



Cultural Burn 2025

STORYBOARD AND SCORECARD



TOWN OF
VICTORIA PARK



RECONCILIATION
ACTION PLAN

INNOVATE

Cultural Burn 2025 Storyboard

We invested



...to promote the retention of cultural practices and protocols



...in a Cultural Burn



...and support and enhance land management for bushland in the Town



... for Traditional Owners, DFES, ToVP staff, Aboriginal Landcare and Curtin University



...contributing to increased understanding, value and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, knowledge and rights through continuous cultural learning (Innovate RAP).

Cultural Burn 2025 Scorecard

How much did we do?

10 Traditional Owners involved in the cultural fire burn

24 attendees from Mindeera Advisory Group, DfES, Curtin University, Town staff

Action included within the future Bushfire Management Plan to consult and involve Traditional Owners when undertaking cool burns

How well did we do it?

Feedback from Traditional Owners saying they gained cultural insight and knowledge from their involvement

Feedback from stakeholders before and after the burn related to insight, connection to Country and cultural heritage

Who benefits?

Traditional Owners

Land management professionals

ToVP staff

ToVP residents

Wider community

Feedback from Traditional Owners

"This is **the first time this boodjar has experienced a cultural burn for close to 200 years...**

It's been great to be a part of it – a part of history."

Rowan Collard,

Whadjuk Ballardong Noongar

"It's so important to be part of this cultural burn on Country, to restore it, connect with it, be one with it like our old people before us."

"I'm really grateful to be part of this today, **healing the land - which will heal us.**"

Dylan Collard,

Whadjuk Ballardong Noongar

"This is not just a Noongar fire burn, **this is Australian history** that we are witnessing today"

Roni Gray Forrest,

Minang Ngadju

Chair, Mindeera Advisory Group

"The excitement of doing something that's connected to **a practice that is older, older than the pyramids.**"

Kyle J Morrison,

Whadjuk Noongar

"This cultural burn is a significant day. We've done it on a cultural basis, **the fire started in the proper old way and people doing mosaic burns** across the site but Wadjula interpretations are being researched so it's Wadjula and Noongar things happening together – great!"

Emeritus Professor Simon Forrest,

Whadjuk Ballardong Noongar

Cultural Burn 2025 Scorecard

Theory of Change: By undertaking a cultural fire burn with Traditional Owners , we facilitate retention of cultural practices and protocols and support and enhance land management for bushland in the Town, which will lead to increased awareness of and connection to Country in the Town for indigenous and nonindigenous community members.

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-term Outcomes	Mid-term Outcomes	Strategic Alignment
<p>Knowledge - Traditional Owners of Whadjuk Noongar Boodja</p> <p>Knowledge - from Cultural Development Team at DfES on cultural burns</p> <p>Knowledge - Friends of Jirdarup Bushland</p> <p>Knowledge from Parks and Environment Team related to land management and cool burns</p> <p>Communications Team - engagement with the community for education and awareness raising and facilitate their involvement</p> <p>Budget and funding - direct and in kind for time, expertise and planning with Traditional Owners, Town staff and external stakeholders</p> <p>Strategic Plans i.e. Reconciliation Action Plan, Kent Street Sandpit, Urban Forrest Strategy</p>	<p>Supporting passing on cultural knowledge and protocols between Traditional Owners</p> <p>Engagement with all stakeholders i.e Traditional Owners, land care groups, local community</p> <p>Education and awareness raising with local community</p> <p>Risk management planning with stakeholders and local fire department to manage logistics of a cultural fire burn</p>	<p>Passing on of cultural protocols for fire burns between Traditional Owners</p> <p>Education, practice sessions and awareness raising activities with stakeholders and community</p> <p>Cultural fire burn held at the end of the project</p>	<p>Traditional Owners pass on and retain important protocols and practices related to their culture</p> <p>Increased understanding with community members and stakeholders of the benefits of sharing cultural land care knowledge</p>	<p>Involvement of Traditional Owners becomes part of a bushfire management approach/plan in the Town</p> <p>Cultural burn creates an ashbed for seeds to help rejuvenate and promote growth in the bushland</p> <p>Cultural restoration of land care practices and protocols which can be passed onto future generations</p> <p>Reduction in bushfire risk at Hilt View Bushland</p> <p>Increased growth within the bushland of native plants Increase in biodiversity of bushland species.</p>	<p>Strategic Community Priorities S4: Improving access to arts, history, culture and education</p> <p>EN1: Protecting and enhancing the natural environment</p> <p>CL1: Effectively managing resources and performance</p> <p>Reconciliation Action Plan: Respect</p> <p>Increase understanding, value and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, knowledge and rights through continuous cultural learning.</p> <p>Demonstrate respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by observing cultural protocols.</p>

Please note that we are not scoring this initiative in 2025 but will use this evaluation to benchmark progress in future years.