4 September 2018

Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Honourable Ben Wyatt MLA
Treasurer; Minister for Finance; Energy; Aboriginal Affairs
Aboriginal Policy Unit
Via email to AboriginalPolicy@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

Re: An office for advocacy and accountability in Aboriginal affairs in Western Australia – Discussion Paper

I am writing to you in response to your letter dated 28 June 2018 requesting feedback on the ‘An office for advocacy and accountability in Aboriginal affairs in Western Australia’ discussion paper. Please find the City’s feedback outlined below as requested.

1. What do you think of the idea?

   The City of Belmont supports the idea of an Aboriginal Advocacy office as outlined in the provided discussion paper.

   As the office is to represent interests of all of WA’s Aboriginal community, it is suggested that all of the language groups/clans have representation within the office.

2. What should the name of the organisation be?

   The name should be determined by the Aboriginal community.

3. How should Aboriginal people be involved in choosing the right person?

   All of the Aboriginal community should be well informed of the office’s responsibilities and role as well as of some of the characteristics and qualifications required for the person selected for the office.

   All language groups should be involved in selecting their representative for the office.

   The City of Belmont will be happy to support the communication and distribution of information required for the consultation/engagement process.

The discussion paper was tabled and discussed with the City’s Aboriginal Reference Committee Community Members who were also supportive of this idea. Please find their comments attached to this letter.
Should you have any queries in regard to this matter please contact Ms Marta Makuch, Coordinator Community Development on 9477 7442 or via email marta.makuch@belmont.wa.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

JOHN CHRISTIE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER