

VOICE TO GOVERNMENT FACT SHEET

WHAT

There is going to be a referendum later this year. 'What' are you being asked to support? To vote yes or no to the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the First Peoples of Australia by giving them a Voice in decision-making in their communities.

WHY

We are still a nation that does not recognise its First Nations people in its constitution - our national birth certificate.

HOW

A Voice to Government has been suggested by many First Nations people as a way to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This is a reasonable ask where First Nations voices from the ground are heard – so we can do things differently and close the gap.

HOW THE VOICE WOULD WORK

Advisory role - The power of a Voice to Government will ensure that First Nations voices are heard at the decision-making table, so they can help influence their lives and futures.

HOW THE VOICE WOULD LOOK

The Voice is proposed in two parts, the Local and the National. The local voices across the regions will link to the National voice, helping national leaders understand local needs and views. The details of the voice will work will be established after a Yes vote is confirmed.

LOCAL VOICE

- Locally designed governance model, planning and priority setting
- Community participation
- Our leaders work directly with governments to achieve local priorities
- Looking at the needs of people on community
- Participate in the social and economic growth of communities



AREAS THE VOICE WOULD ADVISE ON INCLUDE:



PHYSICAL AND MENTAL
HEALTH



OVERCOMING ADDICTION AND
DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE



SAFETY, CRIME PREVENTION AND
REDUCING INDIGENOUS
IMPRISONMENT



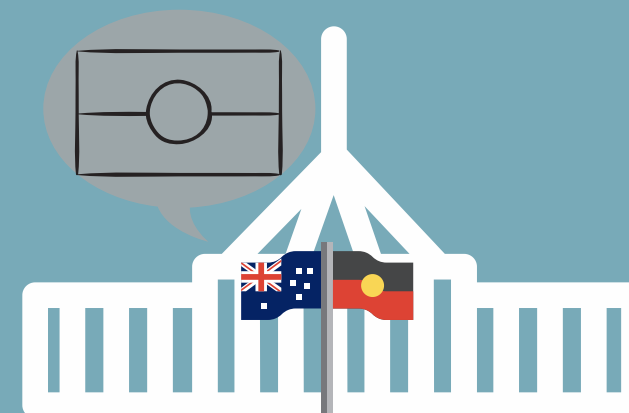
LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL
MAINTENANCE



EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT,
AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



SUICIDE PREVENTION



NATIONAL VOICE

- Advising on major nation wide policy changes
- Directly connected to local knowledge and understanding of communities
- Role of spokesperson, not politician – to bring local voices to influence decisions of national government