

Indigenous Voice Community Consultation

Consultation session details

Barnjarla country, Port Lincoln, 16 March 2021, 1:30PM, Session 2

Number of participants: 3

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 three participants and facilitated by co-design members Ms Zell Dodd and Mr Wayne Miller. Key issues discussed are summarised below.

Overarching points

- Participants were supportive of the Voice proposals and could see it providing an avenue for communities to come together, mobilize and influence government decision making and policy.
- Participants felt the Voice could also play a coordinating role to streamline consultation with local community.
 - It was noted that government currently goes out and consults with different groups.
 - One participant noted the Voice could also offer an opportunity for industry and the private sector to consult with Aboriginal peoples.
- One participant asked how non-indigenous Australians could help support this process and ensure the proposals deliver on what the Indigenous community wants.
- One participant suggested the Voice should be enshrined in the constitution.
- One participant noted the importance of evaluating the Voice along the way.

Local & Regional Voice

- Participants were interested in how many regions there would be in South Australia and where Port Lincoln might fit.
- Participants noted that there are a lot of existing organisations that could play a role in the regional level Voice and were supportive of the flexibility offered by the Local & Regional Voice framework and principles.
- Participants discussed the historical dynamic among community organisations and between local families. It was noted that this wasn't unique to the Port Lincoln area. There was agreement that it would be best for the Port Lincoln community to be united prior to the regional voice starting.
- Participants were interested to hear how the proposal would work across government and with the state government. The importance of taking local government along this journey was also raised in the discussion.



National Voice

- There was some discussion on how the election model for the National Voice might work, including:
 - How the Australian Electoral Commission may run an election and,
 - Some of the challenges around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander electoral roles and voter turnout.
 - that there would need to be a campaign to encourage people to sign up and vote if the election model was selected.