

# Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee

## 2025 Expressions of interest: information pack

### Your nomination checklist

Before you submit your nomination, please ensure you do the following:

1. **Read the advertisement and this information package carefully.** Research the committee to decide if the opportunity is right for you.
2. **Contact Pipeline Talent on 8001 6603** if you have any specific questions.
3. **Complete all compulsory questions in the online nomination form.** Include detailed information about:
  - your connections with cultural areas across New South Wales
  - your involvement in cultural heritage matters in your local community
  - your understanding of cultural heritage management issues.
4. Attach a copy of your resume.
5. Provide relevant evidence based on the eligibility criteria you are applying for. For example:
  - nominees of Aboriginal elders groups – attach a signed letter of support from the Aboriginal elders group on official letterhead
  - native title holders within the meaning of the **Native Title Act 1993** of the Commonwealth and registered native title claimants – provide relevant file numbers and names
  - Aboriginal owners listed on the register under the **Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983** – attach a copy of your letter from the Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ORALRA), confirming that you are a registered Aboriginal owner.

This is how your nomination will be assessed.

Nominations close **11:59 pm Tuesday 17 June 2025**

## Introduction

We recognise and celebrate the oldest living culture in the world. Through our own collaborative work with Indigenous communities, we strive for a more equitable, respectful, and fully reconciled country. We are all in this together and we all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation.

*Statement from the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee, Heritage Council of NSW and Heritage NSW*

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee aims to raise awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal cultural heritage and its benefits for Aboriginal custodians and the broader community. The committee ensures Aboriginal cultural heritage is protected and respected, and promotes its value to the NSW Government and community.

The committee advises the Minister for Heritage and the NSW Government on the legislation governing Aboriginal cultural heritage. It is the key government body for improving the protection, management and conservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Aboriginal people with experience and involvement in managing and protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage in New South Wales are encouraged to nominate for appointment.

## Establishment and role of the committee

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee is established under section 27 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* to advise the NSW Government and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water on matters affecting Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The committee may make recommendations on any matter relating to the identification, assessment and measures to improve the care, control and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage in New South Wales.

The committee works collaboratively with government and community organisations. It works closely with, and is supported by Heritage NSW, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

Heritage NSW will seek independent advice from the committee as its principal advisory body on Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The committee is required to nominate 2 of its members to sit on the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council.

# Members of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee

Committee members have a diverse knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture and heritage. This knowledge is unique because it comes from their own experience of working on Country in their local communities. The committee's membership reflects the diversity of Aboriginal people of New South Wales.

Under Schedule 9 of the Act, the committee will have 13 committee members appointed by the Minister and one ex-officio from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

The members of the committee are to consist of:

1. one member nominated by the New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council
2. one member nominated by the Heritage Council of New South Wales
3. one member nominated by the NTSCORP Limited (ACN 098 971 209)
4. 10 other members appointed from the following:
  - a. nominees of Aboriginal elders groups
  - b. native title holders within the meaning of the *Native Title Act 1993* of the Commonwealth and registered native title claimants
  - c. Aboriginal owners listed on the register under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

## **The Act requires that committee members:**

- are involved in cultural heritage matters in their local communities
- understand cultural heritage management issues.

## **The Act also requires that:**

- all appointed members of the committee are Aboriginal persons
- there is gender balance in the membership of the committee, as far as is reasonably practicable
- a range of cultural areas across New South Wales are represented on the committee, as far as is reasonably practicable.

Committee members are selected from metropolitan and rural areas to ensure a wide range of experience, networks and interests relevant to Aboriginal cultural heritage. They play a key role in building the Heritage NSW relationship with the community and provide invaluable advice on Aboriginal cultural heritage, including:

- Programs to increase participation of Aboriginal people in identifying and protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage, biodiversity and spiritual values in relation to land and water.

- Increased participation of Aboriginal people in managing and protecting Country and cultural heritage.
- Advocating on behalf of Aboriginal communities for the better protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage through legislative reform.

## Term of appointment

Members are appointed as part-time members for terms of up to 3 years and may be reappointed. Terms of individual members may be staggered to support the committee's continuity and knowledge exchange.

Once appointed, members will receive appropriate documentation as part of onboarding and induction. Each member must acknowledge their acceptance of these documents in writing and declare any conflicts of interest before commencing as a committee member.

## Remuneration

Committee members are entitled to sitting fees and reimbursement of related out-of-pocket expenses incurred when attending meetings or conducting committee business.

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee is classified C3(i); 'Committees which offer independent expert advice to the Minister(s) or Government Agency on specific issues of sectoral significance to the State (taken from the *Classification and Remuneration Framework for NSW Government Boards and Committees* – April 2021).

Under this classification, remuneration rates for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee members are set at:

- \$350 per day or \$175 per half day – presiding member sitting fees
- \$220 per day or \$110 per half day – member sitting fees

## Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee meeting dates

The committee meets every 2 months, starting from February each year. Meetings are held either remotely (online) or at the Heritage NSW office at 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street, Parramatta.

# Further information

[Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee](#)

[Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference](#)

[Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Code of Conduct](#)

[Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Cultural Protocols](#)

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