

# WA Implementation Plan for Closing the Gap

## Community Guide

September 2021



## More than just words: An Implementation Plan to drive action

The WA Government's Closing the Gap Implementation Plan outlines how we will meet our commitments under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

The National Agreement sets out a range of targets for improving Aboriginal economic and social wellbeing, and commits to critical reforms that support a new way of working between governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The WA Plan builds on the foundations of the transformative Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy 2021-2029. The Strategy sets out a long-term whole-of-Government approach to how we will work with Aboriginal Western Australians to ensure Aboriginal people, families and communities are empowered to live good lives and choose their own futures, from a secure foundation.

## What's in the Plan?

This first Plan sets out the initial phase of actions and reforms that will help to drive progress towards the agreed outcomes and targets. It makes sure that everyone can clearly see what we have said we will do to deliver on our commitments, and it holds us strongly accountable by assessing whether our actions are working along the way.

### Four priority reforms:

01. Formal partnerships and shared decision making
02. Building the community-controlled sector
03. Transforming government organisations
04. Shared access to data and information at a regional level

### 17 socio-economic outcomes:

01. Aboriginal people enjoy long and healthy lives
02. Aboriginal children are both healthy and strong

03. Aboriginal children are engaged in high quality and culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years
04. Aboriginal children thrive in their early years
05. Aboriginal students achieve their full learning potential
06. Aboriginal students reach their full potential through further education pathways
07. Aboriginal youth are engaged in education or employment
08. Strong economic participation and development of Aboriginal people and communities
09. Aboriginal people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need
10. Aboriginal people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system





11. Aboriginal young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system
12. Aboriginal children are not overrepresented in the child protection system
13. Aboriginal families and households are safe
14. Aboriginal people enjoy high levels of social and emotional wellbeing
15. Aboriginal people maintain a distinctive cultural, spiritual, physical and economic relationship with their land and waters
16. Aboriginal cultures and languages are strong, supported and flourishing
17. Aboriginal people have access to information and services enabling participation in informed decision-making regarding their own lives\*

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\* While Target 17 will be explored through the course of this Plan, specific actions to address this target will feature in future Plan updates.

## Two parts, one Plan

The Plan is set out in two parts:

- **Part A** describes the activities we will take to implement the priority reforms and work towards the targets, and sets out which Government agencies will lead and support these activities.

It also provides information about how WA is tracking against each target, what partnerships and strategies are currently in place, and areas or opportunities for development.

- **Part B** provides information on specific activities, programs and services relevant to each priority reform area and target, including whether they are new or existing actions. It notes funding arrangements, timeframes and the Minister responsible.

## Working together to make real change

The Plan will be reviewed and revised over time. Actions and initiatives that arise from the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy will also inform future updates of the Plan.

The Plan and the Strategy, two WA firsts, show the WA Government's strong commitment to partnering with Aboriginal Western Australians to create lasting impacts that empower and support better outcomes for Aboriginal people in WA.



To read the full WA Implementation Plan, visit  
[wa.gov.au/closing-the-gap-implementation-plan](https://wa.gov.au/closing-the-gap-implementation-plan)

