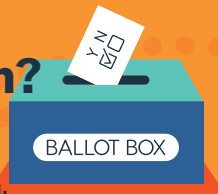


everything you need to know about..

The Voice to Parliament

What is the Voice to Parliament Referendum?

A referendum is a chance to change an important document called the Constitution.



The Constitution is a set of rules that guides how our country and its government works. It can only be changed by a referendum, where all Australians over 18 years vote on the change.

The change recommended in the upcoming referendum is to create an Advisory group, called the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice*. The referendum asks all Australians aged over 18 years to vote yes or no to make this change.

Why are we having a referendum?

In 2017, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people came together to discuss and agree what would help their people have a better future.

The document they developed is called the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*. It asked for a Voice to Parliament to be part of the Constitution. Making it part of the Constitution helps to make it permanent, but can only happen if the majority of Australians vote yes in a referendum.



The Prime Minister announced the referendum will happen on **Saturday 14 October 2023**.

What will the Voice do?

This Voice will give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the option to have a say about laws and issues that affect them. They will provide advice to Parliament. The Voice does not have the ability to make, change or reject laws or actions the Parliament makes.

How can I have my say?

If you are 18 or older, an Australian citizen and registered to vote, you can attend a polling place and select yes or no on a piece of paper called a 'ballot' to submit your vote in the referendum

so, to recap...

Constitution

A set of rules or guidelines.



Referendum

A vote to change the Constitution.

Parliament

A group of people who make or change laws and policy.



Voice to Parliament



A group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who will provide advice to Parliament.