



# Indigenous Voice Community Consultation

## Consultation session details

**Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara country,**

**Coober Pedy, 4 May 2021, 1:30pm, session 2**

**Number of participants: 5**

## Key points raised

*Please note, this is a summary of the discussion and the views and opinions expressed by participants in consultation sessions. It is not intended to be an exhaustive summary of all points raised, but draws out the key points.*

The session was attended by 5 participants and started with recognition of country by Professor Peter Buckskin who led the discussion. Key points discussed are summarised below.

### *Overarching points*

- A view was expressed that it was important for the Voice to be inclusive of all people, and that was the only way forward.
- There was a comment that the Voice was a great opportunity, and it would open up doors for Aboriginal people.

### *Local & Regional Voice*

- A participant shared their experience of previously working in WA (Meekatharra area), where they already had a group who worked closely with government, schools and other stakeholders and advocated for the region, with broad and inclusive membership. They noted that a model like this would be great for this region, and for the Voice more broadly.
- In discussion about the region's readiness to establish a Local and Regional Voice it was noted there would need to be some form of transitional arrangement, as the region moves from a few people talking for the community towards everyone having a voice, and that this would take time and require work by the community to set up the right arrangements.
- There was a view that the move towards an inclusive Local and Regional Voice is necessary and that it would be important to support any young people who might come forward and put their hand up to be involved.
- There was also support for ensuring that women have a voice, and could be heard in the community.
- The importance of working out how the communities in the region would work together and collaborate was highlighted, given that Coober Pedy would fit into a bigger region in SA.
- A participant noted it would be challenging to ensure that louder voices move aside to enable other voices to be heard. The importance of making the arrangements work for people who move between communities was also highlighted.



- It was noted that under this model communities would be able to look at their local issues, as well as considering issues across the region, and this would provide a strong central voice for this region.

*National Voice*

- Participants agreed that having the National Voice was a great opportunity. It was felt that there needed to be some action, so Aboriginal people are not talking about the same things in another 30 years.