



ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

MEETING NO. 10 – 30 July 2020

COMMUNIQUE

The Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee (Committee) enables whole-of-government coordination on strategic government initiatives and policies that affect the cultural, health and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people in Western Australia.

COVID-19 Recovery Update

The Committee noted the progress of COVID-19 Recovery in Western Australia (WA) and the release of the WA Recovery Plan on 26 July 2020. The WA Recovery Plan is available to view [here](#).

Complex Task Team: Remote Aboriginal Communities

Members acknowledged the work of the Complex Task Team for Remote Aboriginal Communities and discussed a number of issues including the following:

- occurrence of false-positives in the Beagle Bay area raising community concern;
- lack of accommodation for community to self-isolate as a result of tourism restart;
- food shortages in regional and remote areas;
- clients in the justice system attending court during COVID-19 restrictions; and
- issues relating to Family and Domestic Violence.

Western Australian Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Strategy

Committee members endorsed the proposed approach by the Mental Health Commission for developing the Western Australian Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Strategy.

Closing the Gap Update

Committee members noted the update on the new National Agreement on Closing the Gap. The new National Agreement was announced by the Prime Minister of Australia, Hon Scott Morrison MP, on 30 July 2020. The next phase in the process will be the development of implementation plans.

Department of Communities' Aboriginal Cultural Council

Committee members noted information regarding the Department of Communities' Aboriginal Cultural Council, established in 2019 to support the Department of Communities within a culturally secure framework.

Rebecca Brown
CHAIR

**Confidential deliberations are not included.*