

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice

In late 2023, Australians will vote in a referendum.

Your vote will decide if some words will be added to the Australian Constitution.

The words would recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first peoples of Australia.

The words would mean that a body called the 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice' will be set up.



What the Voice would do

The Voice would be set up in line with some principles. These were agreed between a First Nations Referendum Working Group, made up of First Nations leaders from across Australia, and the Government.

The Voice would be separate to the Government. But the group would give important advice to:

- the Government
- Parliament.

The Voice would speak on issues that affect the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Voice members would make sure everyone knows what they are doing and saying.

The Voice would work with groups and organisations that are already in place.



How the Voice would be set up

First Nations people would choose who is in the Voice. They would base this choice on what they want for their communities.

Members would be from a mix of:

- genders
- places
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

The Voice would:

- empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community voices
- be led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- value all views and voices
- be informed by culture
- include young people.



Voting in the referendum

If you're an Australian citizen and older than 18 years, you:

- must be on the electoral roll
- must vote.

At the referendum, you will be asked to vote either 'yes' or 'no' to adding the words to the Constitution.

The referendum will pass if both of these happen:

- most voters in at least 4 out of 6 states vote yes
- most voters in Australia vote yes.

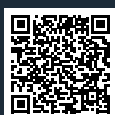
After the referendum

If the referendum passes, the Government will talk with:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- the Parliament
- the public.

These conversations would help to set up the Voice. The Parliament would then make a law to set up the Voice.

Get informed.
[Voice.gov.au](https://voice.gov.au)



Australian Government