

November 2020

Reconciliation Action Plan Review

Community Survey Report

TRIM Reference: D-20-139954

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Reconciliation Action Plan Background

The City is committed to supporting and acknowledging the Traditional Owners- the Southern Yamatji peoples - and all people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds via its Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan October 2017 - October 2020.

The Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) was developed and overseen by a Reconciliation Advisory Committee, who met regularly to review the progress of the City in working towards the actions outlined in the Reconciliation Action Plan.

The Plan reflects the City's commitment to develop strong and enduring partnerships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members. It outlines strategies to create opportunities, enhance respect and build relationships for the benefit of the whole community, and contribute to the vibrancy, inclusiveness and success of the Greater Geraldton region.

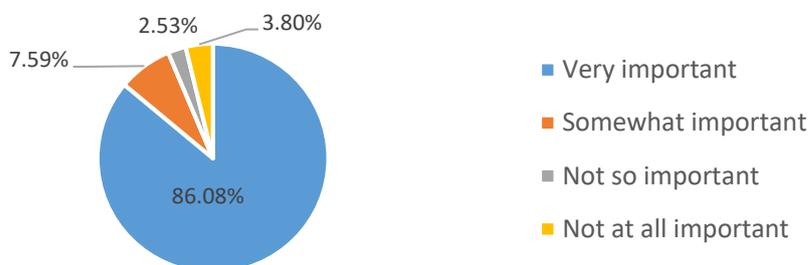
In 2020 the Stretch RAP is being reviewed. Part of the review process involved engaging with the broader community about the RAP in a community survey. The Survey was open for four weeks and promoted to the broader community via a media release, a social media campaign and included in the Mullewa Mail Community Newsletter. The Community and Aboriginal Development Officer also liaised with Aboriginal community stakeholders to ensure they were aware of the opportunity to participate in the review process.

The City received 79 responses to the survey in which 23% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders.

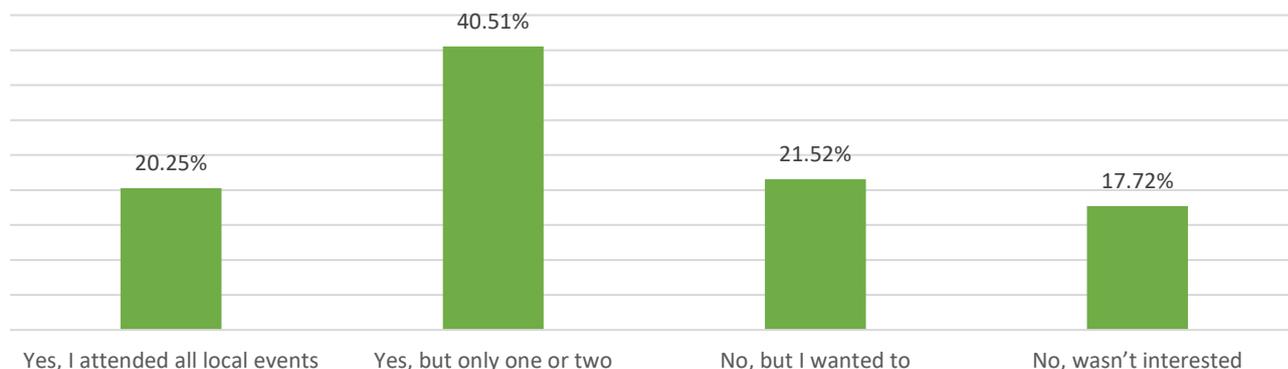
Survey Results

Relationships

More than 93% of survey respondents said relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people is important to our regional community.



The majority of respondents, or more than 60%, said they had either attended or took part in NAIDOC Week, National Reconciliation Week or other events organised by local Aboriginal organisations.



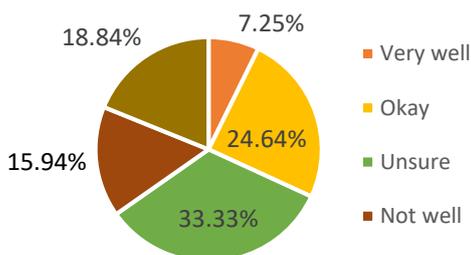
The majority of respondents, or 81%, made suggestions regarding how the City could build stronger relationships between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community. The majority of suggestions referred to inclusion. Reoccurring ideas in their suggestions have been themed into the following 14 categories.



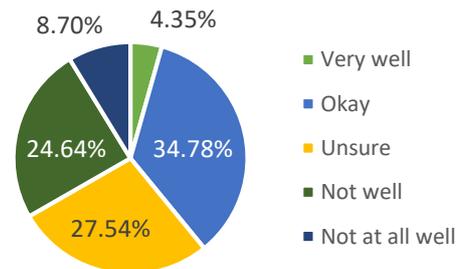
The RAP

Less than half of respondents, or 32%, think the City is doing a good job of sharing with the community how it is progressing RAP objectives and only 39% said the City was promoting reconciliation well. This may be a direct result of less than half of the respondents, or 45%, stating they had actually read the RAP and 28% said they had never heard of the RAP.

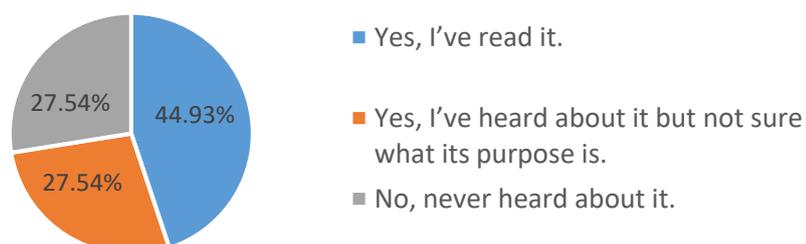
Sharing progress on RAP objectives



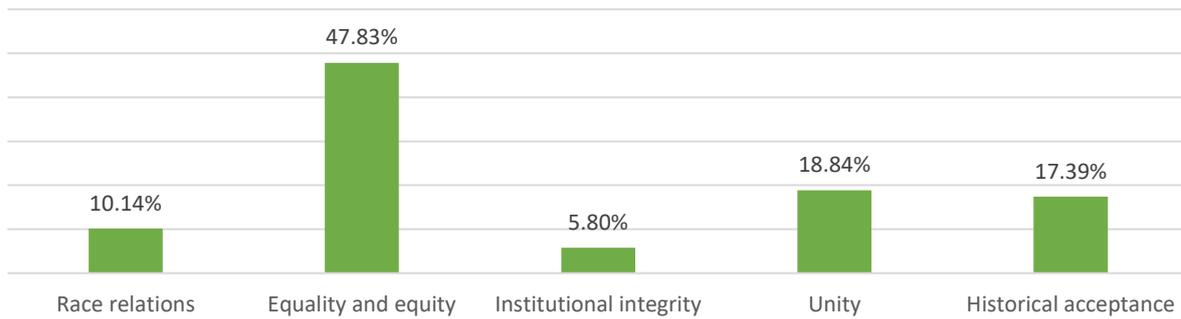
Promoting reconciliation



Respondents who have heard about the RAP



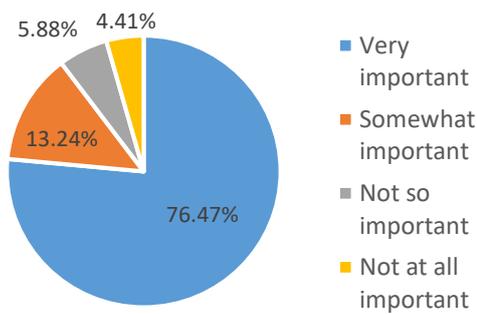
Of the five parts or dimensions to reconciliation, respondents ranked equality and equity as the most important dimension for the City to focus on.



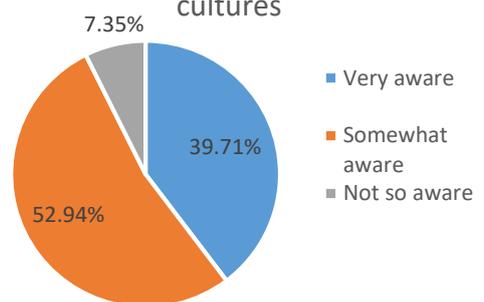
Culture

The majority of respondents, or 90%, said Aboriginal culture is important to our regional identity and 93% said they were aware of local Aboriginal cultures.

Importance of Aboriginal culture

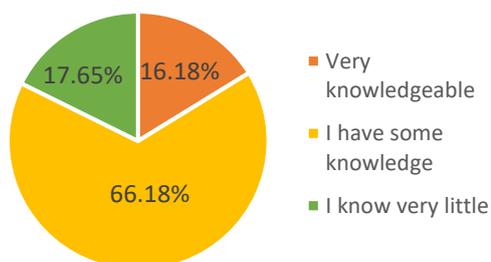


Awareness of local Aboriginal cultures

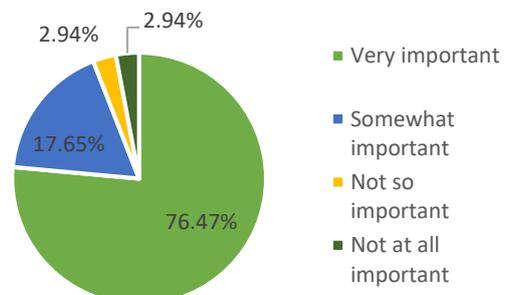


The majority of respondents, or 82%, said they have knowledge of local Aboriginal history and how Aboriginal people experienced European settlement within the Greater Geraldton region. The majority of respondents, or 94%, also said to move forward with reconciliation a formal truth telling process that acknowledges Australia's shared history is important.

Knowledge of local Aboriginal history



Importance of truth telling



RAP Outcomes Engagement

Gathering feedback on how the City is progressing the RAP is important. The majority of respondents stated their preferred way to provide feedback to the City is to take an online survey or poll.

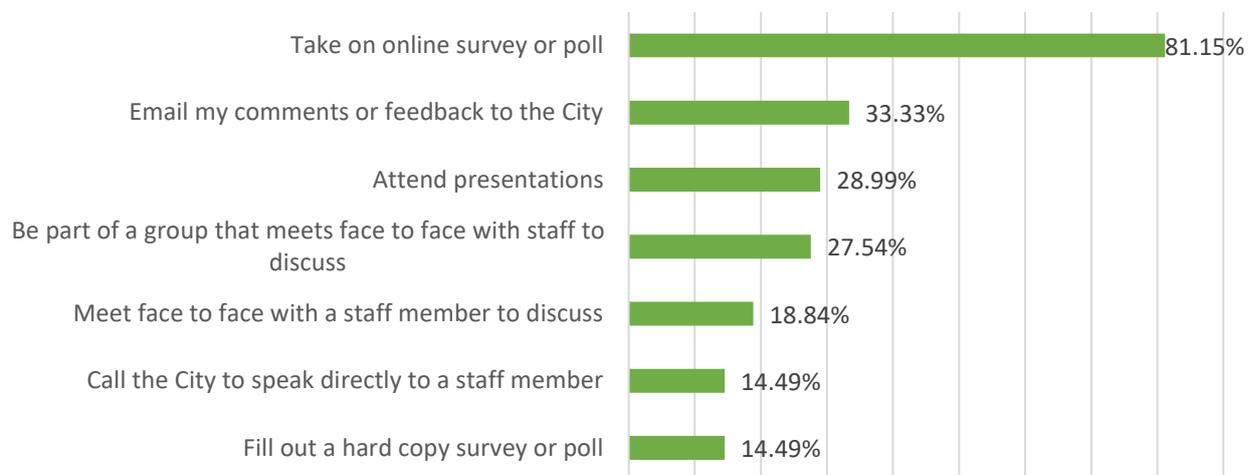


Photo: Ilgarijiri Eggs on the Foreshore

