

**Calling for Expressions of Interest to join
Greater Dandenong City Council Reconciliation Action Plan Reference Group**

“At its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians.” - Reconciliation Australia

Greater Dandenong City Council is embarking on the development of its Third Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan, which will continue the journey towards Reconciliation.

To support and embed self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Council is seeking the engagement of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to be part of the Greater Dandenong City Council Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation Action Plan Reference Group.

The Reconciliation Action Plan Reference Group will uphold the rights to truth, justice, equality and self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Reference Group will:

- provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advice to Council on Council’s Reconciliation Action Plan
- Support ongoing engagement between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities and Council on how Reconciliation can be achieved
- Advise Greater Dandenong City Council on matters that affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Greater Dandenong.

In fulfilling its purpose, the Reference Group will exercise a collaborative approach, along with Council’s consultation and engagement with Traditional Custodians, Bunurong Land Council, and broader community, to support the development, implementation and delivery of Council’s Third Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan.

We would love to hear from you:

- If you are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander living, working and or studying within the City of Greater Dandenong, Bunurong Country
- If you are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander with links to the City of Greater Dandenong, Bunurong Country
- If you are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander who would like to support the development of Greater Dandenong City Council Third Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan.

We aim to have a cross sector of the Community join us, so we welcome interest from all Community.

Reconciliation Action Plan Reference Group members will be required to participate in three scheduled meetings during 2025. They are nominally scheduled for March, July and September. The sole focus of the Reference Group is the development and endorsement of Council’s Third Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan.

The reference group will consist of:

- Minimum of six community Elders/members who are:
 - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people working and or studying within the City of Greater Dandenong
 - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community with links to Bunurong Country
 - All Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander who would like to support the development of Greater Dandenong Third Reconciliation Action Plan
- Up to five members from relevant community groups and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations
- Coordinator Community Advocacy, Strategic Growth and Advocacy Department and Reconciliation Action Plan Advocate, Community Advocacy.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation Reference Group members will receive sittings fees for their commitment, participation and reimbursement of travel expenses.

If you would like to know more about the Reference Group, please contact Siobhan Meechan, Reconciliation Action Plan Advocate on 8571 5429 or 0479 188 356 or via email Siobhan.Meechan@cgd.vic.gov.au

Greater Dandenong City Council acknowledges and pays respects to the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters in and around Greater Dandenong. We value and recognise local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures, heritage, and connection to land as a proud part of a shared identity for Greater Dandenong.

Greater Dandenong City Council pays respect to Elders past and present and recognises their importance in maintaining knowledge, Traditions, and Culture in our Community. Greater Dandenong City Council also respectfully acknowledges the Bunurong Land Council as the Registered Aboriginal Party responsible for managing the Aboriginal Cultural heritage of the land and waters where Greater Dandenong is situated.