

The Voice Campaign Support

Tuesday, 22 August 2023
Council

Council Member
Councillor Davis

Public

Contact Officer:
Ilia Houridis, Director City
Shaping

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Davis will ask the following Question on Notice:

- 1) What action has council taken to support the campaign for the Voice;
 - 2) How much has the council spent, if any, supporting the Voice; and
 - 3) How much staff time has been spent supporting the Voice?
-

REPLY

1. On 9 May 2023 Council resolved:

Consistent with successive Council terms at the City of Adelaide's in our strong support for reconciliation, agrees to recommend to all residents of the City a "yes" vote at the referendum to be held later this year to alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice and asks the Administration to;

1. *Develop a page on Council's website setting out the resolution of Council supporting the "yes" vote, together with information about the referendum including, when available, locations at which votes can be cast in our local government area, and*
 2. *Arrange for official Australian Government publications related to the referendum to be accessed with an online link or, in the case of printed material, through the Colonel Light Centre, Council libraries and Community Centres.*
 3. *Assist the Lord Mayor to arrange an information session/briefing on the referendum for mayors throughout the State to be addressed by speakers including the Commissioner for First Nations Voice to the South Australian Parliament.*
2. Council has taken the following actions to support the campaign for the Voice:
 - 2.1. Website for information distribution:
 - 2.1.1. A City of Adelaide website page has been developed and is updated to link to key Federal content, including the Australian Electoral Commission and the official Voice Information Booklets. Any relevant information that reflects progression of the community discussion, including a link to the First Nations Voice to Parliament webpage is included.
 - 2.1.2. To ensure accurate information is provided to the Community, we are not generating our own content, but linking to all official content related to the Voice for our community.
 - 2.1.3. Social Media posts linking community to information (24 March 2023, 12 May 2023 and 27 May 2023).

- 2.1.4. Email footer for Council emails have been developed which Council Members are invited to use.
- 2.1.5. Display of material on the Voice referendum from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) via the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA across our libraries and community centres).
- 2.2. Information Sessions:
 - 2.2.1. The Lord Mayor, Commissioner Dale Agius and the Councillors of the City of Adelaide held a civic event on the mechanism for development and role of the SA Voice to Parliament – SA Councils Information Session held on Wednesday 21 June 2023.
 - 2.2.2. Commentary at NAIDOC events in July 2023, communicating Council's resolution of 9 May 2023.
 - 2.2.3. Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) event - Voice to Parliament held on 20 July 2023.
- 3. There has been no new funding allocated to deliver the 9 May 2023 motion approved by Council. All activity has been undertaken within existing Council resources.
 - 3.1. The Civic Event, SA Councils Information Session, was funded through existing operating budget and was approximately \$1,300 for Welcome to Country, catering and AV set up.
 - 3.2. The CEDA event was supported through existing operating budget comprised of approximately \$3,500 for AV hire and catering.
- 4. Approximately 24 hours of staff time to support information sharing about the Voice has been used across the last 16 weeks as follows:
 - 4.1. Approximately one hour of staff time was invested in distributing, displaying and resourcing/restocking the Voice referendum materials across City of Adelaide libraries and community centres.
 - 4.2. Approximately 5 hours of staff time was invested in the development and posting of digital materials.
 - 4.3. Approximately 5 hours of staff time was invested in the organisation and delivery of the CEDA event.
 - 4.4. Approximately 13 hours of staff time was invested in the organisation and delivery of the SA Councils Information Session.

Staff time in receiving and preparing this reply	To prepare this reply in response to the question on notice took approximately 5.5 hours.
--	---

- END OF REPORT -