

# Central Precinct Renewal Program

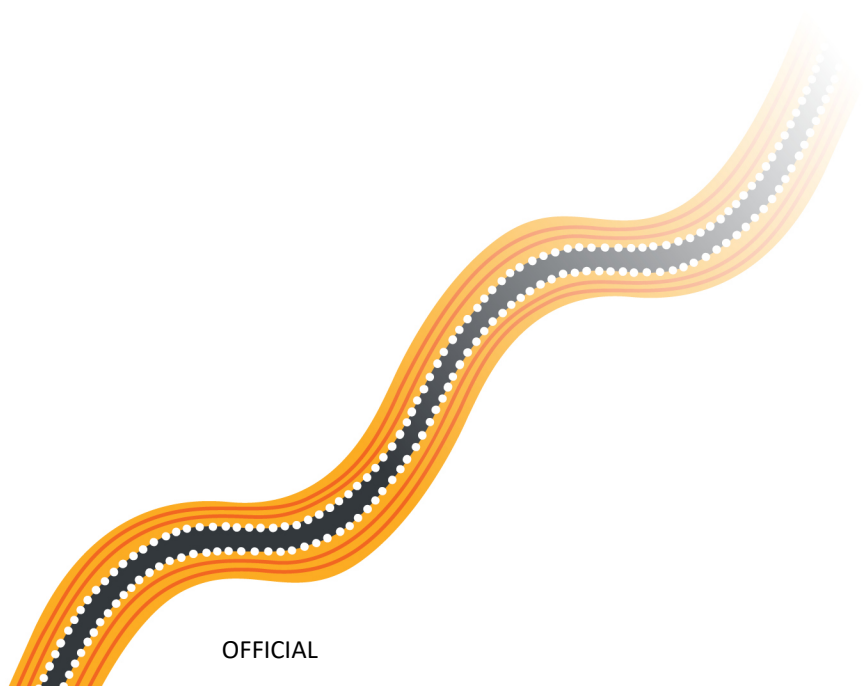
## Aboriginal Engagement Strategy Addendum

July 2023

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# Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Central Precinct, the Gadigal and recognise the importance of the place to Aboriginal people and their continuing connection to Country and culture. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.



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# 1. Introduction

The aim of Aboriginal community engagement is to ensure that an authentic Aboriginal voice is embedded and integrated into the planning, design development, construction and operation for the Program.

This report is an addendum to the Aboriginal Engagement Strategy submitted for public exhibition in August 2022. It outlines the Aboriginal engagement responses to the key comments and concerns raised during the public exhibition and the proposed next steps.

This addendum is intended to be read in conjunction with the exhibited Aboriginal Engagement Strategy.

## 2. Feedback relating to Aboriginal Engagement received during exhibition

A total of 368 submissions were received from individuals, local council, government agencies, industry bodies, non-government organisations and interest groups. Table 1 below provides an overview of the feedback relating to Aboriginal engagement based on our review of the submissions.

Table 1 Summary of feedback from public exhibition relating to engagement with Aboriginal stakeholders.

Theme	What we heard
Aboriginal engagement	Evidence may be required for those individuals and organisations who were approached and 'not consulted' as they either declined or were unavailable to ensure as many stakeholders as possible have been invited.
	Consult with key stakeholders connected to the Stolen Generation legacy at Central, to respectfully remember and reflect their thoughts of this event into a design of the precinct.
	Amend the Aboriginal Engagement Strategy to establish a process for purposeful and coordinated engagement that is connected to outcomes and builds on previous conversations with community members.
	Section 4.2 of the Design Guide, 'Aboriginal engagement'. Engagement for separate development applications should not happen in isolation. Engagement should build on previous conversations with community members, be coordinated with other engagement, be connected to outcomes and 'close the loop' by sharing cultural knowledge and information collected
Engagement governance process	Establish a governance process which demonstrates how Aboriginal people will have influence throughout the project lifecycle
Aboriginal culture	Section 4.1 of the Design Guide, 'Connecting with Country strategy', Guidance 6. Development that provides for connecting with Country opportunities should adhere to Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property protocols, not merely recognise them
	Section 4.3 of the Design Guide, 'Acknowledging and celebrating Aboriginal languages'. Additional guidance is required to ensure alignment with the City of Sydney's Naming Policy and the Aboriginal Naming Trust's guidance.
	Section 4.3 of the Design Guide, 'Acknowledging and celebrating Aboriginal languages'. Update the guidance to specify the that the Gadigal language should be used as a priority over other Aboriginal languages
	Section 4.5 of the Design Guide, 'Cultural infrastructure' should specify, 'culture as defined by the local Aboriginal community'.

## 3. Responses to key issues raised

### 3.1 Concerns about approach to Aboriginal engagement

#### Issue

Evidence may be required for those individuals and organisations who were approached and 'not consulted' as they either declined or were unavailable to ensure as many stakeholders as possible have been invited.

#### Response

The updated Connecting with Country Framework includes reference to stakeholders that were contacted but not consulted as part of the SSP indicative masterplan public display 22 August to 4 October. Since this time, consultation has occurred with a number of these stakeholders. For more information refer to the updated Connecting with Country Framework, section 7, page 21.

#### Issue

Consult with key stakeholders connected to the Stolen Generation legacy at Central, to respectfully remember and reflect their thoughts of this event into a design of the precinct.

#### Response

Balarinji has undertaken additional consultation with representatives from Coota Girls. For more information refer to the updated Connecting with Country Framework, section 7, page 21.

A proposal for an additional consultation program specifically designed for Stolen Generations survivors and their decedents has been suggested for future phases of the Program.

#### Issue

Amend the Aboriginal Engagement Strategy to establish a process for purposeful and coordinated engagement that is connected to outcomes and builds on previous conversations with community members.

#### Response

The consultation strategy is dynamic and will be updated at each stage of the renewal. It will include more detail regarding ongoing engagement and consultation with community members in accordance with the Aboriginal Engagement Strategy.

#### Issue

Section 4.2 of the Design Guide, 'Aboriginal engagement'. Engagement for separate development applications should not happen in isolation. Engagement should build on previous conversations with community members, be coordinated with other engagement, be connected to outcomes and 'close the loop' by sharing cultural knowledge and information collected.

### **Response**

Yes, we will coordinate and share information. Our Aboriginal Engagement Strategy will outline how information is shared with key stakeholders across the program and will be aligned with the proposed governance group. This group would create coordinated consultation across the precinct with the Aboriginal community and advise on proposed consultation approaches.

## **3.2 Concerns about the engagement governance process**

### **Issue**

Establish a governance process which demonstrates how Aboriginal people will have influence throughout the project lifecycle.

### **Response**

We agree and are seeking to establish an ongoing governance structure with Aboriginal stakeholders which will work to help deliver the Central Precinct Renewal Program. This governance would create coordinated consultation across the precinct with the Aboriginal community and advise on proposed consultation approaches.

## **3.3 Concerns about Aboriginal culture and the Design Guide**

### **Issue**

Section 4.1 of the Design Guide, 'Connecting with Country strategy', Guidance 6. Development that provides for connecting with Country opportunities should adhere to Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property protocols, not merely recognise them.

### **Response**

We agree with the feedback and will address Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property protocols across the Central Precinct.

### **Issue**

Section 4.3 of the Design Guide, 'Acknowledging and celebrating Aboriginal languages'. Additional guidance is required to ensure alignment with the City of Sydney's Naming Policy and the Aboriginal Naming Trust's guidance.

### **Response**

We will consider the way language can be incorporated into the project including wayfinding and signage in consultation with community experts. For example:

- Incorporate the Sydney Language into the project to create a welcoming space and reawaken Country. Examples of opportunities for language integration include naming, artworks and other audio/visual media.
- Embed the Sydney Language into the wayfinding systems and signage.
- Consult with community-endorsed language experts.

**Issue**

Section 4.3 of the Design Guide, 'Acknowledging and celebrating Aboriginal languages'. Update the guidance to specify the that the Gadigal language should be used as a priority over other Aboriginal languages.

**Response**

The Project Team will work with the locally connected Aboriginal community to integrate the Sydney Language into the Central Precinct.

**Issue**

Section 4.5 of the Design Guide, 'Cultural infrastructure' should specify, 'culture as defined by the local Aboriginal community'.

**Response**

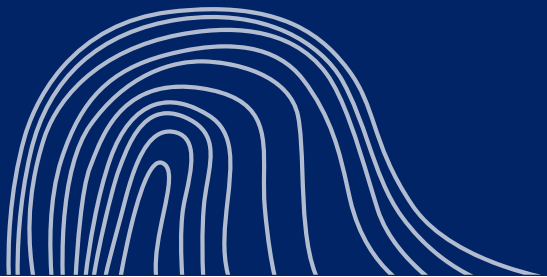
Yes, this has been amended in section 4.5 of the Design Guide.

## 4. Conclusion

The exhibited Aboriginal Engagement Strategy has not been amended for this phase of the Program however, there have been a number of updates to the Connecting with Country framework and the design guide based on feedback provided.

The Aboriginal Engagement Strategy will be amended at each project phase to include more detail regarding ongoing engagement and consultation with community members.





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