

Cultural Committee Questions

Questions and Answers from the recent Cultural Authority community meetings

Cultural Authority Formation Questions

1. Can the structure of the Cultural Authority change?
No. The Cultural Authority is governed by the ILUA and therefore cannot be changed.
2. Will the Cultural Authority only work on the Joint Management for the Conservation Estates Areas?
No. The Cultural Authority can work on other areas, but their focus will be on the Conservation Estate Areas.
3. How long is the term for the Cultural Committee representatives?
3 years
4. What does the Cultural Authority Executive do and how do they fit into the structure?
The Executive are responsible for providing cultural advice to YSRC or any YSRC entity, when requested.
5. Who decides the selection rules and voting process of the Cultural Committee representatives?
The selection will take place before the AGM. How nominees are selected will be decided by each of the representative groups themselves.
6. Are the two representatives on the Joint Management Body going to be female and male?
That is for each Cultural Committee to decide who their representatives are.
7. Does YSRC have a rule book to assist at the beginning of the Cultural Committees?
YRSC has a Cultural Authority Terms of Reference that can be amended, in consultation with YSRC.

Ranger Questions

8. What is Joint Management?
Joint management is a partnership between the State Government and Aboriginal traditional owners in Western Australia. To work together to care for country. This partnership is based on recognition, trust, mutual respect, and shared goals.
9. Who are the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)?
The DBCA brings together the Parks and Wildlife Service, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Zoological Parks Authority, Rottnest Island Authority, Conservation and Parks Commission, Swan River Trust and Biodiversity and Conservation Science.
10. How will Yamatji nation people and DBCA work together?
Once the Cultural Committees, the Cultural Authority and Joint Management body are formed, a Management Plans will be developed by the Joint Management Body, made up of 2 representatives from each Cultural Committee and 3 DBCA representatives.



11. Are there going to be Rangers working on Country.
Yes, the Rangers will work out on country to gain experience in Conservation and Land Management.
12. How will the Rangers be trained and what will they need to apply for the positions?
DBCA is a Registered Training Organisation that provides on the job training in Conservation and Land Management to trainee Rangers. To be eligible to become a Ranger you will need to be 18 years of age, have a C Class Driver's license (manual) and go through an application process.
13. How many Rangers will there be?
The ILUA allows for 10 Ranger positions plus support positions.
14. Are Rangers from the Yamatji region?
The Ranger positions will be 50d positions with a preference for Yamatji Nation people.
15. Do you have to live in Geraldton or surrounding areas to work as a Ranger?
As the Conservation Estates areas are on Yamatji land the Rangers will need to work on the areas daily, so it would be ideal that the Rangers live in the area.
16. When will the Rangers be working on Country?
Once the Joint Management Body is formed, they will decide when Ranger positions will be advertised. Rangers will go through an interview selection process with a Yamatji representative on the panel.
17. Is there going to be housing for Rangers?
At this stage there are no housing options for Rangers.
18. Is there permanency for Rangers after their traineeships is completed?
As the Rangers gain experience in their roles and have their Certificates in Conservation and Land Management, they then will be competitive for Ranger and non-Ranger Jobs with DBCA.
19. Can the Rangers work with neighbouring boundary groups such as Noongar?
Yes. YSRC and DBCA are very keen to have working relationships with all neighboring Aboriginal groups and their Rangers teams.

Meeting Questions

20. Once the Cultural Committee members are chosen is there an option to increase the frequency of meetings from 2 per year to more?
The Cultural Committee is funded 4 days per year by DBCA to discuss Joint Management and Conservation Estate matters. The Cultural Authority can meet more often in the set-up stage, with agreement from DBCA. If the Cultural Authority is meeting to discuss other matters this will not be funded by DBCA.
21. Will there be administration support at the Cultural Committees and if so, who will do that?
Yes, the Joint Management Project Officer for YSRC, Megan Boddington, will organise and assist.

22. What are the achievements and outcomes from the meetings that will happen with the Cultural Committees, Cultural Authority and Joint Management Body?
Cultural Committees will discuss cultural matters within the group relating to their part of the Conservation Estate.
Cultural Authority will discuss matters with all Cultural Committees about the whole Conservation Estate.
Joint Management Body will discuss and make decision regarding the Jointly Managed Conservation Estate with DBCA.
23. Is travel paid for the Cultural Committees, including for people from interstate?
Yes. Travel will be paid within reason for WA based representatives. Interstate representatives will have the option to link in via Teams/Skype

Who can sit on the Cultural Committees?

24. Can Directors be on the Cultural Committees?
Yes, however the Cultural Committees, Cultural Authority and Joint Management Body is structured to provide an opportunity for Yamatji Nation people to have a voice and to provide cultural advice and direction to the relevant YSRC Boards.
25. Do you need to know a lot about country to be on the Cultural Committees?
The Cultural Committee must include right people for right country. It is up to each group as who they nominate to be their representatives. This may include a mix of Elders and younger Yamatji Nation people.

General Questions

26. Can people outside of the Cultural Committees be informed with the works being done by the Cultural Committees, Cultural Authority, Joint Management Body, DBCA and the Rangers?
It is the responsibility of the Cultural Committee's to inform other Yamatji Nation people of matters. There will be times where matters will remain confidential and cannot be discussed outside of these Committees.
27. Can community engagement / progress meetings with the Cultural Committees happen throughout the year? If so when and how often?
Yes, if funding permits.
28. Can cultural sites in the Conservation Estates be developed to protect them from damage?
Yes, this work can happen. This will be part of the Management Plan.
29. Will the Cultural Authority and the board members of YSRC work together or is the Cultural Authority an entirely sperate entity?
It is separate, but Cultural Committees and Cultural Authority will act on behalf of members and non-members of YSRC.