

North Adelaide Public Golf Course Redevelopment - Consultation under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1998 (SA)*

Strategic Alignment - Our Community
Public

Wednesday, 3 September 2025
Reconciliation Committee

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the State Government's engagement under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)* (the Act) relating to the North Adelaide Public Golf Course redevelopment proposal and seek the Committee's endorsement of a late submission to the consultation (**Attachment A**).

On 3 July 2025, the State Government initiated consultation under the Act regarding the proposed redevelopment of the North Adelaide Public Golf Course.

As the redevelopment will involve ground-disturbing works, the applicant sought Ministerial authorisations under sections 21 and 23 of the Act. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Hon Kyam Maher MLC, is consulting with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal stakeholders to inform his decision.

The consultation opened on 3 July 2025 and was originally scheduled to conclude on 31 July 2025.

At its meeting held on 22 July 2025, the Council decided to request a five week extension to the consultation until 4 September 2025 ([Link 1](#)) to ensure appropriate and meaningful consultation with Aboriginal People.

The Council was concerned about the time frame and level of information provided by the State Government for the consultation and authorised the Lord Mayor to write to the State Government requesting an extension ([Link 2](#)).

Administration separately made a submission to the consultation on 24 July 2025 that expresses concerns about the consultation timeframes and advises of a study undertaken by the City of Adelaide in collaboration with Heritage SA to investigate the potential for subsurface deposits in the Adelaide Park Lands ([Link 3](#)).

The consultation was extended by the State Government for a period of three weeks until 21 August 2025.

As a result, Administration is seeking an extension to 4 September 2025 to enable a submission from the City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee. An extension has not been confirmed at the time of this report. A draft submission on behalf of the Reconciliation Committee is provided in **Attachment A** for consideration.

Administration will continue to monitor the State Government's website for the public release of the outcomes of the consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

1. Notes the update on the State Government's engagement under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)* relating to North Adelaide Public Golf Course Redevelopment.
2. Endorses the submission to the State Government's engagement under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)* relating to North Adelaide Public Golf Course Redevelopment as provided in **Attachment A** to Item 6.2 on the Agenda for the Reconciliation Committee held on 3 September 2025.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, to make minor, technical and typographical amendments to the submission to the State Government's engagement under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)* relating to North Adelaide Public Golf Course Redevelopment as provided in **Attachment A** to Item 6.2 on the Agenda for the Reconciliation Committee held on 3 September 2025, for the purposes of finalising and making the submission.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Environment <i>The status, attributes and character of our green spaces and the Park Lands are protected and strengthened</i>
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	The State Government's engagement period opened on 3 July and closed on 21 August 2025. The State Government held an Aboriginal Community Consultation meeting on Saturday, 19 July 2025 at the Mawson Lakes Hotel.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	As the North Adelaide Public Golf Course redevelopment involves ground-disturbing works, the applicant has sought Ministerial authorisations under sections 21 and 23 of the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988</i> (SA).
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
25/26 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 26/27 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
25/26 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the State Government's engagement under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (SA) (the Act) relating to the North Adelaide Public Golf Course redevelopment proposal and seek the Committee's endorsement of a late submission to the consultation (**Attachment A**).

Background

2. On 3 July 2025, the State Government initiated consultation under the Act regarding the proposed redevelopment of the North Adelaide Public Golf Course.
3. This followed the gazettal of the *North Adelaide Public Golf Course Act 2025* (SA), which confirmed the Act applies to the site.
4. As the redevelopment will involve ground-disturbing works, the applicant has sought Ministerial authorisations under sections 21 and 23 of the Act.
5. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Hon Kyam Maher MLC, is consulting with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal stakeholders to inform his decision.
6. The consultation opened on 3 July 2025 and was originally scheduled to conclude on 31 July 2025.

Council decision

7. At its meeting held on 22 July 2025 Council decided to request a five week extension to the consultation until 4 September 2025 ([Link 1](#)) to ensure appropriate and meaningful consultation with Aboriginal People, as follows:

'That Council;

Notes the Aboriginal Heritage Act consultation on the North Adelaide Golf Course redevelopment that opened on 3 July 2025 and closes 31 July 2025. Given the absence of a concept plan relating to the Application Area provided in the consultation materials that would indicate where and what type of construction will occur, that Administration prepares;

A letter through the Lord Mayor requesting the State Government consider:

1. *Provision of a further briefing opportunity in the City of Adelaide (at a location to be confirmed) noting there is currently only one Aboriginal Community Consultation meeting scheduled for Saturday 19 July 2025 at the Mawson Lakes Hotel,*
 2. *A commitment to a further engagement with the Aboriginal Community when specifics relating to the actual works and construction program are made public, and*
 3. *Extending the consultation by a further 5 weeks to Thursday 4 September 2025, noting the extent of the proposed works and to ensure that appropriate and meaningful consultation with the Kaurna people is facilitated in order for KYAC and others to understand the proposed plan for development and the impact this may have on their native title rights and sites of cultural significance.'*
8. The Council was concerned about the time frame and level of information provided by the State Government for the consultation and authorised the Lord Mayor to write to the State Government requesting an extension.
 9. Council identified the following key issues in relation to the consultation:
 - 9.1. The absence of a concept plan for the Application Area within the consultation materials, which would indicate the location and type of proposed construction.
 - 9.2. The need for Administration to prepare a submission and seek an extension to allow adequate consideration of the potential impacts.
 10. In accordance with Council's resolution, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs on 25 July 2025 to request the above considerations and calling for further engagement opportunities and a local briefing session ([Link 2](#)).
 11. It is understood that other parties also requested more time to respond to the consultation.

The City of Adelaide's submission

12. Administration separately made a submission to the consultation on 24 July 2025 that expresses concerns about the consultation timeframes and that the Reconciliation Committee had not been afforded a specific opportunity to be briefed ([Link 3](#)).

13. The submission advises of a study undertaken by the City of Adelaide in collaboration with Heritage SA to investigate the potential for subsurface deposits in the Adelaide Park Lands.
14. The study was an implementation project under the National Heritage Management Plan for the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout that was funded and delivered by the City of Adelaide in 2024/25 and shared with the Reconciliation Committee on 7 May 2025 for awareness and information ([Link 4](#)).

Consultation Extension

15. The consultation was extended by the State Government for three weeks until 21 August 2025.
16. The State Government's Consultation Information Pack was updated on 30 July 2025 to include a summary of a cultural heritage assessment undertaken in 2023 by Neale Draper and Associates.
17. This assessment, attributed as an unpublished report prepared for the City of Adelaide, was developed in consultation with Kaurna representatives and pertains to part of the Application Area.
18. The consultation website does not indicate any additional Aboriginal community consultation meetings.

Next Steps

19. Administration is seeking extension to 4 September 2025 to enable a submission from the City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee. An extension has not been confirmed at the time of this report.
20. A draft submission on behalf of the Reconciliation Committee is provided in **Attachment A** for consideration.
21. The Reconciliation Committee is asked to review and decide the submission contained in **Attachment A** and authorise the Administration to submit the document as part of the consultation process.
22. Administration will continue to monitor the State Government's website for the public release of the outcomes of the consultation.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – [Council Agenda – Tuesday, 22 July 2025 - MoN - Aboriginal Heritage Consultation](#)

Link 2 – [Lord Mayor Letter to Hon Kyam Maher MLC - North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment – 25 July 2025](#)

Link 3 – [City of Adelaide Submission - Aboriginal Heritage Act - North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment - 24 July 2025](#)

Link 4 – [Reconciliation Committee – Agenda Item 6.4 – Wednesday, 7 May 2025](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – City of Adelaide – Reconciliation Committee - Aboriginal Heritage Act - North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment - September 2025

- END OF REPORT -