

Council

MOORTABIIN AT NARPANUP

REQUEST FOR LEASE

30821 ALBANY HIGHWAY AND ADJACENT RESERVE

Meeting Date: 27 October 2026

Number of Pages: 4



Gorenang Moortabiin Aboriginal Engagement & Community Development

(Aboriginal Corporation)

ICN 9339

ABN 65109482389

2nd October 2026

Mr Garry Bird
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Plantagenet
22-24 Lowood Road, MOUNT BARKER WA 6324
via email: Garry.Bird@sop.wa.gov.au
cc: nicole.selesnew@sop.wa.gov.au (Discussion Paper)

Dear Mr Bird,

RE: Request to Enter into a Lease — Former Narpanup Golf Club Property, 30821 Albany Highway, and Adjacent Reserve

Gorenang Moortabiin™ Aboriginal Corporation (GMAC) writes to formally request that the Shire of Plantagenet consider granting GMAC a five-year lease, with a view to transitioning to a long-term lease arrangement thereafter (or option to purchase if applicable), over the former Narpanup Golf Club property at 30821 Albany Highway and the adjacent Reserve.

Purpose of the Lease

GMAC seeks exclusive access to the property in order to occupy, maintain and deliver programs for community development, art, culture and recreation, for the benefit and enhanced wellbeing of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents of the Shire.

This request builds directly on the vision outlined in the "**Moortabiin™ at Narpanup**" proposal presented to Council at the recent briefing, a copy of which is enclosed. That document sets out GMAC's background, governance arrangements, track record and capability; this letter confirms the specific land use activities GMAC proposes to commence under a short-term tenure.

Proposed Land Use

Immediate and short-term activities:

- Community introduction — a Community Open Day and Welcome, introducing Gorenang Moortabiin™ to the Plantagenet community as the precinct's first event;
- Fire management and fire risk mitigation across the property and Reserve, offered as an early, practical contribution to Shire and brigade priorities;
- Youth engagement programs — youth support services deliver for pro-active diversionary engagement, recreation (cooperative games, physical activities and passive/reflective recreation), and cultural activities using the facility as a base for regional tours and excursions;
- Training and education — tutoring support, work-readiness and life-skills training, behaviour management, self-reflection and decision-making skills development;

Proposed land use (continued)

- Visual art workshops — daily cultural arts programs (drawing, painting, textiles) and gallery display of local artists' works;
- Community programs — community unity discussions, social outreach and open-house activities;
- Cultural programs — a base for cultural tours, heritage assessments and cultural learning workshops;
- Environmental stewardship — grounds care and ecological preservation of the Reserve.

Medium-term:

- Establishment of the Gorenang Moortabiin On-Country Training Hub (GMOTH), offering nationally accredited vocational qualifications through GMAC's Registered Training Organisation. The RTO application has been submitted and is formally being assessed, with recognition anticipated before the end of 2026. Training programs are anticipated to commence in Semester 1, February 2027 — well within the five-year lease period.

Long-term:

- Development of a regionally significant art gallery showcasing works by local artists of international stature — a substantial regional tourism draw-card, consistent with the Baranga Maditjil Regional Arts and Cultural Precinct described in the enclosed proposal.

Proposed Lease Terms

In recognition of the community benefit to be delivered, GMAC proposes a peppercorn lease. GMAC is a community not-for-profit Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO), registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) as a Benevolent Institution, and accorded Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) charity status by the Australian Taxation Office.

GMAC accepts responsibility for outgoings and utilities associated with the property, and would welcome a lease incorporating options to renew.

GMAC acknowledges that the adjacent Reserve is Crown land reserved for recreational purposes and vested in the Shire, and that the Shire may sublease it with the consent of the Minister. GMAC is willing and ready to work with the Council through any statutory approvals required to include the Reserve under the lease arrangements described.

GMAC's Suitability

As detailed in the enclosed proposal, GMAC is an established ACCO operating across the Great Southern since 2020, governed by an experienced Board, with a proven record of managing government-funded programs and community assets. GMAC does not seek merely to occupy the site, it proposes to invest in it. Progressively improving the property through external grant funding rather than Shire expenditure, while maintaining the asset under a structured preventative maintenance and risk management framework.

All surpluses generated at Moortabiin™ at Narpanup will be reinvested in community outcomes.

Commencement

GMAC is prepared to occupy the property upon commencement of the lease at the Shire's earliest convenience.

In conclusion:

We respectfully request that this matter be listed for Council's consideration at the October Council Forum.

Yours sincerely,



Paula Foenander

Chief Executive Officer

Gorenang Moortabiin™ Aboriginal Corporation

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