



HARBOUR TRUST
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ADVISORY GROUP
7 JUNE 2021

Time: 12:00pm – 1:20pm

Venue: Mosman/Zoom Video Conference

Present

Dennis Foley
Susan Moylan-Coombs
Djon Mundine OAM

Apologies

Roy Mundine OAM
Peter White

In Attendance

Linda Ward, *Interim Executive Director (partial attendance for initial welcome only)*
Kathryn Roberts, *Director, Marketing & Visitor Experience*
Rebecca Hage, *Media & Stakeholder Engagement Officer*

The meeting commenced at 12:00pm on Monday 7 June.

1. Welcome

Dennis Foley (DF) opened the meeting with a Welcome to Country. Linda Ward (LW), Interim Executive Director of the Harbour Trust appeared virtually and also welcomed the attendees, highlighting she would be an apology for the remainder of the meeting.

The Advisory Group provided feedback following the Yarning Session that occurred on 4 June at North Head Sanctuary pertaining to the North Head Draft Concept Plan:

- DF noted that the artist impression of the site looked like a “theme park”. He also noted that the Draft Concept did not account for cultural sensitivities of First Nation Peoples.
- DF highlighted that Two Point Co. are engaging well with the community to ensure that the First Nations voice is heard in the consultation sessions, however he is concerned that the Draft Concept for North Head was configured without any input from the First Nations community.



- Harbour Trust (HT): The Harbour Trust noted that the consultation report for the North Head Sanctuary Draft Concept will be circulated to the Advisory Group a week prior to its release to the public to ensure any further feedback is included.
- Susan Moylan-Coombs (SMC) noted that Two Point Co. are also doing a good job at collating the voices of the First Nations people, however, was disappointed with the additional non-indigenous attendees who were present at the yarning session. SMC noted that this provides an opportunity for the Harbour Trust to review the way they distribute information to members of the First Nations community. SMC also highlighted that the Harbour Trust can investigate Indigenous and mixed non-Indigenous/Indigenous communication channels for the appropriate audience/consultation.
 - HT: The Harbour Trust will review the way they disseminate information to the public, ensuring the First Nations community have a safe platform to provide feedback.

2. Reform Report

Kathryn Roberts (KR), Director of Marketing and Visitor Experience, provided a brief overview of the Remuneration Process documentation as well as meeting schedule information that was supplied to the Advisory Group prior to the meeting.

The Remuneration Process, as stipulated in the report provided by Cox Inall & Ridgeway, highlights the proposed remuneration for members of the Advisory Group.

Committee Feedback:

- Djon Mundine (DM) highlighted that the Harbour Trust need to review the timings of meetings moving forward as some members of the Advisory Group are travelling long distances to make themselves available.
- DM highlighted the possibility to included accommodation costs in the remuneration proposal.
- DM noted that the rate for remuneration is lower than other organisations; most provide an hourly rate rather than a rate per meeting. This may need Harbour Trust consideration.
- The Advisory Group highlighted that First Nations Advisory Group meetings should not be recorded. This protects the Intellectual Property (IP) of members within the group.

ACTION: Cox Inall & Ridgeway/Harbour Trust to review the Commonwealth policies for the provision of accommodation reimbursement.

YWH provided a brief overview of the report, thanking the Advisory Group for the time and participation throughout the process. YWH provided an overview of the proposed membership



guidelines for the First Nations Advisory Group as well as proposed considerations for the Governance Framework.

YWH also provided an overview of meeting protocols included in the report as well as highlighting the importance of integrated organisational change and structural reform throughout the Harbour Trust.

Committee Feedback:

- SMC queried whether it is possible for the governance structure of the First Nations Advisory Group to be based off culture; committee should be made up of at least one Traditional Owners of each of the lands under the custodianship of the Harbour Trust.
- DF noted that the language within the report refers heavily to the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC). The Harbour Trust should investigate other avenues to secure information other than the MLALC; this should be through those with bloodline connections to Country. The wording of the report needs to be tightened up in this respect.
- DF noted that the First Nations heritage experts who provide the information to the Harbour Trust should be those from the Anthropology department of the Australian National University or experts from the National Museum of Australia.
- DF requested that the report be reviewed again by Cox Inall & Ridgeway and presented back to include the recommendations of the Advisory Group.
 - o YWH: The report is in draft and the recommendations provided in the Cox Inall & Ridgeway report are suggestions at this stage.
- SMC acknowledged the remuneration process, noting that consultants are paid for their time so members of the First Nations community should also.
- DM highlighted that the decisions that go to the Members of the Trust should also be considered by the First Nations Advisory Group. There should also be a greater interaction between the First Nations Board representative and the members of the First Nations Advisory Group.

ACTION: Harbour Trust to review the Cox Inall & Ridgeway report and present back to the Advisory Group on 1 July. Harbour Trust will allocate additional time on the 1 July to allow for this discussion.

ACTION: Cox Inall & Ridgeway to facilitate meeting with DF to talk through thoughts.