



MEDIA RELEASE – 9 AUGUST 2023

CHANGES TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE LAWS

The State Government is currently progressing changes to the laws governing the protection and management of Aboriginal heritage in Western Australia.

On 8 August 2023, the Cook government announced that the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* will be repealed, and an amended version of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* will be reinstated.

A new Bill – the *Aboriginal Heritage Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2023* – will be presented to Parliament to assist with this transition and ensure all WA property owners can continue to operate on their land without the risk of disrupting cultural heritage.

The repeal of the 2021 legislation means all extra burdens and obligations placed on landowners have been removed.

Further details about these important developments, including timeframes and processes, are yet to be announced by the State Government. The Shire will provide updates on our website and other communication channels as information is released.

For additional guidance and information, please visit the [Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage website](#), or contact the Aboriginal Heritage team at the Department on 08 6551 8002 or via email to aboriginalheritage@dplh.wa.gov.au.

- [WA Government Media Release \(8 August 2023\)](#)
- [Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972](#)

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