District Council of Grant	***Protocols for Council Meetings and Major Events/Functions*** ***Policy No. GOVPOL 14***	**Version No:**	1
		Responsible Officer/s:	Governance Officer
		Classification:	Council
		Issued:	1 September 2008
		Next Review:	**August 2026**

1. Purpose

It is recognised that the traditional ownership of all of the land within the District Council of Grant is the Boandik people.

2. Scope

This Policy outlines the protocols for acknowledgement of the traditional ownership of Mount Gambier and surrounding land at Council meetings and major events/functions.

3. Policy

3.1. Full Council Meetings

At the commencement of a full Council meeting, the Mayor (or nominee) shall state the following:

> *"It is a privilege to be standing on Boandik country. We acknowledge the contributions of Aboriginal Australians and non-Aboriginal Australians to the development of all peoples in this country we live in and share together – Australia."*

3.2. Major Events/Functions

Where there is a major event or function, a 'Welcome to Country' may be arranged. Protocols for this will be as follows:

- In the first instance, local Aboriginal representative/s will be invited to discuss and decide the Welcome to Country Ceremony, who should be invited and who should perform the Welcome to Country and what will be the ceremony (speech, song, ceremony, or combination).
- After the Welcome to Country, the speaker immediately following will provide a response acknowledging the person who delivered the Welcome to Country, as well as the following response:-

  "It is a privilege to be standing on Boandik country. We acknowledge the contributions of Aboriginal Australians and non-Aboriginal Australians to the development of all peoples in this country we live in and share together – Australia."

4. Responsibilities

All Elected Members and staff are responsible to ensure the requirements of this Policy are met.

5. Review

This Policy shall be reviewed by the District Council of Grant at a minimum, once within every four (4) year Council term (or on significant change to legislation or other matters which could affect this policy).

Action	Date	Minute Reference
Adopted by Council	1 September 2008	08193.3
Reviewed	7 October 2015	15127.7.10
Reviewed	21 January 2019	19004.2
Minor formatting amendments	4 May 2020	Governance Officer