



ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MEETING NO. 11 – 22 October 2020

COMMUNIQUE

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

Closing the Gap and Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy

The Committee noted the update on the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, and progress on the development of the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy. Public feedback submissions on the discussion paper for the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy are now publicly available to view [here](#).

Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Project

Due to time constraints, Committee members noted information out-of-session regarding the proposed Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing (PRIS) legislation.

The PRIS legislation will create a framework for government agencies to protect personal information and responsibly share personal and other information with other government agencies and external bodies (in certain circumstances).

This framework supports the delivery of commitments under the fourth priority reform of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Response to COVID-19 in Western Australian Remote Public Schools

Committee members noted information regarding the development of a remote area schooling strategy by the Department of Education. In response to low attendance rates following COVID-19, the strategy will aim to strengthen the educational outcomes of Aboriginal students in Western Australian remote public schools through improved engagement of Aboriginal communities, organisations and families.

Empowered Communities East Kimberley – Taylor Report

Binarri-Binyja Yarrawoo Aboriginal Corporation attended the Committee meeting to present on the *Change in Aboriginal Social Indicators in the East Kimberley: 2001-2016* (Taylor, 2020) report. The report identifies the need for better targeted investment in the East Kimberley to address intergenerational social, cultural and economic development for Aboriginal people.

Rebecca Brown

CHAIR

**Confidential deliberations are not included.*