

# Adelaide Hills Council

## Aboriginal Place Naming Action Plan 2022 to 2025

### 1. Introduction

The use of Aboriginal place names and language in public places offer an opportunity to show respect and recognition of the rich First Nations culture of the Adelaide Hills and add value to the visitor experience of the area.

Adelaide Hills Council recognises that language is the cultural property of Traditional Custodians and should be used with respect and following due advice, consultation and authentication.

Council is committed to working in collaboration with Traditional Custodians and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in the use of language in place making.

### 2. Objectives

- To demonstrate Councils commitment to Reconciliation and valuing the Aboriginal culture of the Adelaide Hills.
- To recognise and respect the rich First Nations history and heritage of the area being both Peramangk and Kurna and respecting that this is a contemporary living culture and that language is a fundamental part of cultural identity.
- To respond to community expectation and interest in recognising places of Aboriginal significance.

### 3. Scope

This Action Plan considers Aboriginal place naming and use of Aboriginal language in representing Aboriginal culture in public places that are under the ownership, care and / or control of Adelaide Hills Council.

### 4. Public Place and Road Naming Policy

Dual place naming and Aboriginal place naming is supported through Council's *Public Place and Road Naming Policy* as follows:

A Council has the power under Section 219 of the *Local Government Act 1999* to assign a name to, or change the name of:

- A public road
- A private road
- A public place (parks, reserves, ovals)

The *Geographical Names Act 1991* governs the naming of places in South Australia and provides the guidelines for the selection of names and boundaries of places assigned or recorded under the *Geographical Names Act 1991*.

The *Geographical Names Guidelines* (<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/planning-and-property/land-and-property-development/suburb-road-and-place-names/geographical-names-guidelines>) have been considered in the development of the *Aboriginal Place Naming Action Plan*.

Council's *Public Place and Road Naming Policy* refers to Aboriginal naming specifically as follows:

#### Name Sources

Sources for public place and road names may include:

- *Aboriginal names taken from the local Aboriginal language*

#### Dual Naming

*Dual geographical names may be assigned to a public place where there is a geographical and topographical feature that has both a traditional Aboriginal name and a European or non-Aboriginal name.*

*When assigning or recording a name to a previously unrecorded natural feature that has an unrecorded European name in local usage, every effort will be made to determine if an Aboriginal name exists for that feature and a dual name will be assigned or recorded. If there is no recorded or unrecorded European name in local usage then it is preferred that only a traditional Aboriginal name is assigned to that particular public place.*

#### 4.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ON NAMING PROPOSAL

*For a proposal to assign an Aboriginal name to a public place, reserve or road, appropriate Aboriginal stakeholders will be consulted and advice shall be sought from Traditional Custodians and/or cultural advisory groups regarding the appropriate use and spelling of language.*

Whilst some existing names of Adelaide Hills places appear to be Aboriginal this is not well documented. It is important, in the context of this Action Plan and future place naming to document existing and future Aboriginal place names. There is also the opportunity to map Aboriginal place names showing a visual representation of the locations. This information should be readily available via the Council website to enhance the visitor experience.

#### **Action 1**

Document existing and future Aboriginal place names including a map of locations.

### **5. Native Title**

Native title recognises a set of rights and interests over land or waters where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups have practiced and continue to practice, traditional laws and customs prior to sovereignty (British occupation).

In November 2017 Kurna Native Title was confirmed over a determination area that includes a significant amount of Adelaide Hills Council (Appendix 1 Kurna Native Title Determination Area). Much of this area has been considered Peramangk country by some in the local community and there are sensitivities relating to this

determination. It is fair to say that both Kurna and Peramangk nations have an enduring relationship with our area.

## 6. Access and Authentication

Paying due recognition and respect to both Peramangk and Kurna nations is a significant consideration when using language for place naming.

Identifying potential places for Aboriginal names involves consideration regarding the appropriate use of language, Peramangk or Kurna, and a means of identifying and authenticating these names.

Language is the cultural property of the Traditional Custodians and should be used with respect and following due consultation. Every effort must be made to get the pronunciation, spelling and grammar correct.

In relation to Kurna language there is a clear pathway to consult and seek assistance in identifying and seeking direction and permission in the use of language through **Kurna Warra Pintyanthi (KWP)**

*Kurna Warra Pintyanthi - "Established in 2002 by Kurna Elders, Dr Kauwanu Lewis Yerloburka O'Brien and Dr Alitya Wallara Rigney together with Linguist, Assoc Prof Rob Amery, it is a body of Kurna people, teachers, linguists and language enthusiasts who are passionate about the reclamation and revival of the Kurna language. The KWP committee grew out of a series of Kurna language development workshops funded by a University of Adelaide small grant in 2000. KWP is hosted by Linguistics, School of Humanities, at the University of Adelaide."*

Advice may also be sought regarding Kurna language from other appropriate organisation or authorities.

With respect to Peramangk language there is not a formal organisation of the likes of KWP. Selection and use of Peramangk names and language should involve consultation and endorsement by Peramangk stakeholders.

Prior to using any place names or language it would be wise to consult as widely as possible across both Peramangk and Kurna stakeholders to gauge the level of community support for the use of a specific name

### **Action 2**

Seek relevant advice in identifying and authenticating place names and language through Kurna Warra Pintyanthi or a similar authority and Peramangk stakeholders.

## 7. Determining Place Names

Identifying the type of places that could be considered for Aboriginal naming and opportunities to share further cultural information via signage is addressed as follows:

### **7.1. Townships**

Across the area there are some township names that currently reflect or are derived from Aboriginal names that have been well documented such as Cudlee Creek – Kadli Parri, Piccadilly – Pikodla, Uraidla – Urebilla (Yurrebilla),

Gumeracha – Ngarmaracha. There is an opportunity to revisit signage to include the Aboriginal language names and the provision of culturally appropriate information regarding these names without looking to formally change the existing township name.

Aboriginal names and spelling would need to be authenticated and consultation with local communities and Aboriginal stakeholders would be part of this process.

**Action 3**

Identify existing township names that are derived from Aboriginal names and explore options for signage that shows dual names and provides culturally appropriate information.

**7.2. Parks and Reserves**

There is the opportunity to identify where a park / reserve could be subject to dual naming or potentially be subject to a name change to an Aboriginal name.

In addition to naming there is also the potential to explore the addition of interpretive / information signage that add value to the visitor experience of the place. An example of this might be signage relating to plantings or landscape, or information on Aboriginal history or use.

**Action 4**

Identify parks or reserves that could be subject to Aboriginal place naming

**Action 5**

Explore opportunities to create interpretive signage that relates to indigenous planting and information on Aboriginal culture or history.

**7.3. Sites of Significance**

Throughout the area there are sites that hold significance to Traditional Custodians in either a historical or cultural context. Some of these sites may be appropriate to identify and name or to install interpretive signage pertaining to this relevance. There may also be cultural sensitivities that preclude the use of naming or signage. A further consideration is the vulnerability of the site to vandalism if identified. Identifying significant sites should be on the basis of advice from Traditional Custodians and/or suitably qualified experts.

The use of naming, language or signage in these instances must only occur on the authority of Traditional Custodians.

**Action 6**

Engage Traditional Custodians or suitably qualified experts to advise on naming, use of language or signage in relation to significant sites

**8. Cultural Representation in Placemaking**

There is the opportunity to incorporate the use of language as cultural representation in place making. This may take the form of public art, permanent or temporary, or messaging. This may also involve poetry or literary arts presented in public spaces as an element of placemaking.

**Action 7**

Explore opportunities to incorporate Aboriginal language in place making

**9. Branding**

Council has developed Reconciliation Branding. The use of consistent branding and visual cues in the presentation of Aboriginal names, language and sharing of cultural information assists visitors and members of the community to “tell at a glance” that signage / information relates to Aboriginal culture.

**Action 8**

Utilize Council’s Reconciliation Branding or other visual cues to assist visitors to readily “see at a glance” signage and information that relates to Aboriginal culture.

## 10. Summary of Actions

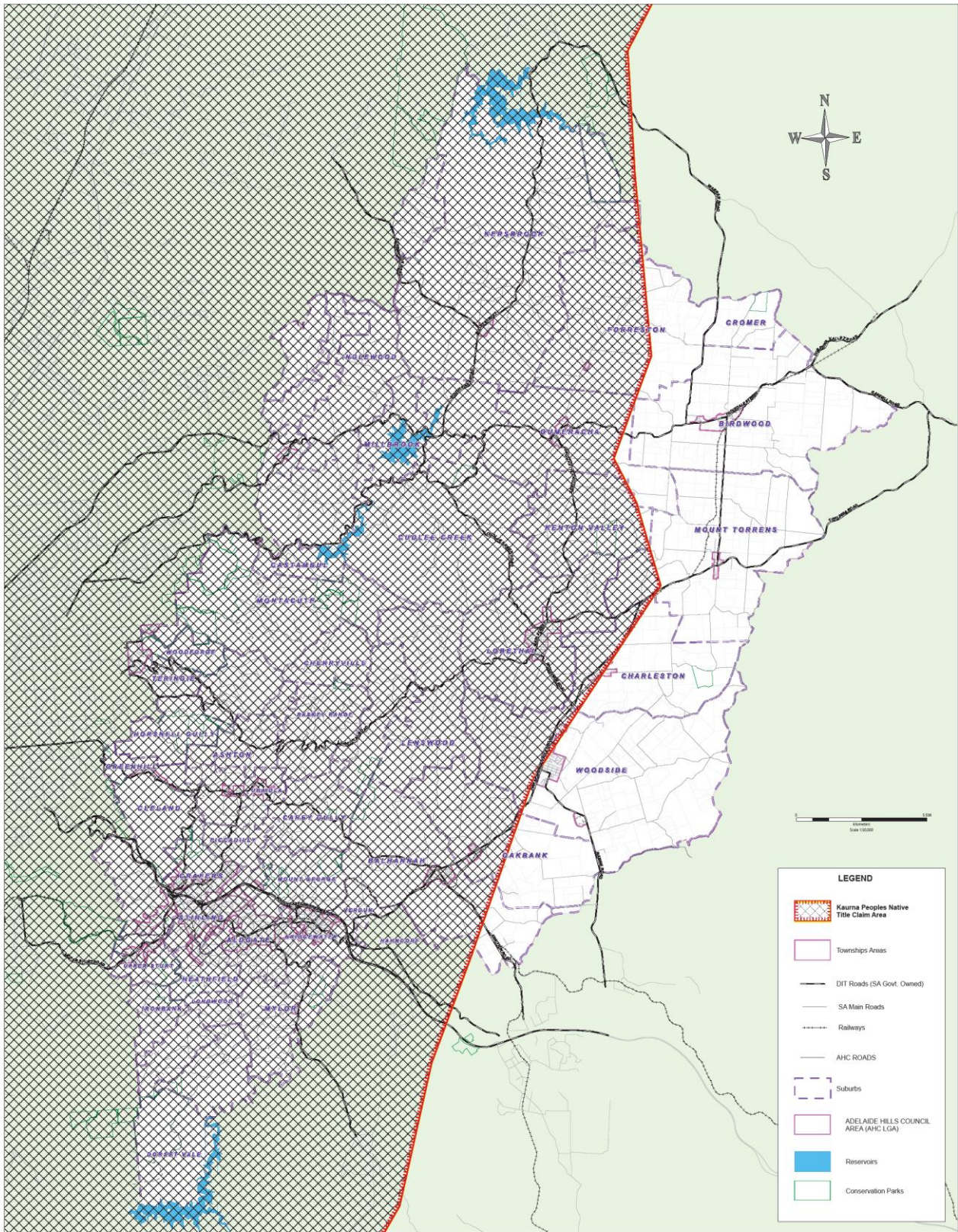
	Action	Time frame	Resources
1	Document existing and future Aboriginal place names, including a map of locations.	May 2022	Within existing budget and resources
2	Seek relevant advice in identifying and authenticating place names and language through Kurna Warra Pintyanthi or a similar authority and Peramangk stakeholders.	Case by case as required	Considered within existing budget and resources
3	Identify existing township names that are derived from Aboriginal names and explore options for signage that shows dual names and provides culturally appropriate information.	June 2023	Funding for 2022/2023 to be included in ABP and Budget \$8,000
4	Identify parks or reserves that could be subject to Aboriginal place naming	June 2025	Within existing budget and resources
5	Explore opportunities to create interpretive signage that relates to indigenous planting, information on Aboriginal culture or history.	June 2024 June 2025	2023/24 in next iteration of LTFP \$5,000 2024/25 in next iteration of LTFP \$5,000
6	Engage Traditional Custodians and/or suitably qualified experts to advise on naming, use of language or signage in relation to significant sites	December 2022 And ongoing as required	Considered within budget allocated for signage
7	Explore opportunities to incorporate Aboriginal language in place-making	Case by case as required	Considered within existing budget and resources
8	Utilize Council's Reconciliation Branding or other visual cues to assist visitors to readily "see at a glance" signage and information that relates to Aboriginal culture.	Case by case as required	Considered within existing budget and resources



# Appendix 1

## Kaurna Native Title Determination Area

### Kaurna Peoples Native Title Claim



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SCALE  
 1:50,000  
 (1cm on the Map  
 Represents 500m  
 on the Ground)

