Date of Meeting	Quorum achieved	Members in attendance	Agenda circulated to members and published on CN's website	Declaration of conflicts of interest listed as agenda item	Minutes circulated to members, adopted by the committee and published on CN's website
28 February 2024	Quorate	1.Councillor Peta Winney-Baartz 2.Councillor Charlotte McCabe 3.Councillor Deahnna Richardson 4.Luke Russell, Chair, 5.Andrew Smith, Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council 6.Lee Lazarevic, Aboriginal Affairs 7. Theresa Dargin Dates, Community member 8.Maree Edwards, Community member	Yes	Yes	Yes
29 April 2024	Quorate	1.Councillor Peta Winney-Baartz 2.Councillor Charlotte McCabe 3.Councillor Deahnna Richardson 4. Kumarah Kelly, Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council 5.Andrew Smith, Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council 6.Nathan Towney, UON 7. Toni Manton, Community member 8. Theresa Dargin Dates, Community member	Yes	Yes	Yes
26 June 2024	Quorate	1.Councillor Peta Winney-Baartz 2.Councillor Deahnna Richardson 3.Luke Russell, Chair 4.Lee Lazarevic, Aboriginal Affairs 5.Nathan Towney, UON 6.Kumarah Kelly, Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council 7.Toni Manton, Community member 8. Theresa Dargin, Community member	Yes	Yes	Yes
26 August 2024	Quorate	1.Councillor Peta Winney-Baartz 2.Councillor Deahnna Richardson 3.Kumarah Kelly, Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council 4. Lee Lazarevic, Aboriginal Affairs 5.Nathan Towney, UON 6.Theressa Dargin Dates, Community Member	Yes	Yes	Yes

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30 October 2024	Inquorate	1.Councillor Mark Brooker 2.Councillor Charlotte McCabe 3. Councillor Deahanna Richardson 4.Andrew Smith, Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council 5. Lee Lazarevic, Aboriginal Affairs	Yes	Yes	Yes
25 November 2024	Quorate	1.Councillor Mark Brooker 2.Councillor Charlotte McCabe 3. Councillor Deahanna Richardson 4.Lee Lazarevic, Aboriginal Affairs 5. Loren Colyer, UON 6. Theresa Dates, Community member	Yes	Yes	Yes