



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Issue date: 5 September 2018

Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition to hold further public hearings

Following the presentation of its interim report in July, the [Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples](#) will continue to hold public hearings in communities around Australia.

In its [interim report](#), the Committee considered the proposal for a First Nations Voice, which arose from the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*.

The Committee is interested in hearing further evidence about the structure, functions, and establishment of a Voice, and how such a body might best work to empower the local, regional, and national voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The Committee is also interested in hearing evidence on other proposals for constitutional change and proposals for truth-telling and agreement making.

The Committee will hold two public hearings in Canberra on 11 and 18 September 2018.

The Committee is also planning to hold public hearings in:

- Wodonga, Shepparton, Melbourne, and Launceston in the week commencing 24 September 2018;
- Thursday Island, Townsville, Palm Island, Brisbane, and Western Sydney in the week commencing 1 October 2018; and
- Cherbourg on 12 October 2018.

Members of the community are welcome to attend the hearings. Individuals or organisations who wish to speak with the Committee are encouraged to contact the secretariat on jscqr@aph.gov.au. Further details about the hearings will be made available on the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/jscqr.

The Committee is also seeking additional submissions examining the issues set out in the [interim report](#), and addressing the questions posed in the final chapter of the report. Additional submissions should be received by 17 September 2018.

The Committee is due to present its final report to the Parliament on 29 November 2018.

Media enquiries:

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For background information:

Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, 02 6277 4129, jsccl@aph.gov.au.

Interested members of the public may wish to track the committee via the [website](#). Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.

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