

# Facts at a glance

## Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee

- The Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee (ACMC) advises the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Hon. Dr Kim Hames MLA, on matters relating to Western Australian Aboriginal heritage. It is established under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.
- The ACMC comprises Indigenous men and women from across Western Australia to ensure that culturally appropriate decisions are made about Indigenous cultural material or sites.
- The ACMC also has representatives from the Department of Indigenous Affairs, the Western Australian Museum, Landgate and a specialist anthropologist. The Department of Indigenous Affairs provides support to the ACMC.
- When considering an application for land development the role of the ACMC is to consider the cultural heritage values of the land and to determine whether a site exists under Section 5 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. If it is determined that a site exists, the ACMC will determine its significance as per the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* Section 39(2) and will then make recommendations to the Minister whether to grant or decline consent for the applicant to use the land, and whether conditions should apply to any consent granted.
- Under Section 18(3) of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* the Minister considers the ACMC recommendation having regard to the wider public interest.
- As at June 2009 the ACMC members are:
  - Haydn Lowe ACMC Chairperson;
  - Patrick Walker, Ex-Officio - Director General, Dept of Indigenous Affairs;
  - Diana Jones, Ex-Officio - Director, WA Museum;
  - Ken McCrackan, Ex-Officio - Manager, Dept for Planning and Infrastructure;
  - Louise Austen, ACMC Member;
  - Bill Bennell, ACMC Member; and
  - Quinton Tucker, ACMC Member.
- All ACMC meeting dates are detailed on [dia.wa.gov.au](http://dia.wa.gov.au) Information about Section 18 applications can be found at <http://www.dia.wa.gov.au/Heritage--Culture/Section-18/>

