

## **8.2. MM02: Constitutional Referendum to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples by establishing an Indigenous Voice to Parliament – Community Information Event**

On 21 February 2022 this Council resolved

*THAT North Sydney Council accepts the invitation of the Uluru Statement from the Heart and:*

- i. hears and supports the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice to be enshrined in the Constitution and for a referendum on this matter; and*
- ii. welcomes working with the First Nations Voice once established with respect to the development of relevant local government policy and laws; and*
- iii. looks forward to working with our constituents, other levels of governments and all Australians to take this next step in our shared future.*

On 19 June 2023 the Federal Parliament passed legislation setting up the Constitutional Referendum recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people through the establishment of an advisory body to Parliament, known as the Indigenous Voice to Parliament.

There is strong community interest in the referendum and Council's resolved position is to support the establishment of a First Nations Voice to be enshrined in the Constitution and for the referendum to be held.

### **I therefore recommend:**

- 1. THAT** Council hold a community information event on the Constitutional Referendum in the lead up to the referendum.
- 2. THAT** Council invite authors of the "The Voice to Parliament Handbook", Thomas Mayo and Kerry O'Brien as keynote speakers at the information event.
- 3. THAT** Council invite neighbouring councils to participate and/or partner with Council.

**COUNCILLOR ZOË BAKER  
MAYOR**