



Government of Western Australia
Department of Indigenous Affairs

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Enquiries: Harley Coyne

Our ref: S0428

Mr Bill Parker
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Jerramungup
8 Vasey St
Jerramungup WA 6337

Dear Bill

Re: Reburial of Aboriginal Ancestral remains

I would like to advise that the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) wish to progress the re-burial of two partial sets of Noongar skeletal remains that are currently held in the West Australian Museum (WAM) and have their origins in the Bremer Bay area.

I request that the Shire of Jerramungup assist the DIA to identify a portion of land within the state ownership where these re-burials can occur. Preliminary discussions with the Noongar community have suggested a suitable location within Reserve #21496 in Bremer Bay. This land would of course then become a highly significant site to the Noongar community and also become a site as defined by section 5 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972. As such the identified land would have to be an area within public ownership that will have a secure vesting, never allowing for future development.

At present I am seeking 'in principle' support from the Shire of Jerramungup to provide this assistance. I will also be seeking the support of the Noongar community to reach an agreement so that the area chosen can be managed by the Shire as a public park. I would see that there would be some simple form of memorial where remains are re-interred with something like a plaque possibly attached to a rock which would locate the remains. There should be no extra or onerous maintenance from the Shire's perspective outside of normal parks and gardens issues.

I would like to meet with the relevant people at the Shire to discuss this project at a time which would suite all parties concerned. Please call Harley or myself at this office to confirm a suitable date and time or for any additional information.

Regards

Robert Reynolds
Senior Heritage Officer
7 March 2013