# Frequently Asked Questions

## What was the Queensland Government’s response to the Indigenous Voice Co-Design Process Interim Report and Final Report provided to the Australian Government?

* The Queensland Government has been actively engaged in the Australian Government’s Indigenous Voice Co-Design process and publicly released a response to the [Indigenous Voice Co-Design Process Interim Report (PDF)](https://voice.niaa.gov.au/sites/default/files/submissions/20a7cd2cd36f6-Queensland%20Goverment%20-%20sbm17eb2c44a6ea529e479b7_Cleaned.pdf) in May 2021.
* The response noted that further co-design work would occur with First Nations Queenslanders to select the preferred model for Queensland, informed by a diverse range of voices and reforms including Local Thriving Communities.
* In line with the Queensland Government’s response to the Interim Report, the response to the Indigenous Voice Co-Design Process Final Report released in December 2021 noted further co-design work was required in Queensland to be led by the First Nations Consultative Committee.
* The Queensland Government will continue to work with the Australian Government to coordinate government activity around how the outcomes of the Committee’s co-design work will inform the national Indigenous Voice reform including the commitment to implement the Uluru Statement from the Heart in full.
* A Queensland Indigenous Voice that is co-designed will be authentic and representative of Queensland First Nations diversity and experience and provide for better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

## What is the First Nations Consultative Committee’s role?

* The First Nations Consultative Committee (the Committee) will advise the Queensland Government on Indigenous Voice options for Queensland including consideration of the establishment of a longer-term state-wide body.
* The preference for, and development of a Queensland Indigenous Voice model, will be informed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander views, Queensland’s reform landscape and take account of the national Indigenous Voice work underway.

## Who are the Committee members?

* An eight-member Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee has been established representing eight regions across the state: Cape York Peninsula, Far North Queensland, Gulf and West Queensland, North Queensland, Central Queensland, South West Queensland, South East Queensland, and the Torres Strait.
* Members of the Committee are:
* Ms Karen Dini-Paul, Cape York Peninsula region
* Mr Terry O’Shane, Far North Queensland region
* Mrs Patricia Lees, Gulf and West Queensland region
* Mr Edward Smallwood, North Queensland region
* Mr Joshua Gorringe, Central Queensland region
* Ms Kerry Crumblin, South West Queensland region
* Mr Cameron Costello, South East Queensland region
* Ms Talei Elu, Torres Strait region.

## How were members selected to the Committee?

* A public Expression of Interest process was undertaken, advertised across the state, to encourage people to apply.
* Members were appointed based on their connection to their region, expertise and experience, community support and ability to advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders of all ages, abilities, genders, and locations across all levels of government.

## How long will the Committee be established for?

* Members have been appointed for 12 months to refine and develop options for a Queensland Indigenous Voice model.

## How will the Committee consult with other advisory groups and key stakeholders to advance a Queensland Indigenous Voice?

* The Committee will engage and consult with existing local decision-making bodies to advance the design of Queensland Indigenous Voice models and ensure existing bodies and membership are taken into consideration.
* Existing local decision-making bodies could include, but are not exclusive to, Local Decision-Making Bodies established as part of Local Thriving Communities, Registered Native Title Body Corporates, Cultural Heritage bodies, Aboriginal Councils, the Torres Strait Island Regional Council, Torres Shire Council, and the Torres Strait Regional Authority.
* The Committee will also be informed by the views of other representative structures established in Queensland such as the Local Thriving Communities Joint Coordinating Committee and the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Coalition. Any future representative bodies established as part of Path to Treaty will also inform the work of the Committee.
* This will ensure authentic community views and the progression of ongoing reforms in Queensland are taken into consideration in the design of Queensland Indigenous Voice models, including for any longer-term state-wide representative structure.

## What is the difference between this Committee and existing First Nations advisory bodies in Queensland?

* While Queensland’s reform agendas are providing for representative structures that will inform Indigenous Voice, there is an absence of a state-wide body, focused on holistic and systemic responses to a range of policy and program matters.
* For example, Local Thriving Communities and Closing the Gap reforms respond to grassroots issues around improved service delivery and design through local decision-making, and future representative structures established to progress. Path to Treaty will deliberate on treaty and truth telling specific matters with structures taking time to be established and subject to future Government consideration.

## How long might it take to establish a Queensland Indigenous Voice, and how will this work alongside the Australian Government’s co-design process?

* The Committee has been established for 12 months and within this time will provide advice on options to establish a Queensland Indigenous Voice model, in consultation with First Nations Queenslanders. This includes investigating the option to establish a longer-term state-wide body.
* The Committee’s co-design work will occur parallel to the Australian Government’s process and ultimately inform how a Queensland Indigenous Voice could interact with the national Indigenous Voice reform work underway.
* The Queensland Government notes the establishment of longer-term Queensland Indigenous Voice model will take time; however, it is important to ensure any future model in Queensland is reflective of First Nation Queenslanders’ views and the reform landscape in Queensland to ensure the model best links with the Australian Government’s Indigenous Voice approach.