

Statement of Reconciliation

A commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

We the Councillors and Residents of Leichhardt Municipality acknowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians were the first people of this land.

We greet the living members of the oldest continuing culture on earth and celebrate your wisdom and special connection to this land.

We greet all the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia, especially the Gadi-gal and Wan-gal people of the Eora Country.

In the Spirit of reconciliation;

We recognise the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture to our heritage and will endeavour to educate all our community in the cultural history and beliefs of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of this land.

We will protect and honour sites in this area which are of special cultural and spiritual significance to the Aboriginal people of this area.

We will ensure that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community receive the same opportunities of the non-Aboriginal community.

We will provide meaningful and effective programs to address the issues within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, issues that were caused by the non-Aboriginal community.

We grieve with you for the loss of your land, children, health and lives, and share the shame of past practices which have led to the suffering felt by so many. Without justice for you, none of us can walk this land in freedom, therefore we will uphold the legal and moral rights of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

We are committed to redress the wrongs done to you in the past and embrace with you a hope for a future where your spirit helps guide us to an inclusive society celebrating unity in diversity.