The ballot paper has the text: Voters will have to mark one box with ‘X’ for either choice.

The ballot paper before polling. The ballot paper will have awareness posters showing independence?

Do you agree for Bougainville to have: Greater Autonomy; or Independence? 1. Greater Autonomy: A negotiated political settlement that provides for a form of autonomy with greater powers than those currently available under constitutional arrangements. 2. Independence: An independent nation state with sovereign powers and laws, recognised under international law and by other sovereign states to be an independent state, separate from the State of Papua New Guinea.

Polling - when
 Begins 23 November (for two weeks until 6 December). Polling will begin in remote locations. The Polling Schedule will be gazetted 16 October for all dates and locations.

Counting
 The counting centre will be in Buka. By law, counting cannot start until polling is finished. The BRC will announce the count for each option and return the Writ to the Governor-General, as provided by law, with the number of votes:
- For Greater Autonomy
- For Independence
- Informal ballots

There will be no declared ‘winner’ or voter threshold to reach, such as 80% or 50% +1.

After the count
 1. 40-day appeals process
 2. BRC returns to the Transitional Committee and begins closure.

Scrutineers
 The Organic Law provides for Interested Parties in the Referendum. The two governments and Recognised Interest Groups. Interested parties are the only organisations permitted to appoint scrutineers:
- Scrutiny of polling, transport of ballot boxes and counting
- Cannot interfere with voters or the process.

Observers
Domestic and international observers have an internationally recognised role in the electoral process:
- Observe polling and counting
- Cannot interfere with voters or the process.

Applications close for Observer groups (1 October) and Interest Groups. Interested parties have an internationally recognised role in the electoral process.

Referendum dates
The two governments announced the following dates on 2 August 2019:
- Issue of Writ - 27 September
- Polling begins - 23 November

The two governments have said there will be no further extensions or delays – the Referendum will be held this year.

Referendum question
The Bougainville Referendum offers a choice between greater autonomy within Papua New Guinea than current autonomy, or independence from Papua New Guinea. The question set by the two governments in October 2018 will be on the ballot paper:
Do you agree for Bougainville to have:
1. Greater Autonomy; or
2. Independence

Referendum process
The result will be non-binding. The two Governments have agreed on the following process:
1. Eligible people of Bougainville will vote in the referendum.
2. National Government and the ABG will consult.
3. National Parliament will make the final decision.

The Bougainville Referendum Commission (BRC) is the independent body established by the ABG and Government of PNG to conduct the Referendum. The Commission has an independent international Chair (Bertie Ahern) and six Commissioners appointed by the governments of Papua New Guinea and of Bougainville. It works with, but is separate from, the two electoral commissions. The BRC is not subject to the direction of either government and does not promote any particular outcome of the Referendum.

Under the Charter, the BRC must be: Neutral, Impartial, Independent, Professional and Transparent.
ENROLMENT & PUBLIC DISPLAY

Your name must be on the Referendum Roll to vote!

Who can enrol?
Eligibility to vote is set by law and the two governments, not the BRC.

Bougainvilleans and other PNG citizens living in Bougainville:
- Have lived in Bougainville for at least six months prior to claim for enrolment
- Were born on or before 23 November 2001
- Are a PNG citizen
- Are entitled to vote in PNG National Elections.

Non-resident Bougainvilleans (Bougainvilleans living outside Bougainville):
- Have links to Bougainville by birth, adoption, marriage or clan.
- Were born on or before 23 November 2001
- Are a PNG citizen
- Are entitled to vote in PNG National Elections.

Enrolment process
Enrolment is in three phases:
1. April: Verification of the base working roll (2015 ABG Roll)
2. June-July: Door-to-door enrolment
3. September: Public display of the Preliminary Referendum roll.

BRC is working with Ward Recorders and Community Governments to enrol voters. This gives community ownership and helps build a credible Roll.

Outside Bougainville, BRC works with PNG Electoral Commission provincial offices, and overseas diplomatic missions to enrol Bougainvilleans living in Australia and Solomon Islands.

What is the public display?
From 6 - 26 September, Ward Recorders will publicly display the Preliminary Referendum Roll for your ward, in your ward. This is the list of all the people enrolled to vote in the Bougainville Referendum after phase one and two enrolment. This includes Bougainvilleans living outside Bougainville from your ward. It is your final chance to make sure you are enrolled to vote!

What should I do?
1. Check your name is correctly enrolled (if not, see Ward Recorder for claim for enrolment / claim to transfer, or make an alteration)
2. Check if there are names of people who have died or moved from the ward (if so see Ward Recorder)
3. Lodge an objection against any ineligible voter (see Ward Recorder or Assistant Returning Officer).

Enrolment to vote!

1. Roll Displayed
   Ward Recorder displays Preliminary Roll 6 to 26 September.
2. Check roll
   Check Preliminary Roll displayed in your ward or see your Ward Recorder.
3. Are you enrolled?
   Check your name and details are correct. > If not, see your Ward Recorder to enrol or update your details.
4. Objection
   If you see a name that shouldn’t be there. > See Ward Recorder to complete an objection form.

OBSERVATIONS
People can make an objection if they think someone on the Roll is not eligible according to the Referendum eligibility criteria. No other objection criteria will be accepted.

What should I do?
1. See your Ward Recorder
2. Complete Objection Form saying why person not eligible
3. Ward Recorder refers matter to Assistant Returning Officer (ARO)

Example: Mary sees that John, a boy in her village is on the roll. Mary knows John just had his 16th birthday so can not be old enough to enrol. On the Objection Form, Mary states that she is objecting to John appearing on the roll due to his not being old enough.

It is serious to object to someone. The Organic Law states that a person making an objection must give a 4 Kina deposit. If the objection is found to require investigation, the 4 Kina is refunded.

If someone objects to your name, your ARO will serve you with a notice. You will have the right to appeal through the ARO.

SPECIAL NOTE
Bougainvilleans reaching 18 years of age on or before 23 November 2019, the date polling begins, should use this time to enrol. Do not wait until polling day!

Where will the Roll be?
The Ward Recorder will display the Preliminary Referendum Roll in a central location in each ward until 26 September.

What happens next?
After display, the BRC will update the Roll to produce the final Referendum Roll. Remember - if your name is not on the Referendum Roll you will not be able to vote in the Referendum.

FAQS

Why can non-Bougainvilleans living in Bougainville vote?
The Bougainville Peace Agreement, in section 315, says that all people who can vote in PNG national elections in Bougainville can vote in the referendum. This includes Bougainvilleans and non-Bougainville PNG citizens who have lived in the same place in Bougainville for at least six months before the date they enrol to vote.

Why can Bougainvilleans living outside Bougainville vote?
The two Governments agreed the criteria for enrolment for non-resident Bougainvilleans, again this was required by the Bougainville Peace Agreement.

Does my enrolment receipt mean I can vote?
No. An enrolment receipt is not proof of enrolment and will not be accepted during polling. You must have your name on the final Referendum Roll to vote. This is because your name may have been successfully objected to during the public display period.

I enrolled after 2 August, but my name is not on the Preliminary Roll?
Phase 2 enrolment ended in August. If you have enrolled at a Regional Centre or recently during a special event after 2 August, your name may not have been included in data entry. However your name will appear on the final Referendum Roll.