

Title	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT AND DRAFT REFLECT RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN
Agenda Number	19.017/21*
Strategic Plan Reference	2, 3 and 4
File Reference	05/226, 06/45
Author	Community Engagement Officer
Responsible Officer	Community Engagement Officer
Reporting Brief	The Director Community Services presenting a report from the Community Engagement Officer on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the draft Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
Attachments	A. Summary of Engagement – draft Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) B. Summary of Feedback received from Reconciliation Australia C. Draft Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

Background

1. At its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider community for the benefit of all Australians.
2. During the development of the Huon Valley Arts and Culture and Health and Wellbeing Strategies, community engagement highlighted a desire for closer collaboration with the Aboriginal community.
3. In February 2020 Reconciliation Tasmania presented to Councillors and the Executive Leadership Team about Council's role in reconciliation and the intention of Reconciliation Action Plans.
4. The development of a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) was approved in the 2020/21 Annual Plan and aimed to improve Council's understanding of local aboriginal culture.
5. The process was supported by Reconciliation Tasmania with the first stage focusing on building the organisations understanding of reconciliation, our community's attitudes and developing our relationships with the Aboriginal community.
6. At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 25 August 2021 Resolution 19.009/21* it was resolved that the draft Reflect RAP be released for community engagement at the Consult Level for a minimum period of three weeks and a maximum six weeks.

7. Following this period of community engagement, the draft Reflect RAP was presented to Reconciliation Australia for feedback and endorsement.
8. Reconciliation Australia provided their conditional endorsement on 29 of November 2021.
9. The purpose of this report is to present to Council the Summary of Community Engagement (Attachment A), the Summary of Feedback received from Reconciliation Australia (Attachment B) and the final Reflect RAP for endorsement (Attachment C) as endorsed by Reconciliation Australia.

Council Policy

10. The *Communication and Engagement Policy and Community Engagement Framework*.
11. The development of a Reflect RAP was approved in the 2020/21 Annual Plan and aimed to improve Council's understanding of local Aboriginal culture.

Legislative Requirements

12. There are no specific legislative requirements relevant to the Reflect RAP

Risk Implications

13. Community members and key stakeholders have volunteered considerable time to consider the project and provide feedback.

Engagement

14. Community members received notification via email and the Council eNewsletter. A total of 638 recipients received the eNewsletter over the engagement period.
15. Engagement was undertaken at Consult Level in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement Framework. The techniques included are outlined in the below table and detailed further in the Summary of Community Engagement Report included as Attachment A to this report.
16. Following the Community Engagement period, the draft Reflect RAP was sent to Reconciliation Australia for their feedback and endorsement with a summary of their feedback provided in Attachment B.
17. Engagement associated with this decision will be undertaken at Inform Level by inclusion within the Council meeting Minutes that will be available to the public on the Council's website and at the Customer Service Centre.

Human Resource and Financial Implications

18. The development of the Reflect RAP has been funded through the Council's Arts and Culture Strategic Operations budget.
19. Reflect RAP actions focus on building relationships and cultural understanding with no expectation of allocating specific budgets.
20. Actions described will be funded through pre-existing budgets including the Arts and Culture Strategic budget and Health and Wellbeing Strategic budget.
21. Implementation of the Reflect RAP actions will be undertaken by the responsible staff described in the Reflect RAP Commitment Table.
22. Monitoring and reporting on actions will be the responsibility of the Council's Arts and Culture Officer and the Internal RAP Working Group.

Discussion

23. As outlined in the Summary Report, community engagement at the Consult Level was conducted for a three-week period.
24. Community members were invited to share their thoughts on the draft strategy. The feedback form also provided community members with an opportunity to be kept 'up-to-date' on this project by including their email address.
25. No responses were received to the request for feedback from the community. This indicates that the community is satisfied with the draft Reflect RAP and that no changes to the document are necessary.

Conclusion

26. Feedback received from Reconciliation Australia is summarised in Attachment B, with amendments incorporated into the draft RAP.
27. It will be recommended that Council endorses the Huon Valley Reflect RAP for implementation.

19.017/21*
RESOLVED

CR CAMPBELL

CR GIBSON

That:

- a) The report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the draft Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan be received and noted.
- b) The Huon Valley Council Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan included as Attachment C to this report be endorsed for implementation.
- c) The Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan be made available to the public on the Council website.

Councillors Enders, Doyle, Newell, Gibson, Campbell, Prince, Lovell and O'May voted for the motion and no Councillors voted against the motion.