

Minimum expectations and recognition of Local and Regional Voices

The Interim Report proposes that to be recognised as a Local and Regional Voice, a governance structure would need to meet a set of minimum expectations. This would give communities and governments confidence that all Local and Regional Voices meet a consistent minimum standard.



Proposed minimum expectations

The minimum expectations would be based on three principles that relate to good governance:

- *Inclusive Participation*
- *Cultural Leadership*
- *Transparency and Accountability.*

Governance structures would need to show how they are applying these principles in a way that works for the communities in their region.

Over time, Local and Regional Voices would be expected to build on these minimum expectations and work towards applying all nine principles in the 'best practice' way.



Proposed options for recognition of Local and Regional Voices

The minimum expectations would be used as assessment criteria to decide if a governance structure can be formally recognised as a Local and Regional Voice.

Formal recognition of Local and Regional Voices would give certainty and clarity to community members, governments and the governance structure itself.

Two options are proposed for how this recognition process could work.

- **Joint assessment** option:
a governance structure could work together with governments to make the assessment.

- **Independent assessment** option:
an independent body could make the assessment, based on an application submitted by a governance structure.

Under each option, the minimum expectations and the recognition process would be set out in legislation. Local community members, groups and organisations would be able to provide their views and input to the process.

Once it is recognised, the details of the Local and Regional Voice (name, region of operation) would be publically available.

Following consultation feedback, one option will be included in the final recommendations.



Which of these two options would work best to recognise Local and Regional Voices?



Visit voice.niaa.gov.au to provide a submission, complete the survey or learn more about the Indigenous Voice proposals.