Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 20 June 2023] p2992b-2992b Hon Nick Goiran; Hon Sue Ellery

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT AND VOICE REFERENDUM

691. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to concerns amongst Western Australians regarding the government's implementation of the newly amended Aboriginal cultural heritage laws, as well as uncertainty regarding the impact upon Western Australia of the proposed change to the Australian Constitution to establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

- (1) Since becoming Premier, has he received a briefing note or similar document on the newly amended laws?
- (2) Since becoming Premier, has he received a briefing note or similar document on the proposed Voice?
- (3) If no to either (1) or (2), did he receive such a document as Deputy Premier?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

(1)–(3) The Premier receives a range of briefings on all matters relevant to Western Australia. It has been unlawful to harm Aboriginal cultural heritage in Western Australia for more than 50 years. The WA government supports changing the Australian Constitution to establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to federal Parliament, something that has bipartisan support across all state and territory governments.