

22.05 ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

19/01/2006
VC37

This policy applies to all land.

22.05-1 Policy basis

19/01/2006
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The Mornington Peninsula was mainly occupied by the Bunurong people prior to the arrival of European settlers. Places site and objects demonstrating former Aboriginal occupation of the land can be found throughout the Mornington Peninsula, particularly in coastal areas. These places site and objects have cultural educational and archaeological significance for the local Aboriginal community and the broader community. The identification, protection and management of identified sites and objects is provided for by the Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972 and the Commonwealth and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984.

22.05-2 Objectives

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- To provide for the identification of sites of Aboriginal cultural significance and the appropriate level of management in consultation with the local Aboriginal community.
- To protect sites and features of aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological significance.

22.05-3 POLICY

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It is policy that:

Before deciding on an application to use or develop land, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The identification, protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage values.
- The guidelines provided by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and the Aboriginal cultural resource management grid map.
- The need, in areas where there is a known site or the potential for Aboriginal archaeological sites to occur, to require a report from a suitably qualified archaeologist, approved by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, demonstrating that the impact of proposed development on Aboriginal cultural heritage values has been addressed.

22.05-4 Decision guidelines

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Before deciding on an application to use or develop land, the responsible authority must consider:

- The extent to which the application meets the objectives and directions of this policy.
- The recommendations of representatives of the local Aboriginal community for the management of sites of Aboriginal cultural significance.