



# Brighton Council

**POLICY NAME:** WELCOME TO COUNTRY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

**POLICY NO:** 7.6

## **PURPOSE OF POLICY:**

The purpose of this policy is to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which Brighton Council is situated and demonstrate respect for the original custodians.

## **SCOPE:**

This policy applies to all Councillors, staff, contractors and volunteers who are required to observe this policy when presenting on behalf of Council at meetings, functions and events.

## **POLICY:**

The Brighton municipality is within the traditional lands of the Mumirimina people.

A Welcome to and Acknowledgement of Country in a range of forms are applicable to Council related civic and business activities as outlined in this document. The type of recognition should be appropriate to the nature and size of the event.

## **ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### *Welcome to Country*

A Welcome to Country can only be performed by Elder(s) who are recognised as traditional owners, as this gives traditional owners the opportunity to formally welcome people to their land. Events where it is appropriate for a Welcome to Country be performed include, but not limited to:-

- Official Mayors events by invitation;
- Openings and significant new public buildings or facilities;
- NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week events hosted by Council;
- Conferences organised or hosted by Council where people from outside the municipality are in attendance.

### *Acknowledgement of Country*

An Acknowledgement of Country can be performed by anyone and is a respectful public acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land.

Events where an Acknowledgement should be considered include:

- Preceding Council or Committee meetings;
- Large meetings where external stakeholders are present;
- Official openings or launches of public events or places.

Below is an example of wording that can be used in an Acknowledgement of Country:

*“Brighton Council acknowledges the palawa/pakana (Tasmanian Aboriginal) community as the traditional and original owners of the skies, land and water of lutruwita (Tasmania) and forward our respect to their elders both past and present.*

*Brighton Council acknowledges the continued connection the Tasmanian Aboriginal people still have to the skies, land and water of lutruwita that provides them with the food, medicine and craft celebrated through ceremony today”.*

## **REFERENCES:**

S1.4 Strategic Plan 2023-33

## **ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:**

Policy compiled: February 2020

Adopted by Council: 18/02/2020; 21/01/ 2025

To be Reviewed: January 2029



## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

*Being the General Manager as appointed by Brighton Council pursuant to Section 61 of the Local Government Act 1993*