

DRAFT REVIEW (April 2021) of the Arakwal Memorandum of Understanding 2019-2021 Implementation Plan

**The plan was developed between Bundjalung of
Byron Bay Arakwal People and staff
at Byron Shire Council**



Arakwal Memorandum of Understanding 2019-2021 Implementation Plan – draft review

Culture and Heritage			
Project	Implementation actions	Progress	Timeframe
Cultural Heritage Management	1. Council to support a 12 month trial of a dedicated Arakwal Native Title Project Officer to work specifically on Council matters relating to Native Title <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Council to agree to fund to value of \$15,000 b) Draft SLA completed between Arakwal and Council c) Draft template completed d) Project Officer recruited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Council funding \$15,000 secured ✓ Draft template completed for consultation with Arakwal ✓ \$8000 towards cultural heritage protocol workshops secured ✓ Council agree to fund to value of \$15,000 ✓ Project Officer recruited. 	Dec 2019- March 2021
	2. Develop protocol framework for working on Cultural mapping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Cultural heritage scoping workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Council workshop ii) Arakwal workshop iii) Joint workshop b) Develop cultural heritage practices protocol informed by workshops c) Use protocol to advocate with DPC for cultural heritage mapping funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ These actions to be implemented within scope of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping and management plan. 	2021-2022
	3. Arakwal (AM) to kick start conversations with DPC in relation to fast tracking funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Funding application has been submitted to Heritage NSW. Outcome expected April 2021. 	2021
	4. BSC to undertake training of key personnel in relation to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage reform and legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ To be incorporated once the reform and legislation changes. 	
	5. BSC to update Native Title Boundaries in Geocortex mapping system and in the Cultural Heritage Toolkit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 	

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	<p>6. In acknowledgment of the significance of Ti Tree (Taylors) Lake to Arakwal people, Council will notify Arakwal of any matter relating to Ti Tree Lake including development in and around this sensitive area</p> <p>a) Council to work with NPWS to provide appropriate signage at site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 8k. Funding for Ti Tree lake signage secured. ✓ NPWS, Arakwal and Jali negotiating signage details and content. 	
	<p>7. In acknowledgment of the burial place on private property at “<i>Rainforest Resort</i>” Council will advise Arakwal of whether they can assist access to private property for the purposes of archaeological assessment and further provide advice when development is proposed at the private property.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ This site is AHIMS registered ✓ A flag or memo has been noted for the property as an area of Aboriginal heritage significance and any future DA’s to be referred to Arakwal. ✓ Council to assist Arakwal with approach to current owner. 	
	<p>8. Cultural Heritage protocol and induction training delivered by Arakwal</p> <p>a) Year 1 - ET/Managers</p> <p>b) Year 2 - Coordinator/Team Leaders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ These actions to be implemented within scope of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping and management plan. 	

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Council supports important cultural events	1. Council to provide \$2000 per year towards NAIDOC Arakwal Family Day event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Letter of Support provided to Arts Northern Rivers for Art on Bundjalung Country project proposal. Council has indicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strong support for the project and acknowledged that Council has a long and productive relationship with Arts Northern Rivers - in-kind support for the project through staff resources / advice and promotion - Aligns well with Council's commitment to support Indigenous artists and communities throughout the Byron Shire. ✓ Supporting Arakwal for NAIDOC Week which was postponed due to Covid-19. Organising NAIDOC Week Flag Raising event hosted by Council (2020). ✓ Funding of \$2000 provided to Arakwal 2019-2020. ✓ Arakwal NAIDOC Week family fun day supported and annual funding provided by Council 13 November 2020. 	
	2. Investigate provision of parking for Family Day event.		
	3. Council to work with Arakwal in relation to NAIDOC Flag Raising Ceremony.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (2020) NAIDOC Week postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions and so the Flag Raising held differently with a small event with the elected Councillors, Executive team and a 	

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		<p>small number of representatives from Arakwal and Tweed Byron LALC participating.</p> <p>Encouraged neighbouring Councils within Bundjalung country to join a symbolic gesture by hosting a similar flag raising ceremony with a representative of the local Aboriginal community, to recognise NAIDOC Week without the need to gather.</p>	

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Participation in Governance			
Project	Implementation actions	Progress	Timeframe
Arakwal participation in Committees of Council	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine the priority areas for participation by Arakwal. 2. Secure sitting fees for Arakwal participation on key priority committees of Council. 3. Ensure that Arakwal are appropriately engaged in Council’s Community Strategic Planning process. 4. Identify key priority areas for engagement and consultation. 	<p>✓ Sitting fees available for Arakwal MOU committee meetings.</p> <p>✓</p>	
BOBBAC governance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate the possibility of waiving parking fees for BOBBAC Board members so that they can attend meetings on Country (currently pays \$1000 for standard <i>out of shire</i> parking 13 vehicles included). 	<p>✓ Completed 2019-2020</p> <p>✓ Funding available for 2021</p>	

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Cultural and Economic Development			
Project	Implementation actions	Progress	Timeframe
Employment opportunities Council will advocate for Arakwal employment opportunities internally and also with existing labour force suppliers	1. Explore opportunities to provide training to Arakwal people in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) How to apply for jobs with Council b) Resume writing c) What to expect at interview d) What to expect working for Council. 2. Identify opportunities for expanded use of Arakwal bush regeneration teams within Byron Bay. 3. Notify Arakwal of upcoming Tenders that may be relevant.	Not yet achieved.	
Cultural restoration and promotion Council will provide ongoing support for the development of the Arakwal Cultural Centre	1. Representation by the General Manager (or delegate) on the Cultural Centre Project Reference Group.	Committee not yet convened.	
Opportunities for Cultural expression Council to work with Arakwal to identify opportunities for cultural expression	1. Council to ensure that developers of public infrastructure who are subject to the Public Art Development Control Plan are provided the contact details for Arakwal as the first point of contact in relation to Aboriginal art opportunities. 2. Utilise the Masterplan as a driver of opportunity for cultural expression. 3. Identify opportunities for naming of parks, sportsfields, roads or other infrastructure after Arakwal Elders, Arakwal meanings or in Arakwal language.	Opportunities to include the following sorts of things into the plans for the Sandhills skatepark area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pathway/concrete art and etching •Incorporation of traditional stories into elements of the skate park and recreation precinct •Incorporation of cultural education (translations, explanations, bush tucker tree planting, etc) •Dual naming of the area, tracks and pathways 	

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Caring for Country			
Project	Implementation actions	Progress	Timeframe
Sandhills Precinct	1. Arakwal and Council to work in partnership in relation to the Sandhills estate precinct, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Establish a protocol for works within the Sandhills precinct b) Regeneration and improvement of the wetlands c) Improved outcomes from drainage issues associated with the site d) Culturally based interpretive signage e) Pedestrian link to proposed cultural centre f) Improved civic and community outcomes. 	Assisting project team for Sandhills skate park and recreation development with consultation with Arakwal and Tweed Byron LALC and the wider Aboriginal community in the Shire. Opportunities for Indigenous inspired design elements, naming and bush regeneration have been identified for future engagement for Aboriginal community members.	

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Social Justice and Community Development			
Project	Implementation actions	Progress	Timeframe
Aboriginal Housing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arakwal to provide input into residential strategy to identify the challenges, and priority to see Arakwal people achieving their goal to live on Country. 2. Council to work with Arakwal to identify opportunities and levers to achieve additional housing on Country. 	<p>✓ Arakwal provided a submission to the Residential Strategy 8th October 2020. More Staff feedback required.</p>	
Arakwal Cemetery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cemetery report completed. 2. Initial beam that acts as a plinth for headstones installed. 3. Protocol for burial to be developed by Arakwal. 4. Process for Council to be informed by Protocol. 5. Council to determine the fees that can be waived so that Arakwal people can afford to be buried on Country. 6. Arakwal to undertake planting at the cemetery (grant funded). 7. Arakwal to maintain the dedicated Arakwal cemetery. 	<p>✓ Arakwal Cemetery report tabled at the 8 October Arakwal MOU Committee. RESOLUTION</p> <p>That the Arakwal MoU Advisory Committee recommends that:</p> <p>Council seeks further information on whether an application to NSW State Government may be supported to waive burial fees for Arakwal members in recognition of their Native Title Rights and, if appropriate, pursues the waiver.</p> <p>Until such time that a permanent pathway is in place, that an application can be submitted by Arakwal Corporation on a case by case basis for fees to be waived for burial costs which can be approved by the General Manager.</p> <p>Minutes adopted by Council meeting November 2020.</p>	2020-2021