

Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC) Expression of Interest Form 2026

Form Preview

Information for applicants

Introduction

Information for applicants

Darebin Council has a long-standing commitment and relationship with the diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities of Darebin as articulated in Council's Statement of Commitment (1998), which was updated in the 2019 [Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People](#) to renew and strengthen Council's commitment.

The updated Statement was co-signed with the Traditional Owners' body, the [Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural heritage Aboriginal Corporation](#) (WWCHAC) and past members of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC).

Darebin Council's [Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029](#) is underpinned by six core principles that guide and influence ongoing action, including *Principle 1: Recognising Australia's First peoples and the right to self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a foundation for equity and fairness.*

Purpose of the Committee

DAAC is a formal advisory body to Darebin Council. Its purpose is to provide advice to Council in relation to the Aboriginal Culture and Knowledge - *marri-gin* (*Progress Power Flow*) strategic direction in the Council Plan 2025-2029 on items such as:

- Draft Strategic Plans and Policies
- Proposed Projects, Programs and Events
- Community Engagement Planning
- Advocacy Priorities.

The Committee may also consider and provide advice to Council relevant to:

- Aboriginal cultural safety
- Supporting cultural governance to embed Aboriginal cultural knowledge, protocols, and perspectives
- Strategic advice on issues, opportunities, and community priorities (health, housing, wellbeing, culture, arts, youth, social justice)
- Implementation and monitoring of Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan - *balit-marra*, Employment Strategy and other commitments
- Provide advice aligned with Closing the Gap, community priorities, Treaty and Truth-telling processes.
- Supporting Council to build strong, respectful, relationships with Traditional Owners, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs), Elders, youth, and community.

[Terms of Reference and DAAC Appendix](#)

Selection Criteria

Applicants must be:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people who live (primary or secondary residence), work, or study in the Darebin community.

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- Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung members are not required to live, work, or study in the Darebin community, acknowledging that Wurundjeri Country extends beyond Darebin.

Selection of community members will prioritise representation and inclusion of:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders
- Gender equality – Women must comprise at least 50% of overall membership.

Community members should meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Involvement in the wider community with strong community networks and connections, leadership, engagement, or advocacy experience
- Good knowledge and understanding of local issues relevant to the Committee's focus.
- Knowledge of relevant organisations and potential partnerships, particularly with ACCOs
- Willingness to contribute positively to meetings in a fair and respectful manner.

Selection of community members will also consider factors listed in clause 7 of the Terms of Reference for Darebin Advisory Committees.

Lodgement of Expression of Interest Forms

Expression of interest form must be lodged by **Monday 19 October 2026 at 11:59pm** via the online Smarty Grants application system on the Darebin City Council website.

If you would like assistance to prepare or lodge your application, please contact:

EMAIL: advisory.committees@darebin.vic.gov.au

PHONE: (03) 8470 8888

For more information:

- **Multilingual phone line:** [03 8470 8470](tel:0384708470)
- **We speak your language:** Find out more about our website translation tool on the [multilingual support page](#).
- **National relay service:** Standard calls (call) [133 677](tel:133677) Voice relay (call) [1300 555 727](tel:1300555727) SMS relay (text) 0423 677 767

Contact Details

* indicates a required field

Applicant Details

Applicant *

First Name

Last Name

Make sure you provide the same name that is listed in official documentation.

Preferred Name

Please include the name you prefer to use if it is different to above

What is your postcode? *

☐ 3070 (Northcote)

☐ 3083 (Bundoora/Kingsbury)

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- ☐ 3071 (Thornbury)
- ☐ 3072 (Preston)
- ☐ 3073 (Reservoir)

- ☐ 3058 (Macleod)
- ☐ I do not live in Darebin
- ☐ Other:

- ☐ 3078 (Alphington/Fairfield)

Contact Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Contact Email Address *

Must be an email address.

Applicant details

* indicates a required field

Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander? *

- ☐ Yes - Aboriginal
- ☐ Yes - Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Yes - Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ No

Are you recognised as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elder? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Gender section

What is your gender? *

- ☐ I am a girl/woman
- ☐ I am a boy/man
- ☐ I am non-binary
- ☐ I prefer to self-describe (please add below)
- ☐ I prefer not to say

Self describe

Pronoun section

My preferred pronouns are: *

- ☐ She/her

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- ☐ He/him
- ☐ They/them
- ☐ I prefer to self-describe (please add below)

Select all that apply

Self Describe Pronouns

What is your connection to Darebin? (select all that apply) *

- ☐ I am a Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Traditional Owner
- ☐ I live in Darebin
- ☐ I work in Darebin
- ☐ I study in Darebin

At least 1 choice must be selected.

Please provide any further information:

Please select your age: (Member selection will seek a diversity of ages) *

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18 - 24
- ☐ 25 - 34
- ☐ 35 - 44
- ☐ 45 - 54
- ☐ 55 - 64
- ☐ 65+

If you are 18 years or older, do you have a current Working with Children Check (WWCC) *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but willing to complete
- ☐ No and not willing to complete

Are you able and available to commit to attending DAAC meetings and to being an active committee member? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

1. Why would you like to be a member of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC)? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

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2. Please briefly describe your connections with the Darebin Aboriginal community, including any experience with community networks, leadership, engagement, or advocacy. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

3. Please briefly describe your knowledge and understanding of local issues relevant to the Committee's focus. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

4. Please briefly describe your knowledge of, and relationships with, relevant organisations, particularly with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs).

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

5. What are the skills and attributes you would contribute to the Committee?

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

6. In addition to the above questions, would you like to add anything about your identity, personal and/or professional experience that you feel would contribute to the diversity of perspectives on this committee? (Examples may include experiences as an LGBTIQA+ person, health, housing, disability, education, etc.)

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

[Applicant declaration & feedback](#)

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* indicates a required field

Declaration

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the statements made within this application are true and correct.

I agree *

☐ Yes

General Information for Applicants

Membership

The Committee will consist of up to fifteen (15) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community Members, who will be appointed by Council for a two-year term.

- Professional members formally representing organisations will not be considered for this Committee.
- One Co-Chairperson: Community Member (2-year term; no consecutive terms unless endorsed by Committee vote).
- The Community Co-Chairperson will lead community authority in meetings, ensure cultural protocols are embedded in meeting proceedings, and advise the Chairperson on agenda items.
- At least one Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung member.
- Members will be paid Sitting Fees: • \$200 per meeting Community Co-Chair • \$150 per meeting individual community members
- Applications will be received through a publicly advertised Expression of Interest (EOI) process.
- Members will be appointed by Council resolution for a two-year term.
- If a Community Member successfully applies for a second term, the maximum cumulative term they can undertake is 4 years (e.g. 2 x 2-year terms).
- Committee membership will comprise at least 50% women.

The Committee will also include two Councillor Members that will be appointed annually by Council resolution.

- One Chairperson
- One Councillor Member (can be the Acting Chairperson to cover absence of the Councillor Chairperson).

Committee Meeting Details:

The self-determination and cultural authority of this Committee will be enabled and respected by applying a specialised engagement approach when conducting meetings, developing meeting agendas, and providing Committee advice, recommendations, and endorsement to Council. Refer to clause 4 of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee Appendix for more information.

Meetings will:

- Be held at an accessible and suitable Darebin venue or may be held virtually.
- Offer a hybrid in-person and online option to attend.
- Be held on a quarterly basis (4 x per year).
- Usually commence at 6pm on a Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday, unless another day or time is required.

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- Commence on time and conclude by the stated completion time, not extending beyond a 120-minute duration.
- Be scheduled and confirmed in advance.
- Be recorded through minutes.
- Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.
- Be closed to the public.

Some work may be required to be undertaken by Committee members between meetings, and members may be required to attend additional special or extraordinary meetings from time to time.

Member Induction:

Community Members must participate in an induction arranged by Council at the commencement of their term on the Committee.

Please refer to clause 7 of the Darebin Terms of Reference for Advisory Committees for more information.

Accessibility:

Council will confirm with successful applicants if there are any supports or reasonable adjustments that can be made to assist their participation as a member of the committee.

Privacy Notice

Darebin City Council ("Council") collects, holds and manages personal information under the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic) ("PDP Act"). Your personal information is collected so that the Council can register and administer your Advisory Committee Member Application. The Council Department managing Advisory Committees will use this personal information for the purposes of assessing your application for membership, contact you, and internally report on application metrics to assist with evaluation and future planning.

The information provided in this form may also be used to send you newsletters and information, and to ascertain your satisfaction with our services.

Please indicate whether you wish for your information to be used for this purpose.

Regular updates and newsletters *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Satisfaction surveys *

☐ Yes ☐ No

The Council may provide personal information to its agents, such as accountants or lawyers. At times, the Council may be legally required to disclose personal information, for instance to the police if required by law.

You can access the Council's privacy policy by emailing Privacy.Officer@darebin.vic.gov.au or from our customer centre. For further information on privacy matters please call Council's Privacy Officer on 8470 8888 or email to Privacy.Officer@darebin.vic.gov.au. If you would like to gain access to your personal information, you can contact Council's Freedom of Information officer on 8470 8888 or email to foi@darebin.vic.gov.au

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Applicant Feedback

You are nearing the end of the application process. Before you review your application and click the **SUBMIT** button please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

Please indicate how you found the online application process.

☐ Very easy ☐ Easy ☐ Neutral ☐ Difficult ☐ Very difficult

How many minutes in total did it take you to complete this application?

Estimate in minutes i.e. 1 hour = 60

Please provide us with your suggestions about any improvements and/or additions to the application process/form that you think we need to consider.