

Woollahra Municipal Council Reconciliation Statement



STATEMENT

Woollahra Municipal Council supports in principle the vision for Reconciliation that provides for

“a united Australia that respects this land of ours, values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their heritage and provides justice and equity for all”,

and is committed to working together with all members of the community to support Reconciliation and encourage acceptance and respect for a diverse range of cultures.

Woollahra Municipal Council acknowledges that the first people of this area are the Aboriginal people of the Eora/Dharawal language group.

Woollahra Municipal Council acknowledges that descendants of Eora/Dharawal language group have survived more than 200 years of European settlement, and that the Eora/Dharawal language group today are proud people who take pride in celebrating their diverse culture.

Woollahra Municipal Council Recognises and Acknowledges:

- That Australia has been the home to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for over 40,000 years;
- the sense of loss and grief felt by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia;
- the hurt felt by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for the changes to their lifestyles, health, language and cultural practices;
- the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to equitable access to processes, resources and community services in a culturally appropriate manner;
- the sensitivity and importance of Aboriginal sacred sites, significant sites and special places;
- the need to maintain these sacred sites and significant sites and special places in consultation with local Aboriginal Land Councils;
- the need to find new ways of working together in partnership, to ensure access to Council services for all members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities;
- the need to improve understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues;
- the need to develop and promote culturally appropriate

events and celebrations of significance that involve all members of the community.

Woollahra Municipal Council is committed to continue to engage in awareness projects and events that enhance the Aboriginal culture and heritage within the Municipality, such as Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC week activities, and to further develop partnerships with local Reconciliation groups.

REFERENCES

Reconciliation Statement, Singleton Shire Council.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols (2005), City of Sydney.

Australian Declaration, Towards Reconciliation (2000), Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation.

Reconciliation Statement, Randwick City Council.

Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation with Aboriginal Australians, Waverley Council.

Statement of Regret and Commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People (DRAFT), City of Botany Bay.

Statement of Reconciliation, Leichhardt Municipal Council.