

Voice to Parliament Referendum

What exactly are we voting on?

The vote is about whether or not we should amend the Constitution to create a body called the Voice to Parliament (**Voice**). It is to establish a commitment to the principle of the Voice.

What is its purpose?

Its main purpose is to represent the interests of First Nations peoples when laws or policies that affect them are being introduced. It will be a formal avenue for First Nations peoples to provide input and be heard when government decisions that directly impact them are being made.

“Do you support an alteration to the Constitution that establishes an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice?”

Where is the detail?

It is premature to settle the details before the referendum. How the Voice will operate exactly needs to be worked out with the First Nations community after a ‘yes’ vote. However, the Indigenous Voice Co-Design Report is a good starting point for further contextual information.

Why do we need to change the Constitution?

The Constitution is a piece of legislation that gives our governing bodies the power to govern and make laws. By creating the Voice via the Constitution, it provides a firm foundation that cannot easily be undone by a change in government and symbolises a commitment to respect and listen to the voices of First Nations peoples.