



Closing the Gap

South Australia's Implementation Plan

2024 – 2026



Government
of South Australia



SAACCON
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL
COMMUNITY CONTROLLED
ORGANISATION NETWORK



CLOSING THE GAP



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Acknowledgement of country

We acknowledge and respect Aboriginal people as the state's First Peoples that formed First Nations and recognise Aboriginal people as the Traditional Owners and occupants of lands and waters in South Australia. We recognise:

- the spiritual, social, cultural and economic practices of Aboriginal people come from their connection to traditional lands and waters
- maintaining cultural heritage beliefs, languages and laws are of ongoing importance to Aboriginal people today
- Aboriginal people have made and continue to make a unique and irreplaceable contribution to South Australia.

We acknowledge Aboriginal people have endured past injustice and dispossession of their traditional lands and waters and the effects of such injustice and dispossession are still felt today.

About the words we use

We recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples each have their own unique languages, beliefs, cultural practices, traditions and diversity within each culture.

This implementation plan uses the collective term 'Aboriginal' to reference and reflect the unique identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We respectfully acknowledge that Torres Strait Islander peoples are First Nations people living in South Australia and 'Aboriginal' should be read to include the diversity of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander South Australians.

About South Australia's Closing the Gap artwork

The artwork in this report was created by Brooke Rigney-Lively, a proud Ngarrindjeri and Kaurna woman and mother, musician and artist.

Brooke is passionate about working in and with community, and many of her works depict her personal journey, family and connection to Country and Waters.

Jointly commissioned by the South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network (SAACCON) and South Australia's Attorney-General's Department (AGD) Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (AAR) division, the artwork represents the partnership between SAACCON and the SA Government to Closing the Gap.

The artwork depicts 7 circles or meeting places representing outcome areas for Closing the Gap: education and employment; health and wellbeing; justice and safety; housing; land and waters; languages; and child protection.

Crosshatching symbolises the importance of the relationship between SAACCON, the SA Government and community. Trees symbolise continual growth and the need to stay connected to community in pursuing better outcomes.

Seventeen kangaroo tracks symbolise the 17 socio-economic outcomes across 4 priority reforms (the hill / mountains). Footprints represent the commitment to walk together to achieve outcomes.





Opening statements

Mr Scott Wilson, Lead Convener of the South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network

Today marks a critical moment in our journey toward equity and justice for the Aboriginal peoples of South Australia as we launch the second iteration of the South Australian Implementation Plan for the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Over the past three years, SAACCON, in partnership with the SA Government, has been laying down the foundations for meaningful and sustainable change. Through this first phase, we have worked diligently to build structures that strengthen and embed our voices in decision-making processes within these partnerships.

Below are some of the substantive achievements from the first iteration and reflect the foundations we've built which are crucial for creating long-term positive outcomes:

Co-Design: Integration of co-design into SA Government policy and place-based decision-making processes. This action recognises that –

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a genuine say in the design and delivery of services that affect them
- governments share decision-making with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples represented by Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations
- commits government to improve engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.


Royal Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Aboriginal Partnership

Committee: Royal Commissioner Natasha Stott Despoja AO (the Commissioner) was appointed to inquire into four key areas related to Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence. The Commission is committed to the objectives of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and has entered into a unique partnership with SAACCON, establishing an Aboriginal Partnership Committee that will be instrumental in developing recommendations that are culturally responsive for Aboriginal people and communities.

SAACCON–Department for Child Protection Memorandum of Understanding:

In June 2024, SAACCON and the Department for Child Protection signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of establishing a transparent, and accountable policy and place-based partnership between the two parties, to reduce the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in child protection and guardianship in South Australia. The Parties are committed to identifying and implementing transformative elements aligned with Priority Reform 3 which are:

- identify and eliminate racism
- embed and practice meaningful cultural safety
- deliver services in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, communities and people
- increase accountability through transparent funding allocations
- support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures
- improve engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



This second iteration of the Implementation Plan reflects our readiness to move beyond foundation-laying and toward deeper, more impactful actions. It represents not only a continuation but an evolution - one that is informed by the progress we've made and the barriers we've worked to dismantle. Our focus now shifts towards innovative solutions, guided by self-determination that will create lasting, systemic change for Aboriginal peoples.

As we step into this second iteration of the Implementation Plan, we are reminded that this plan is more than a policy - it's a roadmap to equity and justice. Our community-led efforts, built on the strengths of our culture, knowledge, and leadership, will drive these new actions. We continue to push for the removal of outdated service delivery models that no longer serve our people, and instead, advocate for transformative change.

We call on all governments to continue partnering with us, ensuring the resources are directed to Aboriginal-led initiatives, with transparency and accountability at every step.

As we embark on this next chapter, we remain steadfast in our commitment to closing the gap, knowing that the path forward is one we walk together.

The Hon. Kyam Maher MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

On behalf of South Australia, I acknowledge and respect Aboriginal peoples as the state's first peoples and nations and recognise them as traditional owners and occupants of land and waters in South Australia.

South Australia's Closing the Gap Implementation Plan 2024-2026 (Implementation Plan) renews and strengthens South Australia's efforts to meet its commitments under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap (National Agreement) and to take the action required to secure transformational change.

South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network (SAACCON) and the State Government have worked together, to revise and review the inaugural Implementation Plan to develop a new set of agreed actions. This Implementation Plan represents the collation of this work and is crucial to achieving the Priority Reforms and socio-economic outcomes of the National Agreement.

This Implementation Plan commits the State Government to continue to work in partnership with SAACCON to build and embed co-design in the development and implementation of policies and programs that impact on South Australia's Aboriginal communities and peoples.

Addressing factors that will improve outcomes for Aboriginal peoples requires a holistic approach designed and delivered in partnership with Aboriginal communities and peoples. To achieve this, we will:

- listen to Aboriginal communities, peoples, and their representatives in the Aboriginal Community Controlled sector to work in genuine partnership and with shared decision-making
- coordinate, integrate and make holistic approaches to the delivery of services and programs for Aboriginal communities and peoples.

We are proud that the partnership between SAACCON and the State Government continues to build strength through co-design and shared decision making, as together we turn our minds to how to better implement the Priority Reforms and socio-economic outcomes for greater gain and to accelerate progress to close the gap for South Australia's Aboriginal communities and peoples.



Partners responsible

The Closing the Gap Implementation Plan 2024-26 was developed in partnership with SAACCON and the South Australian Government. It was formally agreed by both parties at the South Australian Partnership Committee meeting in November 2024.

Scott Wilson
Lead Convener, South Australian Aboriginal
Community Controlled Organisation Network

Date

Hon Kyam Maher MLC
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Date





Executive summary

The Closing the Gap Implementation Plan 2024-26 (the Plan) sets out how South Australia will deliver on the National Agreement on Closing the Gap (the National Agreement). This second Plan builds on the first Implementation Plan, agreed in 2021.

Developed in partnership between the SA Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network (SAACCON) and SA Government, the Plan outlines our shared approach to addressing the needs, priorities and circumstances of Aboriginal people and communities in SA. The Plan describes our partnership actions, and how we will achieve the Priority Reforms across the 17 socio-economic outcome areas of Closing the Gap.

The Plan is intended to be a living document, which will be updated to reflect shared priorities, progress, and feedback over its lifetime.

What have we done so far?

SA's first Implementation Plan was developed in 2021 and set the foundations for our implementation of the National Agreement.

We recognise the interconnectedness of the Priority Reforms and how our focus on meeting all four Priority Reforms will bring about the required outcomes. We have aligned lead agency responsibilities on each Priority Reform to ensure greater coordination and accountability.


- Priority Reform 1 is led by Attorney-General's Department
- Priority Reform 2 is led by Department of Treasury and Finance
- Priority Reform 3 is led by Premier and Cabinet
- Priority Reform 4 is led by Department of Treasury and Finance.

Across the life of the first Implementation Plan, we made progress on delivering our partnership work under Priority Reform 1. We established a historic Partnership Agreement between SA Government and SAACCON and set up the SA Partnership Committee (SAPC) on Closing the Gap, as the central governance mechanism for our Closing the Gap implementation.

Priority Reform 2 has seen the establishment of a Working Group co-chaired by SAACCON, to foster partnership and across-government collaboration. The SAPC oversaw the establishment of the ACCO Grant Funding round established to build the strength and sustainability of ACCOs, to deliver services across a range of sectors and meet the needs of Aboriginal people in SA.

The development and launch of the first *Public Sector Anti-Racism Strategy 2023-28 and Action Plan* to focus across-government action against racism in line with the transformation elements under Priority Reform 3 is a significant step in the transformation of government organisations.

Under Priority Reform 4 the establishment of the SA Community Data Project Steering Committee will support SAACCON and other SA Government agencies to deliver the Community Data Project aligned to the Place-Based Partnership in Western Adelaide.



In 2023-2024, the SA Government invested an additional \$1 million per annum to increase and resource SAACCON's capacity, in recognition of the crucial and ongoing role of SAACCON in Closing the Gap in SA.

We also legislated a First Nations Voice to Parliament, which will play a critical role in ensuring government organisations work better for Aboriginal people, a priority of the National Agreement.

SA continues to make positive contribution towards the national targets, with July 2024 data showing improvements against 9 targets. Continued efforts to reduce the overincarceration of Aboriginal adults in South Australia has seen a slight reduction in the imprisonment rate for the past two years.

But we know there is more to do.

Progress against two targets is worsening. We are committed to improving outcomes for Aboriginal people in contact with the justice system and we are making investments to improve our progress toward Target 10. The rate of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care has also increased in SA and we need further efforts to change this trajectory.

What will we do next?

This new Plan focuses on what we will do over the next two years, until 2026. This includes a focus on more integrated delivery of the Priority Reforms.

We will also have a renewed focus on Priority Reform 3, which aims to transform the government's way of working, and Priority Reform 4, to ensure the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) sector has shared access to, and capability to use, locally relevant data.

SA's Partnership Agreement has supported the SA Government and SAACCON to negotiate and develop a comprehensive set of new implementation actions that address the Priority Reforms and socio-economic outcomes of the National Agreement.

These actions are embedded in this Implementation Plan and set out the priority areas for the next two years. They represent a renewed effort to secure the reforms envisioned in the National Agreement.

Many of the new actions aim to progress the socio-economic outcomes of the National Agreement:

- Justice and Safety
- Health and Wellbeing
- Housing and Community Infrastructure
- Education
- Aboriginal Languages
- Family and Kin
- Economic Participation, Employment, Skills Development and Digital Inclusion
- Land and Waters.

The background features a complex, abstract design. The upper portion is dominated by various shades of blue, with wavy, concentric patterns that resemble ripples in water or topographical contours. A prominent, light blue, winding line flows from the upper right towards the bottom center, resembling a river or a path. The lower portion of the image transitions into warm tones of orange and red, also featuring wavy, concentric patterns that mirror the blue section above. The overall effect is one of dynamic movement and layered depth.

Section 1 - Our approach to Closing the Gap in South Australia



Working in partnership

The National Agreement acknowledges that business as usual has not been working. To deliver the transformative change in the National Agreement, all states and territories have committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal people to make decisions and shape policies, to ensure that government policies and programs meet the needs of Aboriginal people.

There are several partnership mechanisms now established, which work to ensure the structural reforms set out in the National Agreement are delivered in partnership and ensure the views and expertise of the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCO) sector are central to all Closing the Gap efforts.

Joint Council on Closing the Gap

The Joint Ministerial Council on Closing the Gap (Joint Council) is a national partnership body established to oversee and drive the national implementation of the National Agreement, and to do so in partnership between government and the ACCO sector.

The Joint Council is made up of a Minister and a representative from the Coalition of Peaks (the national ACCO peak body) from each state and territory, along with representatives from the Local Government Association.

Through Joint Council, SA and all other jurisdictions have committed to partnership actions to ensure key structural changes are implemented across the country by all governments to give effect to the Priority Reforms.

SA Partnership Committee (SAPC)

At the state-level, the SAPC is the central governance mechanism for Closing the Gap. It comprises equal membership from government agencies and SAACCON, and representation from the Commonwealth Government, National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and representatives from the Local Government Association (LGA) South Australia, and is responsible for making strategic decisions and monitoring progress against our formal Partnership Agreement and commitments under the National Agreement.

The SA Government and SAACCON have worked together to strengthen ways for government and the ACCO sector to work in partnership across all Closing the Gap efforts.


Local Government

The SA Government and SAACCON will continue to work together with local government representatives in recognition that change at the local government level is an important component of achieving the systemic whole of government reforms envisioned in the National Agreement.

This work will be undertaken both at the LGA SA leadership level and at the local and regional level, with an initial focus on local government areas that will participate in place-based initiatives and/or those with larger Aboriginal populations.

Policy and place-based partnerships

There are two forms of partnerships we are implementing under the National Agreement - policy partnerships and place-based partnerships.



Policy partnerships are created for the purpose of working on discrete policy areas, such as justice, early childhood, health or housing. Place-based partnerships are located in a specific region.

The purpose of formal policy and place-based partnerships is to:

- drive Aboriginal community-led outcomes on Closing the Gap
- enable Aboriginal partners, communities, and organisations to negotiate and implement agreements with governments that implement the Priority Reforms and policy-specific or place-based strategies to support Closing the Gap
- support additional community-led development initiatives
- bring together all government parties with Aboriginal people, organisations, and communities to the collective task of Closing the Gap.

Further information on how we are delivering on these Partnerships is outlined under Priority Reform 1.

Ongoing changes to the Implementation Plan

This Plan is intended to be a living document that can be updated across its life, to ensure it is always up to date with the priorities and actions to deliver Closing the Gap.

This Plan can be changed at any time by written agreement between SAACCON and the SA Government.

We will review the Plan using the feedback from the three-yearly national reviews into Closing the Gap by the Productivity Commission and the Aboriginal-led Review.

SAACCON and the SA Government will also make six monthly updates to the Plan to account for significant issues, legislative or policy changes, or events that may affect the achievement of the National Agreement Priority Reforms and other Targets.

To make sure changes are transparent, any updates to the Implementation Plan will be communicated to the Joint Council at its next meeting (as per cl111) and published on the websites of the Attorney-General's Department and SAACCON within 1 month of being made. Changes will also be communicated in line with the agreed communications and engagement strategy.



Accountability

We are committed to being held accountable to Aboriginal peoples and communities on how we are delivering on Closing the Gap, and importantly, being clear on where we need to do better.

We are developing a South Australian Aboriginal Engagement Strategy and are working to embed the practice of co-design across the public sector.

We are committed to ensuring the views of Aboriginal people continually inform the delivery of Closing the Gap and other government initiatives. Closing the Gap material is published on the websites of the Attorney-General's Department and SAACCON, including the SA Partnership Agreement, the SA partnership stocktake, and expenditure review.

Public release of this information will provide the public with the ability to better understand if government is moving beyond business-as-usual, and to hold us accountable to meeting our National Agreement commitments.

This also meets recommendation 4.4 of the Productivity Commission Review into Closing the Gap.

Annual reporting

Each year, SAACCON and the SA Government releases an Annual Report of Closing the Gap. This sets out all the initiatives and activities we have undertaken in that year for Closing the Gap. This is an important accountability tool.

Closing the Gap reviews

The SA Government and SAACCON have committed to independent oversight and accountability of progress against this Plan. This includes feedback from the two Closing the Gap reviews.

Productivity Commission review

The Productivity Commission undertakes a comprehensive review of progress every three years (cl121-cl124). This review provides an analysis of progress on Closing the Gap against the Priority Reforms, targets, indicators and trajectories, and examines the factors contributing to progress, including by drawing on evaluation and other evidence.

The Productivity Commission's findings will inform the ongoing implementation of the National Agreement by highlighting areas of improvement and emphasise where additional effort is required.

The first Productivity Commission review was released in February 2024. The review made 4 recommendations with 16 essential actions for change. SA has committed, via Joint Council, to 15 of these 16 actions, and are working via the SAPC to incorporate them into our way of working.

Aboriginal-led reviews

In 2025, the first Independent Aboriginal-led review will be carried out (cl125-cl128), to be delivered one year after the Productivity Commission Review.

The Aboriginal-led review is an opportunity to capture the lived experiences of Aboriginal people and communities of the implementation of the National Agreement and will highlight areas of achievement and improvement, as well as priority areas where greater collective effort is required.

The Aboriginal-led review will also be provided to Joint Council and published.



Measuring change

The objective of the National Agreement is to overcome the entrenched inequality faced by Aboriginal people so that their life outcomes are equal to all Australians. SA, as a party to the National Agreement, has committed to meet this objective and we have agreed to a set of targets to measure our progress.

The National Agreement contains two sets of targets:

- the **Priority Reform targets** which measure the change governments are making in the way they work with Aboriginal people
- the **socio-economic targets** which measure the outcomes experienced by Aboriginal people.

Where available, baseline data and national trajectories for each target have been published on the Closing the Gap website and are regularly updated. This data can be accessed at www.pc.gov.au/closing-the-gap-data/dashboard.

This data shows how each jurisdiction is delivering on Closing the Gap targets. It means Aboriginal people, communities and organisations, amongst others, can monitor our progress.

The SA Government has committed to sharing quantitative and qualitative data (other than that which is precluded by privacy requirements or commercial-in-confidence) to meet these reporting requirements. This will ensure reviews, priority setting, and policy adjustments are properly informed by evidence.

While new data continues to be developed and added to the Information Repository, there is not yet data to monitor progress against the Priority Reforms or several of the socio-economic targets. As more data becomes available, a deeper understanding will be gained of the progress made by the National Agreement.

The ongoing and regular publication of data has provided public accountability and transparency related to our state's performance and delivery of our commitments under the National Agreement.

It ensures we can make informed decisions, are accountable for our actions, and shows whether or not our actions are making a difference.



Meeting our commitments

The SA government and SAACCON confirm that this Plan meets the commitments set out in the National Agreement as evidenced by the completed checklist below.

As per the National Agreement, jurisdictional Implementation Plans will:

- Be fully aligned with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and state that their purpose is to implement the National Agreement (cl96)
- Respond to the differing needs, priorities and circumstances of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Australia (cl96)
- Demonstrate a commitment to undertake all actions in a way that takes full account of, promotes and does not diminish in any way, the cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (cl21 and cl107)
- Be whole of government plans, covering government agencies and statutory bodies (cl108)
- Be developed and delivered in partnership between governments, the Coalition of Peaks, and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners (cl108)
- Set out how existing policies and programs will be aligned to the Agreement (cl 104 and cl108)
- Set out actions to achieve the Priority Reforms and partnership actions (cl108)
- Set out actions to achieve the agreed outcomes and targets (cl108)
- For transparency, include information on funding and timeframes for actions (cl108)
- Include the approach to annual reporting, including when they will release their public report (cl108)
- Include information on how the states and territories will work with local government to implement this Agreement (state and territory Implementation Plans only) (cl108)
- Include data development actions identified in the Data Development Plan (cl106)
- Be published on the jurisdiction's website (cl111).

The background features a complex, abstract pattern of overlapping, wavy lines and shapes. The upper portion is dominated by various shades of blue, ranging from deep navy to bright cyan. The lower portion transitions into warm tones of orange and red, with some areas appearing more textured or layered. The overall effect is dynamic and organic, resembling a stylized landscape or a close-up of a natural material.

Section 2 – Our plan for implementing Closing the Gap in South Australia 2024 – 2026



About the Priority Reforms

The Priority Reforms are a foundation for change in the way governments work with Aboriginal people and accelerate improvements in the lives of Aboriginal people in SA.

Implementing the Priority Reforms will secure the structural transformation needed to Close the Gap.

The Priority Reforms were informed by the views and expertise of Aboriginal people and respond to their voices and aspirations. These reforms support Aboriginal people to have a genuine say in the design and delivery of services that affect them, to ensure better life outcomes are achieved.

There continues to be a strong call to ensure the Priority Reforms are fully implemented, and in SA, the partnership between the SA Government and SAACCON is leading our state's activity. As partners we acknowledge that implementation of the Priority Reforms is a significant undertaking, and change will take our collective effort.

Our plan to progress the 4 Priority Reforms is reported on the following pages, under the headings:

- **Priority Reform 1** – Formal partnerships and shared decision-making
- **Priority Reform 2** – Building the community-controlled sector
- **Priority Reform 3** – Transforming government organisations
- **Priority Reform 4** – Shared access to data and information at a regional level.

The National Agreement sets out partnership actions (actions to be undertaken nationally by all parties) and jurisdictional actions (individual actions to be undertaken by governments) to implement the Priority Reforms. Each of the Priority Reforms has a corresponding target and committed jurisdictional and partnership actions.

Embedding the Priority Reforms in the way government works

The SA Government commits to embedding the Priority Reforms and underpinning principles in the way we work including our approach to all Implementation Plan actions and activities and determining priorities and approaches to capacity building and other supports provided to the ACCO sector and organisations.

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

SA Government Lead Agency – Attorney-General’s Department (AGD)

Outcome 	Aboriginal people are empowered to share decision-making authority with governments to accelerate policy and place-based progress on Closing the Gap through formal partnership arrangements.
Target 	There will be formal partnership arrangements to support Closing the Gap in place between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and governments in each state and territory enshrining agreed joint decision-making roles and responsibilities, and where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have chosen their own representatives.

Overview

The SA Government and SAACCON commit to building and strengthening structures that empower Aboriginal people to share decision-making authority with governments to accelerate policy and place-based progress against Closing the Gap.

Work to identify appropriate measures of progress against Priority Reform 1 is underway and subject to agreement through the Joint Council.

Strong partnership elements

SA is committed to embedding the Strong Partnership elements, as outlined in cl32 and cl33 of the National Agreement.

In 2023, SA undertook a partnership stocktake and published a report on our state effort to review and strengthen partnerships between government and Aboriginal parties. The review assessed and strengthened partnerships against the strong partnership elements outlined in the National Agreement.


On average, partnerships met 76% of the strong partnership elements. While this highlights there is still more work to do, a strong foundation is evident. The review also found areas that need improvement.

The continued strengthening of partnerships will be a focus for this Plan and will include:

- improving access to data and information on which any decisions are made
- pursuing funding opportunities to support Aboriginal parties to be partners with governments in formal partnerships.

Across the life of this second Implementation Plan, SA will continue working to strengthen our partnerships and will undertake a second review and strengthening exercise in 2025.

A key strategy to improve how we deliver on these partnerships is the establishment of new sub-committees to the SAPC. These have the remit to address matters related to policy, implementation



and monitoring across all socio-economic outcomes. SAACCON is continuing to explore the structures for these committees and will progress their recommendations to SAPC.

Partnership actions

Policy Partnerships

The SA Government and SAACCON will continue to contribute to the establishment of a joined-up approach to five policy priority areas, via Policy Partnerships between the commonwealth, states and territories and Aboriginal representatives (cl30-cl31).

These will identify opportunities to work more effectively across governments, reduce gaps and duplication, and improve outcomes under Closing the Gap. The five Policy Partnerships are:

- Justice
- Social and Emotional Wellbeing
- Housing
- Early childhood care and development
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

Place-based partnerships

SAACCON and the SA Government are working together to establish and implement the place-based partnership (cl30-cl31) in Adelaide's western suburbs, co-located with the Priority Reform 4 Community Data Project.

The partnership provides an opportunity for the local Aboriginal community to drive local outcomes through new agreements with SA Government. SAACCON is leading engagement with the Aboriginal community to identify priorities for the partnership.

Throughout the life of this Plan, government agencies will establish a formal Partnership Agreement in the western suburbs and deliver partnership work based on the priorities identified by the local Aboriginal community.

Jurisdictional actions

The strong partnership elements of the National Agreement commit South Australia to formal partnership representation that is:

- participatory, transparent and accountable in nature
- based on broad consensus
- representative of the whole of the community including vulnerable cohorts such as women, young people, Elders, Aboriginal people identifying as LGBTQI, and Aboriginal people living with a disability
- legitimate (culturally relevant and meaningful) in the community they represent.

SA representatives of Commonwealth and local governments will be provided with the opportunity to engage with and contribute to the agreement-making process, as well as having an ongoing role in implementing the Implementation Plan.

The SA Government and SAACCON will continue to work in equal partnership to implement the National Agreement. This work will be underpinned by SA Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap, and the SAPC's annual work plan.



First Nations Voice to Parliament

In 2023, SA became the first jurisdiction to establish a First Nations Voice to Parliament. The First Nations Voice will play a crucial role in ensuring government organisations are transformed and respond to the needs of Aboriginal people, a Priority Reform of the National Agreement.

The First Nations Voice is comprised of elected regional Voice bodies and a State Voice. It establishes a direct and independent line of communication for Aboriginal people to the Parliament and government, via these elected representatives. This enacts increased transparency, and ability for First Nations people to share their views, as self-determined by Aboriginal people and communities, in a transparent way with Parliament and with government.

The SA Government has allocated \$10.3 million over 4 years to support the establishment and ongoing operation of the Voice.

Key activities for 2024-26

- Undertaking the next Review and Strengthening of all partnerships between Aboriginal parties and government in 2025.
- Strengthening shared decision-making across portfolios, through the establishment of SAPC sub-committees.
- Working with the First Nations Voice to understand and develop interconnections between the First Nations Voice and Closing the Gap.
- Establishing the formal Partnership Agreement for the Place-based Partnership in Adelaide's western suburbs.





Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

SA Government Lead Agency – Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF)

Outcome 	There is a strong and sustainable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled sector delivering high quality services to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the country.
Target 	Increase the amount of government funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs and services going through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations.

Overview

The SA Government and SAACCON are committed to building a strong and sustainable ACCO sector to deliver high-quality, holistic and culturally safe services for Aboriginal people.

The SA Government recognises that Aboriginal community control is an act of self-determination and that services delivered by ACCOs are often preferred by Aboriginal people, achieve better results and employ more Aboriginal people.

For the purposes of this Plan, and in line with the National Agreement, an ACCO delivers services, including land and resource management, that builds the strength and empowerment of Aboriginal communities and people and is:

- incorporated under relevant legislation and not-for-profit
- controlled and operated by Aboriginal people
- connected to the community, or communities, in which they deliver the services
- governed by a majority Aboriginal governing body.

Partnership actions

As part of this Priority Reform, the SA Government and SAACCON have committed to:


- build strong and sustainable ACCOs and sectors (in line with the strong sector elements in the National Agreement)
- increase the proportion of services delivered by Aboriginal organisations.

The National Agreement outlines four 'strong sector elements', which enable ACCOs to have:

- sustainable capacity building and investment
- a dedicated Aboriginal workforce
- support for a peak body, governed by a majority Aboriginal board
- a reliable and consistent funding model that suits the types of services required by Aboriginal peoples and communities.

The National Agreement identified Early Childhood Care and Development, Health, Housing, and Disability as initial sectors for national focus, with sector strengthening plans developed for each.





Additional sectors - Justice and Languages - have since been added, with sector strengthening plans under development.

Jurisdictional actions

The Priority Reform 2 Working Group, co-chaired by SAACCON and SA Government, was established to drive development of a consistent, whole of government approach to building the ACCO sector and increasing the proportion of services delivered by ACCOs. This group will continue to collaborate across government to develop a framework which supports agencies' implementation of Priority Reform 2.

There are also a number of implementation actions which indirectly contribute to and/or benefit from progress under Priority Reform 2.

Key activities for 2024-26

The SA government and SAACCON are developing a consistent, whole of government approach to building the ACCO sector and increasing the proportion of services delivered by ACCOs. This work will be delivered alongside the development of a whole of government strategy to better support Aboriginal enterprises.



Activities we will undertake to implement Priority Reform 2:

- Rolling out 3-year-old preschool – which identifies funding for Aboriginal children, including for co-design and collaboration with ACCOs.
- Establishing a South Australian Aboriginal Housing Peak Body and ACCO housing organisation.
- Transition planning by the Department for Child Protection and Department of Human Services, in preparation for the co-creation of an ACCO Investment and Procurement Strategy, to be jointly-led by relevant SA government agencies, SAACCON and Wakwakurna Kanyini.



Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

SA Government Lead Agency – Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC)

<p>Outcome</p> 	<p>Governments, their organisations and their institutions are accountable for Closing the Gap and are culturally safe and responsive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including through the services they fund.</p>
<p>Target</p> 	<p>Decrease in the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have experiences of racism.</p>

Overview

The SA Government and SAACCON are committed to transformation and a sustained effort to elevate accountability, reduce racism, and provide culturally safe, responsive services.

Through the National Agreement, governments are required to implement the following transformation elements:

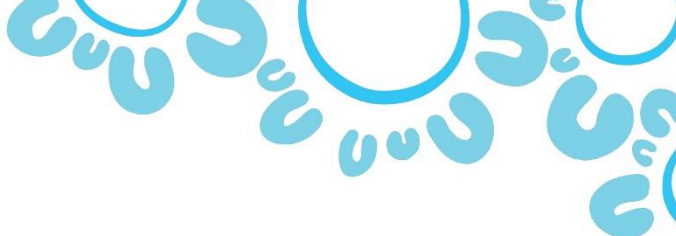
- Identify and eliminate racism through identifying and calling out institutional racism, discrimination and unconscious bias, and address disproportionate outcomes and overrepresentation of Aboriginal people by addressing features of systems that cultivate institutionalised racism.
- Embed and practice meaningful cultural safety by embedding high-quality, meaningful approaches to promoting cultural safety, recognising Aboriginal people’s strength in their identity as a critical protective factor. This applies to all levels of staff within government organisations.
- Deliver services in partnership with Aboriginal organisations, communities and people through developing genuine relationships between government organisations and Aboriginal people, organisations and/or businesses to enhance the quality and cultural safety of mainstream service delivery.
- Increase accountability through transparent funding allocations to improve transparency for funding allocation to, and distribution by, mainstream institutions in relation to dedicated Aboriginal-led service delivery.

We are committed to shifting the culture and systems within the SA Government to ensure it facilitates opportunities to embed inclusion and improve civic participation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to thrive in the State.

Partnership actions

Through the National Agreement, the SA Government has agreed to develop or strengthen an independent mechanism, or mechanisms that will support, monitor, and report on the transformation of mainstream agencies and institutions (cl67).





The mechanism will:

- support mainstream agencies and institutions to embed the transformation elements detailed above and monitor their progress
- be recognisable to Aboriginal people and be culturally safe
- engage with Aboriginal people to listen and to respond to concerns about mainstream agencies and institutions
- report publicly on the transformation of mainstream agencies and institutions, including progress, barriers and solutions.

In 2025, the Parties to the National Agreement will meet and consider progress on Priority Reform 3 and make additional partnership actions if needed and the Agreement will be updated accordingly (cl68).

Jurisdictional actions

Historical and contemporary public policy, processes and practices have - and in some instances continue to have - unintended racially discriminatory consequences for Aboriginal peoples.

South Australia will implement a range of actions aimed to ensure that mainstream institutions, agencies and government programs are free of institutionalised racism and are culturally safe and culturally responsive.

The *South Australian Public Sector Anti-Racism Strategy* released in 2023 will provide the leverage for the SA Government to partner on ways to transform the culture and systems of the SA public sector and embed a consistent co-design definition to improve policy outcomes.

Key activities for 2024-26

The SA Government and SAACCON are partnering to deliver a whole of government approach to driving transformational change of the SA Public Sector. On 1 July 2024, DPC became the government lead with SAACCON for Priority Reform 3, aimed to drive the whole of government change required.

Key initiatives to deliver Priority Reform 3 include:



- implementing a Closing the Gap Statement Policy Framework
- evaluating Aboriginal specific programs to build a culturally responsive evidence base
- increasing Aboriginal representation on government boards
- establishing a two-way secondment model that supports the development of the capability and capacity of Aboriginal community-controlled sector and SA Government
- updating Emergency Management policies to reflect needs of Aboriginal peoples.





Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

SA Government Lead Agency – Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF)

Outcome 	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to, and the capability to use, locally relevant data and information to set and monitor the implementation of efforts in Closing the Gap, their priorities, and drive their own development.
Target 	Increase the number of regional data projects to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to make decisions about Closing the Gap and their Development.

Overview

Shared access to location specific data and information will assist Aboriginal communities and organisations to support the achievement of the first three Priority Reforms through:

- **Priority Reform 1:** Participating as equal partners with government, with equal access to all processes and information to support shared decision-making.
- **Priority Reform 2:** Driving their own development by making evidence-based decisions on the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs for their communities in order to develop local solutions for local issues.
- **Priority Reform 3:** Measuring the transformation of government organisations operating in their region to be more responsive and accountable for Closing the Gap.

Data and information sharing elements


Parties agree that data and information sharing practice elements between governments and Aboriginal communities and organisations contain the following features:

- There are partnerships in place between Aboriginal representatives and government organisations to guide the improved collections, access, management and use of data to inform shared decision-making for the benefit of Aboriginal people.
- Governments agree to provide Aboriginal communities and organisations access to the same data and information on which any decisions are made, subject to meeting privacy requirements, and ensuring data security and integrity.
- Governments collect, handle and report data at sufficient levels of disaggregation, and in an accessible and timely way, to empower local Aboriginal communities to access, use and interpret data for local decision-making.
- Aboriginal communities and organisations are supported by governments to build capability and expertise in collecting, using and interpreting data in a meaningful way.

Partnership actions

The SA Government will contribute to the partnership actions for Priority Reform 4 by establishing an initial community data project that will:



- 
- enable Aboriginal communities in the region and local Aboriginal organisations to access and use location-specific data on the Closing the Gap outcome areas
 - support Aboriginal communities to analyse and use regional specific data to help drive their own development and discussions with governments on Closing the Gap
 - enable Aboriginal communities in the region and organisations to collect and access other data which they consider important; and
 - be covered by a localised agreement, consistent with Priority Reform One, between the governments and participating Aboriginal organisations in the region.

The initial Community Data Project will be in the three western suburbs local government areas:

- City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- City of Charles Sturt
- City of West Torrens.

The Australian Institute of Health and Wellbeing (AIHW) will provide a data portal and training for community organisations to 30 June 2025.

Jurisdictional actions

The SA Government commits to implementing the data and information elements, including to:

- share available, disaggregated regional data and information with Aboriginal organisations and communities on Closing the Gap, subject to meeting legal requirements
- establish partnerships between Aboriginal people and government agencies, consistent with Priority Reform 1, to improve collection, access, management and use of data, including identifying improvements to existing data collection and management
- improve data transparency
- build capacity of Aboriginal organisations and communities to collect, and use data.

Key activities for 2024-26

- Completion of the Community Data Project and incorporation of learnings for future projects.
- Improvements in data collection.
- Building community capability and capacity.

Implementation actions

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

SA Government Lead Agency – Attorney-General’s Department

Outcome: Aboriginal people are empowered to share decision-making authority with governments to accelerate policy and place-based progress on Closing the Gap through formal partnership arrangements.

Target: There will be formal partnership arrangements to support Closing the Gap in place between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and governments in each state and territory enshrining agreed joint decision-making roles and responsibilities, and where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have chosen their own representatives.

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
1.01	Strengthen and develop bilingual education in Anangu schools.	<p>Development of Anangu languages teaching and learning resources (through the Supporting Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara languages and cultures in Anangu schools initiative of the <i>Aboriginal Education Strategy</i>) – 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2026.</p> <p>First Language Maintenance and Development funding support to schools – annually (on application).</p> <p>Establish policy and governance settings to underpin bilingual education approaches in Anangu schools – 2025 to 2026.</p>	DE SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
1.02	<p>Develop a whole of government approach to achieving shared objectives, including increased recognition of Aboriginal languages and culture, and investigating opportunities to strengthen and create new partnerships.</p> <p>Develop a 2-year whole of government plan that has agreed approaches, with consideration to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership with Aboriginal communities and ACCOs, develop and implement policy including the South Australian Aboriginal Languages Policy, aligned with the national priorities for the sector as identified in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Voices of Country (Australia’s Action Plan for the International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032). ○ The National Languages Policy Partnership 3 Year Plan and its 7 priority areas and 11 work areas. • Implementation of a long-term cross-agency work plan for Aboriginal languages. • Formal development of a South Australian Aboriginal Languages Network comprising SAACCON and government agency representatives, and other key stakeholders as agreed, to support the implementation of joined up approaches to sector strengthening. Scope includes, but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ information sharing ○ sector advice ○ cross-sector engagement with, and responses to the National Languages Policy Partnership ○ sector mapping. • Explore opportunities to provide coordinated, sustainable funding to support Aboriginal communities and ACCO’s capacity and leadership in South Australian Aboriginal languages revitalisation, revival and maintenance. 		DPC SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership with Aboriginal communities and ACCOs, raise public awareness of Aboriginal languages. Establish mechanisms for formal regional language recognition. Improve recognition of cultural and language knowledge in employment conditions, including but not limited to Aboriginal languages teachers in education settings and in the interpreting sector to address structural barriers and support retention and career development. 		
1.03	<p>The South Australian government will publicly report the review and strengthening of partnerships between Aboriginal parties and SA government, in accordance with Priority Reform 1 every two years.</p> <p>As per the commitment at clause 37 of that National Agreement, SA will include in the annual report, information on partnerships, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the number of partnerships those that have been reviewed for each partnership which strong partnership elements are met and unmet, and what has been achieved through the partnerships. <p>This activity will be supported by South Australia's 2023 Partnership Stocktake and Report on the Review and Strengthening of Partnerships.</p>	<p>Partnership Review and Strengthening Report – December 2025.</p> <p>Two-yearly reporting thereafter, for the life of the agreement.</p>	<p>AGD-AAR SAACCON</p>
1.04	<p>Establish partnerships with and provide support for ACCOs to develop and deliver pathways for the Aboriginal language's workforce, including accredited training and qualifications (e.g. in teaching languages, interpreting, language revitalisation) and consider opportunities to support Aboriginal people to access and participate in these programs.</p>		<p>DSD (Skills SA) SAACCON</p>
1.05	<p>In partnership with ACCOs, support professional development of the Aboriginal languages teaching and interpreter workforce, and develop Aboriginal languages curriculum, and teaching and learning resources for use by Aboriginal languages teachers.</p>	<p>Development of Aboriginal languages curriculum and teaching and learning resources, and professional development of Aboriginal languages teachers (through the Strengthening</p>	<p>DE, DHS and SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
		<p>Aboriginal Languages and Literacy initiative of the <i>Aboriginal Education Strategy</i>) – 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2026.</p> <p>First Language Maintenance and Development funding support to schools – annually (on application).</p> <p>ALIS Interpreters (DHS) encouraged to complete Introduction to Interpreting Skill Set (Australian Indigenous languages) with TAFE SA.</p>	
1.06	<p>Establish a South Australian justice partnership committee between SA Government and SAACCON to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consider and progress Justice Policy Partnership priorities in the South Australian context • where possible, formulate joint South Australian positions on national justice issues • progress implementation of actions in South Australia to achieve the targets of outcomes 10 and 11 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap • develop and provide policy advice on matters related to outcomes 10 and 11 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, including in relation to the following, which have been identified as priorities by SAACCON: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ bail, including bail accommodation and bail decisions ○ the minimum age of criminal responsibility ○ eligibility for specialist and diversionary courts ○ consideration of legislative amendments to ensure courts take into account the unique systemic and background factors affecting Aboriginal people in their sentencing decisions ○ the impact of the High-Risk Offenders Act 	Ongoing	AGD SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ addressing systemic racism and bias. ● identify opportunities to design tailored approaches to program delivery for Aboriginal peoples over-represented in the criminal justice system, including identifying and resolving barriers to effective service delivery. <p>By agreement, the Justice Partnership Committee can establish working groups to focus on discrete topics and priorities.</p>		
1.07	<p>Consider the outcomes of the Closing the Gap Expenditure Review being conducted pursuant to Clause 112 of the National Agreement and work pursuant to Clause 55 of the National Agreement for implementation within the justice sector.</p> <p>This may include addressing competition between ACCOs and NGO service providers, depending on the type of service and provider(s).</p>	June 2026	AGD DCS DHS SAACCON
1.08	<p>Work from the Aboriginal Affairs Executive Committee - Over-representation of Aboriginal South Australians in the criminal justice sector will be shared with SAACCON and its members.</p>	On track	DCS SAACCON
1.09	<p>Review current and continue monitoring the Aboriginal model of care for prisoners in partnership.</p>		SAPHS SAACCON
1.10	<p>In partnership DCS and SAACCON will co-design and implement an advisory committee to support improved outcomes for Aboriginal people who are overrepresented in correctional services.</p> <p>Terms of Reference will be developed in partnership with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.</p>	Meetings to occur as required	DCS SAACCON
1.11	<p>Review of the secondary cultural assessment to include self-identification as a survivor or descendent of the stolen generation that will support ACCO services deliver culturally informed responses upon release.</p>	Meetings to occur as required	DCS SAACCON
1.12	<p>DHS will establish a Youth Justice Working Group with SAACCON to identify opportunities to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people. This includes the development and review of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● specific measures to reduce the significant overrepresentation of Aboriginal children aged 10-13 in the criminal justice system 	<p>March 2025</p> <p>This Working Group will report to the South Australian Justice Partnership Committee.</p>	DHS SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • best practice for non-custodial alternatives • community-based pathways that are preventative and divert Aboriginal children away from the criminal justice system • culturally appropriate holistic service models and responses • throughcare supports for Aboriginal young people leaving Kurlana Tapa Youth Justice Centre. <p>The implementation of any measures undertaken through this working group will prioritise Aboriginal Community Controlled services to deliver any proposed models and/or responses.</p>		
1.13	<p>The Office for Women will engage SAACCON to identify and co-design frameworks that support building the ACCO DFVS sector funding, in response to the National Partnership Agreement on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Response.</p> <p>As the National Partnership Agreement on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence is a Commonwealth initiative, this action will be dependent on the continued funding allocated to SA under the Partnership Agreement.</p>	December 2025	DHS-OFW SAACCON
1.14	<p>Formal agreements in place between Local Health Networks (LHNs) and Aboriginal community-controlled health organisations (ACCHOs) and/or relevant ACCOs.</p> <p>These could take the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which sets out the issues and actions that will be in scope for the agreement and the ways of working together, aligned to the Strong Partnership Elements (cl32 of the National Agreement).</p> <p>Co-design of a template that identifies key ways of working together and partnership approaches. Working group to include representation from SAACCON, AHCSA, LHN and ACCHOs who are not members of SAACCON.</p> <p>Facilitate the development of the MoU at the regional level with agreed priorities across the regional partners.</p>	June 2025	DHW LHNs SAACCON ACCHOs
1.15	<p>The parties will meet regularly to advance the agreed issues and actions. Initial steps to implement this action will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifying ACCHOs / ACCOs within LHN boundaries and coordinating discussions 		DHW LHNs SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> joint development of the MoU establishment of regular meetings and creation of a shared work plan to address agreed issues and actions contained in the MoU. 		ACCHOs
1.16	Actions for a specialist response to substance use will be considered in the development of Regional MoUs.		DHW LHNs SAACCON ACCHOs
1.17	Explore a centralised body with responsibility for cross-agency collaboration and coordination of the implementation, monitoring, and reporting and evaluation of Closing the Gap Health and Wellbeing actions, initiatives, and programs.	To be determined	DHW LHNs DHS DTF-ODA SAACCON
1.18	<p>Increase participation of Aboriginal peoples in existing health governance structures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify existing partnerships and opportunities for SAACCON/ACCOs/ACCHOs to be involved in working groups and executive level government meetings. Aboriginal leaders appointed to LHN Board of Directors and Aboriginal Advisory Committees. Reinvigorate register for Aboriginal people to indicate interest in sitting on LHN Boards. Implement ongoing program of governance training to ensure pipeline of suitable candidates when vacancies arise. 	June 2025	DHW LHNs SAACCON
1.19	<p>Implement partnerships across government departments to fund and support capacity building for ACCHOs and/or ACCOs delivery of Closing the Gap initiatives.</p> <p>Partnerships can identify savings and redistribute funds to support the social and cultural determinants of health (benefit multiple agencies) based on agreed priorities.</p> <p>Partnerships need to have associated infrastructure, governance, training and shared accountability clearly built in to address power imbalances and ensure equity for true partnership.</p>		DHW LHNs SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
1.20	<p>Initial steps to embed cultural practice include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> initiatives that embed cultural practice such as Ngangkari (Traditional Healers) and co-working models into early intervention, healthcare and mental health services, at all levels right up to psychiatric care requires a high level of cultural responsiveness and a strengths-based approach to ensure cultural and clinical knowledges and practice are valued. 	June 2025	DHW DHS SAACCON
1.21	<p>Supported by a partnership agreement, government agencies will work collaboratively and in partnership with ACCHOs and/or ACCOs and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognise that there is no wrong door but there are multiple pathways/networks explore existing arrangements for short term/temporary housing available to support Aboriginal families when away from Country to access health services for e.g. pre-birth. 		DHW DHS SAACCON
1.22	<p>Initial steps to implement a specialist response for mental health include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> re-conceptualisation of a 'good' mental health service for Aboriginal people to support holistic wellbeing trauma-informed services implemented via a strong partnership which is locally led and acknowledges diversity, local language and concepts holistic client-centred service response, which identifies and supports needs related to family violence, mental health and wellbeing, substance use and underlying impairments including undiagnosed disability acute mental health responses that are safer and more culturally appropriate, such as a 000 option with Aunty/Uncle help option. 	June 2025	DHW SAACCON
1.23	<p>Initial scoping to explore steps to implement (linked to an MoU between LHNs and ACCHOs) On-Country service delivery include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> new approaches to alcohol and other drugs programs on Country grow employment and education opportunities on Country for Health. 		DHW DHS SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
1.24	Design and test a reporting framework that measures progress against the elements of the South Australian Aboriginal Housing Strategy 2021-2031 to ensure agencies / statutory authorities are accountable for implementation.	Yet to be determined	SAHT SAACCON
1.25	Following establishment of the SAPC, regular reporting will commence.	Yet to be determined	SAHT SAACCON
1.26	SAHT and SAACCON will enter into joint discussions to determine how the Strategy fits into, and is funded as part of, the State and Commonwealth level housing and homelessness strategies and funding agreements.	Yet to be determined	SAHT SAACCON
1.27	Place-based partnerships are necessary to support the planning and transition of Aboriginal Housing and related services to the Aboriginal community-controlled sector. The Sector Reform strategies contained in the South Australian Aboriginal Housing Strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Shared Local Decision-Making partnerships. • Prioritise the growth of the Aboriginal Community Housing sector (ACHS). 	Yet to be determined	SAHT SAACCON
1.28	For shared local decision-making (SLDM) partnerships to be successful, government agencies must recognise the different leadership structures and networks within individual Aboriginal communities, especially in relation to how leaders acquire, exercise, transfer and sustain their authority. This requires government agencies to adopt a sustained commitment to working with and respecting Aboriginal community arrangements, relationships, shared connections and representative structures. SLDM partnerships are being piloted in three communities: one each in remote, regional and metropolitan settings where the Aboriginal community is defining the governance structures and the process of decision-making for the SLDM partnerships as well as deciding the composition of 'community' for this purpose.	The Strategy will see SLDM partnerships rolled out in 100% of those Aboriginal communities that choose to participate by 2031.	SAHT SAACCON
1.29	As per clause 36(b) in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, in 2024 the Department for Education is reviewing its partnerships (including with SAACCON member SAAETCC) with a view to strengthening them in line with the Strong Partnership Elements at clauses 32 and 33 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. As part of work to build the ACCO sector in SA (Priority Reform 2 in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap), the SA government is, in partnership with SAACCON, undertaking work to		

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<p>develop whole of government guidance on working with ACCOs. At the time of writing, this is planned to include policy deliverables by mid-2024 regarding: prioritisation and funding, capacity development, and engagement and accountability approaches.</p> <p>OECD will work in partnership with Aboriginal Communities and key Aboriginal organisations to co-design and invest in initiatives to empower Aboriginal children, with linkages to actions and priorities of the Early Childhood Care and Development Policy Partnership and the Early Childhood Care and Development Sector Strengthening Plan to support coordination under the Closing the Gap framework.</p>		
1.30	<p>The SA Government has also accepted recommendations from the SA Royal Commission into Early Childhood Education and Care relating to the role of ACCOs in delivering early childhood reforms.</p> <p>The Office for Early Childhood Development (OECD), in partnership with SAACCON, is undertaking work to co-design and fund ACCO involvement in early childhood education and care and integrated early years service delivery.</p> <p>This may include ACCO-led integrated service hubs, and ACCO provision of layered supports and child health development checks.</p>	Scoping and co-design of options - December 2025.	OECD SAACCON
1.31	<p>Building on the whole of government guidance outlined above DE will partner with SAACCON to develop guidance for schools (including OSHC), and OECD will partner with SAACCON to develop guidance for early childhood services on developing new, culturally responsive partnership arrangements. 'Guidance' includes information, resources, and access to advice and support. OECD and DE will partner with SAACCON to produce guidance for ACCOs.</p> <p>This will be a process of 'two-way learning' that produces guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the various roles and responsibilities of corporate offices, local/regional teams, and schools and early childhood services existing relationships between services and communities advice for schools and early childhood services on how they can partner with local ACCOs and some of the focus areas and opportunities that could be the subject of partnership agreements 	Scoping by mid-2025.	OECD DE SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> advice for ACCOs on how to navigate departmental governance structures and contact points, and the non-government sector, to partner with schools and early childhood services types of partnership arrangements, including templates/example agreements. 		
1.32	<p>In partnership, OECD, DE and SAACCON will map/identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> service provision to Aboriginal children in early childhood services funding arrangements for ACCOs to provide services opportunities for service delivery by ACCOs ACCO capacity to provide services to Aboriginal children in early childhood services practical considerations regarding the provision of services in childhood services (including but not limited to infrastructure/physical space) relevant funding streams and potential funding options for ACCO delivered services. <p>OECD to support SAACCON to connect with non-government early childhood systems and services to explore partnership opportunities. This will inform further work to identify opportunities to support an increase of partnerships between early childhood services and ACCOs through the prioritisation process. Existing partnerships will also be strengthened and developed.</p>	Mapping and scoping of options to support ACCO sector strengthening – December 2025.	OECD DE SAACCON
1.33	OECD, DE and SAACCON to scope opportunities and potential funding options to support cultural safety, including through training, in preschools (sector neutral).	Scoping options - December 2025.	OECD DE SAACCON
1.34	<p>DE and SAACCON will map/identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> service provision to Aboriginal students in schools opportunities for service delivery by ACCOs ACCO capacity to provide services to Aboriginal students in schools practical considerations regarding the provision of services in schools (e.g. infrastructure/physical space) relevant funding streams and potential funding options for ACCO delivered services. 	Mid-2026	DE SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	This will inform further work to explore the potential to strengthen and develop partnerships between schools and ACCOs where ACCOs are funded to provide services to learners (giving effect to clause 55 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap).		
1.35	DE and SAACCON member, SAAETCC, to partner to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop an evaluation framework to measure the success of identified programs describe the factors that underpin successful programs. 	2026	DE SAACCON
1.36	DE to explore with SAACCON opportunities for ACCOs to be involved in using the framework developed to evaluate programs. Results of evaluations to be shared with SAACCON, DE and non-government school authorities, as appropriate.	TBD	DE SAACCON
1.37	DE to support SAAETCC to connect with non-government sectors, for SAAETCC to explore use of framework to measure outcomes for Aboriginal students in non-government schools.	TBD	DE SAACCON
1.38	In partnership, develop South Australia's jurisdictional plan for the implementation of the National Framework's Aboriginal-specific 5+5-year Action Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe and Supported: The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021-2031. Safe and Supported: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Action Plan 2023-2026. Safe and Supported: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Outcomes Framework. 	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini DHS
1.39	The South Australian Government commits to working with SAACCON and Wakwakurna Kanyini to identify, review, evaluate and implement any policy, procedures, and guidelines in relation to the Contact Assessment Review Panel (CARP) that allow culturally informed decisions for the most vulnerable families. Review the cultural component with a view to re-design CARP or introduce an Aboriginal specific panel. Scope opportunity to implement culturally informed decision-making within legislation of CARP.	Full review of the legislation completed and tabled in Parliament March 2023. Amendments to the legislation are currently being considered. Further actions will be subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP with SAACCON, Wakwakurna Kanyini and DHS

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
1.40	In partnership, identify, review and develop services/programs to address the disparities Aboriginal families experience in equity of access to, and participation in evidence-based and culturally trauma informed early intervention services for Aboriginal families across regional and metro South Australia enabling self-determination.	Ongoing, business as usual.	DCP SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini DHS
1.41	In partnership, address the disparities Aboriginal families experience in equity of access to, and participation in evidence-based and culturally trauma informed decision-making processes that enable self-determination such as Family-Led Decision Making across regional and metro South Australia.	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini DHS
1.42	<p>Work related to the child and family sector will build on the commitment under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Action Plan – Action 2: Shift towards adequate and coordinated funding of early, targeted and culturally safe supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.</p> <p>The SA Child and Family Sector investment strategy will include strategies and actions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase targeted funding to support intensive family support approaches (including prevention, inclusive and targeted support, family support in the context of child protection) and alleviate known contributors to overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in child protection including the effects of poverty and intergenerational trauma to meet the level of community need increase targeted funding for intensive family support services that address the issues associated with child protection intervention, including drug and alcohol abuse, family and domestic violence and mental health. 	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini DHS
1.43	<p>Work together to design and deliver ACCO-led services that meet the needs of Aboriginal children and their families.</p> <p>The investment strategy will be implemented through reform of funding models and procurement policies to direct proportionate funding (proportionate to the level of representation of Aboriginal</p>		DCP SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini DHS

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<p>children and young people in the child protection sector and community need) to the ACCO sector. Reforms will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • modelling to quantify the funding gap between community need for family preservation services and the existing supply • quarantined proportionate funding directed to services for Aboriginal children and young people, including through redistributing existing resources and contracts for the commission of service delivery to ACCOs • procurement policies and processes that provide for the commissioning of family support services from the ACCO sector, including via partnership and regional alliance models. <p>Aboriginal community-led, place-based commissioning models to increase local control over funding priorities and allocation.</p>		
1.44	<p>DCP will fund the design, establishment, and implementation of a Peak Body for Aboriginal Children and Young People.</p> <p>SAACCON and the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People will be key partners with SNAICC in this work.</p> <p>DCP has engaged SNAICC – National Voice for our Children to support an Aboriginal-led design process for a Peak Body to represent the interests of Aboriginal children and young people. The Peak will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • privilege the voices of Aboriginal children and young people • be child-centred in its approach, maintaining a clear focus on protecting and promoting children’s safety and wellbeing • focus on building the ACCO sector to provide services to Aboriginal children and young people • partner with government in efforts to reduce the over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people in the child protection system, including those in care. 	30 September 2024 - Wakwakurna Kanyini to be incorporated as an independent entity.	DCP SAACCON
1.45	DCP to support proposed option for the Peak Body for Aboriginal Children and Young People based on community consultation.	Complete	DCP SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
1.46	DSD to engage SAACCON to inform the state-wide Skills Policy to 2030.		DSD (Skills SA) SAACCON
1.47	DE and SAACCON will partner to support students and their families transition from school into the workforce or further education and training by developing a State-wide Strategic Service Model that includes the expansion of existing programs (e.g. SAASTA and Workabout).	<p>To inform the statewide strategic service model, finalise review and analysis of current programs to support expansion of existing programs by December 2024.</p> <p>Scoping and development of other key Aboriginal Pathways programs e.g., Arts Program.</p> <p>Key elements and draft framework of a statewide strategic service model to be completed by December 2024.</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement workshops and input by April 2025.</p> <p>Final strategic service model by July 2025.</p>	DE SAACCON SAAETCC
1.48	DE and SAACCON will partner to support students and their families transition from school into the workforce or further education and training by developing a series of industry immersion videos for Aboriginal students.	<p>The industry video for hospitality and tourism is completed.</p> <p>Scoping for further industry immersion focus currently underway for development in 2025.</p>	DE SAACCON SAAETCC
1.49	Building on existing school roadshows to include Aboriginal business owners, Aboriginal RTOs, and information on traineeships and apprenticeships. Roadshows will include and showcase Aboriginal young people and their families.	<p>Planning for a roadshow for Aboriginal businesses and RTOs is underway and will be organised by early 2025.</p> <p>This will be an annual event.</p>	DE, SAACCON SAAETCC

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
1.50	<p>The development of programs for children and young people (primary school and beyond) and their families that showcase a broad range of options for the future and provide encouragement to 'dream big'.</p> <p>The 'Dream Big' concept is part of the Aboriginal Pathways vision statement, Dream, Believe, Achieve, Succeed targeted at secondary Aboriginal learners.</p>	<p>MyCareerPortal has been launched and made available to schools – the next step is to ensure the content is engaging for Aboriginal learners – to be completed by end of 2024.</p> <p>A Career Handbook for Aboriginal learners will also be developed by term 2, 2025.</p>	<p>DE SAACCON SAAETCC</p>
1.51	<p>Services will be delivered by government agencies and the ACCO sector with linkages to corporate sector/industry as appropriate.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>DE SAACCON SAAETCC</p>
1.52	<p>Explore opportunities in partnership to improve road safety and the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people who experience road trauma as well as increasing employment opportunities through licence attainment and retention. Consideration may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and implement place-based and community-led strategies. Noting, the following reference points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The National Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030. ○ National Road Safety Action Plan 2023-2025. ○ SA Road Safety Strategy to 2031. ○ Road Safety Action Plan 2023-2025. • for driver's license training and testing models and programs to increase the number of licenced Aboriginal drivers, including the identification of financial support mechanisms. • to increase the number of Aboriginal driving instructors to improve cultural safety in driving training. 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>DIT SAACCON</p>
1.53	<p>Facilitate opportunities for additional Prescribed Body Corporates (PBCs) to enter into management partnerships with government departments and agencies responsible for land and waters. Management partnerships include a commitment to co-managing parks and developing</p>	<p>Establishment of First Nations Engagement committee for oversight of commitments - November 2024.</p>	<p>DEW SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<p>new co-management agreements, country-based planning, on-ground projects and training and employment. Initial steps to implement this action will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working with the sector on articulating directions for co-management of parks • progressing the development of new co-management agreements with associated funding requirements • improved engagement with and by Aboriginal people to identify, record and register (if desired) heritage • working together to leverage new and maintain existing ranger/working on country programs, including partnerships, fee for service, and procurement opportunities • work with the Pastoral Board and pastoral lease holders to build awareness and understanding of Aboriginal rights and interests on pastoral leases. 	Completion within 3 years.	
1.54	<p>Work with sector to progress inland waters outcomes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening the recognition of Aboriginal People's cultural authority in water planning and management • working with Aboriginal People on a proposal for 3 per cent or greater of the total volume of water entitlements in a water resource to be set aside and held for Aboriginal People's future use • consulting with Aboriginal People on the potential for a First Nations' Water Trust (or similar) governance model for the purpose of securing legal and beneficial ownership of water by Aboriginal People • building Aboriginal People's water knowledge to strengthen capacity in water planning. 	<p>Commence engagement on the development of a framework to advance First Nations' water interests in 2024.</p> <p>Finalise the framework to advance First Nations' water interests by 2026.</p> <p>The framework will support the delivery of action 8.2.1, including the development of an Inland Waters Target.</p> <p>Joint Council has agreed to revisions to 8.2.1.b (3 per cent target) – a jurisdictional approach to developing the target has been agreed, rather than a standardised 3 per cent target.</p>	<p>DEW SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
		This will need to be updated in future when the National Agreement is amended to incorporate the revised Inland Waters Target.	
1.55	Develop a proposal for government consideration of land handback.	2 years	DEW SAACCON
1.56	<p>Signed in 2018, the Buthera Agreement has provided capacity-building support for the Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation (NNAC) to drive development, economic enterprise and collaborative engagement with government agencies on Guuranda (Yorke Peninsula).</p> <p>The Agreement commits the government to agency-specific place-based activities in two priority areas: economic development and social services.</p> <p>Initiatives in the Agreement include projects relating to youth justice; housing; domestic violence; health; child protection; and education and cultural studies, all of which are matters the government will continue to address in partnership with the Narungga people.</p>	2028	AGD-AAR SAACCON
1.57	<p>The SAPC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue to implement meeting and decision-making processes and protocols that safeguard the equality of the parties. work to deliver the annual Shared Forward Work Plan (from partnership and other joint actions in the Implementation Plan). continue to deliver governance arrangements necessary to oversee and manage the agreement and operationalise the Shared Forward Work Plan. work via the 9 portfolio specific sub-committees to deliver coordinated monitoring and reporting on the implementation and outcomes associated with the socio-economic targets. 	Ongoing	AGD-AAR SAACCON
1.58	<p>The Communications and Engagement strategy has now been split into two separate components, noting the significance of each in meeting the Priority Reforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications Framework – outlining communications approaches and key messages designed to raise awareness and understanding of CTG in South Australia. 	<p>Communications Framework – late 2024, early 2025.</p> <p>Engagement Strategy – mid to late 2025.</p>	AGD SAACCON

Priority Reform 1: Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision-Making

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement Strategy – outlining culturally safe and appropriate engagement strategies for engaging with the Aboriginal community controlled sector and community. <p>The CTG Communications Framework is currently in development in partnership with SAACCON, as agreed through the previous Implementation Plan.</p> <p>Once finalised, it will be approved by the SAPC, and must be reviewed annually by the SAPC to ensure the content remains relevant.</p> <p>The development of the CTG Engagement Strategy has not yet commenced. The process to develop the Engagement Strategy will be agreed in partnership between SAACCON and SA Government late 2024/early 2025.</p>		
1.59	<p>The South Australian Government and SAACCON, along with Commonwealth and local governments, will deliver a place-based partnership in Adelaide’s Western Suburbs, which is co-located with the Community Data Project in the Western Suburbs. This partnership will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> delivered in partnership between Commonwealth, State, Local Governments and SAACCON have established project governance, consistent with the strong partnership elements of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. 	Ongoing	AGD-AAR SAACCON
1.60	<p>Embed the definition of co-design into SA Government through updating PC036 and including self-determination measures within CE Agreements.</p>		DPC SAACCON
1.61	<p>Launched in 2022 and supported by the Aboriginal Voice Consultation Network Register, the Aboriginal Voice framework is a mandated internal procedure that provides a mechanism for embedding input from Aboriginal staff at all stages of the development and design of departmental policies, projects, procedures, guidelines, frameworks and standards in a flexible, sustainable and ongoing manner.</p>	30 June 2026	DE
1.62	<p>The development of an Aboriginal Justice Agreement is a significant project that will establish the framework for achieving Targets 10 and 11 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. An Aboriginal Justice Agreement is a formal undertaking between government and Aboriginal communities to develop and implement a collaborative approach to improve justice outcomes.</p>	2025	AGD SAACCON

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

SA Government Lead Agency – Department of Treasury and Finance

Outcome: There is a strong and sustainable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled sector delivering high quality services to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the country.

Target: Increase the amount of government funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs and services going through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations.

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
2.01	<p>Increase the proportion of services delivered by ACCOs, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) updating mapping of ACCO sector, identification of sector's goals and growth opportunities and defining what is required to achieve these outcomes b) creating a data set comprising government agency approaches to working with and funding ACCOs, undertaken by the Supporting Growth in ACCOs Working Group c) in partnership, develop a detailed whole of government policy framework and process to develop the sector and increase the proportion of services delivered by ACCOs. This would consider good practice, jointly agreed targets, accountability mechanisms and timeframes for implementation, as well as investments and supports required d) develop a transition plan that implements the findings of a), b) and c). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Complete (September 2024) b) Complete (December 2023), government continuing to build on/update findings. c) End of 2024 / early 2025. d) Timing TBD. 	<p>DTF SAACCON</p>
2.02	<p>Leverage the procurement and contracting systems and processes to support the transition of service delivery to ACCOs, including by considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ways to strengthen policies that provides for the provision of services for Aboriginal peoples in SA, to enable the preferencing of ACCOs and other Aboriginal organisations as service providers of services for Aboriginal peoples in SA • review SA Government mechanisms and guidelines for funding ACCOs (including for contracted services) • establish Aboriginal Subject Matter Expert procurement panels for whole of government. 	<p>Timing TBD – staged approach.</p>	<p>DTF SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
2.03	<p>Where an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) seeks new/upgraded infrastructure to facilitate culturally responsive service delivery, SA Government will support the ACCO's infrastructure requirements by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting ACCOs to build Procurement, Project Planning and Project Management capability through mentoring and training opportunities for ACCO staff • supporting ACCO's in mentoring and training of ACCO staff in the development of Commonwealth funding submissions • negotiate with ACCO's on accommodation opportunities within existing SA Government buildings which are surplus to government requirements, where ACCO's have identified a need for such accommodation • explore opportunities to gift or provide long term leases on SA Government buildings that are vacant, occupied by ACCOs or under-utilised. 	Ongoing	DIT SAACCON
2.04	<p>ACCO infrastructure and assets needs register to be established (akin to employment register). The register will indicate identified ACCO needs. This register will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • negotiate with ACCO's on accommodation opportunities within existing SA Government buildings which are surplus to government requirements, where ACCO's have identified a need for such accommodation • explore opportunities to gift or provide long term leases on SA Government buildings that are vacant, occupied by ACCOs or under-utilised. 	TBD in consultation with SAACCON.	DIT SAACCON
2.05	<p>SA Government will provide funding to SAACCON to ensure that the SA Partnership Agreement and SA Joint Implementation Plan for the National Agreement on Closing the Gap are adequately resourced.</p> <p>Funding requests will primarily be made through the SA Government's standard budget processes.</p> <p>There may be emerging needs associated with work directly between SAACCON and individual agencies and these needs may be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>		AGD-AAR SAACCON

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	This arrangement does not preclude SAACCON from seeking funds outside of arrangements with SA Government.		
2.06	Establish a two-way secondment model that supports development of the capability and capacity of both the Aboriginal community-controlled sector and SA government.	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
2.07	Establish a sub-committee under the SA Partnership Agreement tasked with developing a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Aboriginal Workforce Development Needs Analysis. SA Aboriginal Workforce Development Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2024 June 2025 	DSD and SAACCON
2.08	SA Government will support the establishment of a South Australian Aboriginal Housing Peak Body, aligned to Aboriginal governance structures in South Australia, to support capacity and growth of the Aboriginal Community Housing Sector. The Peak Body will seek membership of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Authority (NATSIHA). The peak body's purpose is to facilitate access to quality, accessible, affordable and culturally appropriate housing to help empower Aboriginal individuals, families and communities to optimise their health and wellbeing and improve their employment opportunities, access to education, connection to the community and sense of home. Initial steps to establish a Peak Body will include a formal partnership agreement between SAACCON and SAHT.	Yet to be determined	SAHT SAACCON
2.09	On the establishment of the Peak Body, SA Government and Peak Body will partner to establish an Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Organisation (ACHO) operating with financial independence and explore a range of community models as determined through shared local decision-making and co-design.	Yet to be determined	SAHT and SAACCON
2.10	The Peak Body and SA Government will partner to strengthen the ongoing sustainability of a housing sector ACHO. The partnership will develop capability assessment criteria to enable the Peak Body to make decisions about the delivery of services within community housing models.	Yet to be determined	SAHT and SAACCON
2.11	Undertake audit of houses targeted for establishing the Peak Body, including full examination of the status of the housing and associated repairs and maintenance.	Yet to be determined	SAHT and SAACCON

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
2.12	The South Australian Aboriginal Housing Strategy 2021 – 2031 contains several commitments related to economic participation. This will explore strategic funding models for community-based training to build long-term capability and viability with the plan developed in partnership with Aboriginal Community Councils and ACCOs.	Yet to be determined	SAHT DSD SAACCON
2.13	In partnership, develop a plan for sustainable growth in the ACCO sector, aligning to the whole of government policy framework and process to develop the sector and increase the proportion of services delivered by ACCOs.	Yet to be determined	DCP SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini DHS
2.14	The SA Child and Family Sector investment strategy should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> staged implementation with sufficient safeguarding to ensure stability for ACCOs and Aboriginal families and children embed mechanisms for jurisdictional data sharing that improves data infrastructure of the ACCO sector. 		DCP AGD-AAR DSD DHS
2.15	DCP to provide funding support for an Aboriginal Child and Family Policy Officer. The role will include the provision of support for the implementation of Target 12 and to enable a dedicated SAACCON representative on the establishment steering committee for the establishment of a Peak Body for Aboriginal children and families in South Australia. The role will otherwise be at the discretion of SAACCON to support their focus in the child and family support sector. The term of the grant is 9 June 2023 until 30 June 2025.	June 2023 - grant approval. February 2024 - policy officer appointed. 30 June 2025 - grant ends and acquittal due.	DCP SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini
2.16	In support of the whole of government workforce development initiatives, partners commit to sector activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> culturally safe, trauma-informed (including intergenerational trauma) and healing-focused services across all service delivery (i.e., government, NGO, mainstream and Aboriginal specific) 	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP SAACCON DHS Wakwakurna Kanyini

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop strategies to grow the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce in family support and child protection through vocational and tertiary training pathways and direct support to ACCOs to attract, develop and train staff. <p>Progress the development of Aboriginal-led design and implementation of evidence-based assessment tools and practice underpinned by Aboriginal ways of child rearing and family including and not limited to Family lead decision-making processes.</p>		
2.17	<p>In addition, the SA Government commits to work with SAACCON and other Aboriginal partners to deliver on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus area 4 - Strengthening the child and family sector workforce capability of the Safe and Supported: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Action Plan 2023-2026. Action 4 – Listening to Lived Experience of the Safe and Supported: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Action Plan 2023-2026. <p>Develop a national approach to continue building a sustainable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child and family sector workforce.</p>	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP SAACCON DHS Wakwakurna Kanyini
2.18	<p>Support and participate in the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People's Inquiry into the implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle. On 30 June 2022, the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People (CACYP) launched the inquiry.</p> <p>The Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection gave evidence throughout the Inquiry to inform the Final Report to Government.</p>	The Final Report – Holding Onto Our Future - was tabled in Parliament on 5 June 2024.	DCP DHS SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini
2.19	<p>Implement recommendations of Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People's Inquiry into the implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle as agreed in partnership with SA Government, SAACCON and Peak Body.</p>	<p>The Final Report – Holding Onto Our Future - was tabled in Parliament on 5 June 2024.</p> <p>Dates for completion are subject to commitments of the SA Government response expected to be tabled in Cabinet by the end of 2024.</p>	DCP DHS SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
2.20	<p>Support the development and establishment of the national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Support to develop a targeted research agenda and commission research into best practice in culturally safe child protection and family support work.</p> <p>Including consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review of best practice • research guidelines • collaboration on the development of culturally safe tools • understanding and addressing racism • investment priorities • develop Aboriginal measures of success • Aboriginal-led evaluation • develop culturally appropriate tools including assessment tools. 	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP DHS SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini
2.21	DHS to work in active partnership to align efforts and share research and evidence with the Aboriginal Child and Family Research Centre of Excellence.	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP DHS SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini
2.22	Disaggregated data and information from all agencies are to be shared with ACCO's to support decision-making. Regional data sets must provide sufficient information about regional populations and priority focus areas to allow informed decisions to address inequities for the most vulnerable families.	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP DHS SAACCON DTF-ODA
2.23	SA is committed to meet Australian Government specifications of agreed definition and approach to Indigenous Data Sovereignty, and to actively work with Aboriginal partners to identify data requirements in the child and family sector at state and regional levels.	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP DHS SAACCON

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	The Early Intervention Research Policy Data Set (EPDS - overseen by Pathways, Evidence and Partnerships) data will identify population needs, inequity in access to services, and explore outcomes relevant to Aboriginal families and communities. Essential to these activities is the development of methods that are appropriate for assessing service models and reporting the data collected.		DTF-ODA
2.24	<p>In partnership with SAACCON, the Peak and the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People, work to fully implement the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle across legislation, policy, programs, processes and practice.</p> <p>This will be implemented through undertaking the section 169 legislative review of the <i>Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017</i> and related policy reform with a view to supporting self-determination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • require government to take active efforts to fully implement the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle including each of the five principles to increase consistency and accountability • embed the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle as the paramount framework for decision-making for Aboriginal children and young people in care (without displacing safety) • enable delegated authority to Aboriginal organisations of certain statutory powers and functions (e.g., powers of investigation, case management, care) in relation to an Aboriginal child or young person to be delegated to an ACCO, Aboriginal person, or Aboriginal community • increase the number of registered ACCOs as per section 12 of the <i>Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017</i> (consultation on placement) • ensure all services and care environments across the entirety of the child protection sector (including out of home care) are culturally safe, trauma-responsive and therapeutic • legislative reform occurs in partnership with SAACCON, providing ACCOs an opportunity to inform the amended legislation 	<p>Full review of the legislation completed and tabled in Parliament March 2023.</p> <p>Amendments to the legislation are currently being considered.</p>	<p>DCP DHS SAACCON Wakwakurna Kanyini</p>

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> needs to be coupled with necessary policy reform to ensure funding for ACCOs to provide intensive support to address drivers/causes of child abuse and therapeutic approaches to care. 		
2.25	<p>Commitment to support Aboriginal business development in primary industries, food, wine, fisheries and aquaculture. Through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PIRSA development of a SA Aboriginal Business Strategy to increase the number of Aboriginal businesses and build capacity and capability in these sectors in collaboration with SAACCON. Development and implementation of PIRSA's Aboriginal Procurement Strategy to support the creation of Aboriginal jobs and enable economic participation in these sectors. 	<p>30 June 2026</p> <p>30 June 2025</p>	<p>PIRSA SAACCON</p>
2.26	<p>Build the capacity of ACCOs to cope with the demands of climate change and engage in activities to improve sustainability, through providing them with information and support to enable them to apply for funding for projects focussed on climate resilience, revegetation activities, and carbon farming.</p>	Ongoing	<p>DEW SAACCON</p>
2.27	<p>National Sector Strengthening Plans – Early Childhood and Development, Health, Housing and Disability.</p> <p>Representatives from respective agencies will represent their sector and participate in Working Groups during development of the Plans, which aim to provide a national framework for a joined-up approach to build a strong community-controlled sector.</p>	<p>DHW will consider the National Health Sector Stengthening Plan under a workplan through the governance structures of the SA Partnership Committee (SAPC). DHS is currently scoping opportunities to prioritise and progress Disability work through existing networks.</p>	<p>DE, DHW, SAHT, DHS SAACCON</p>
2.28	<p>SA Government to support Aboriginal workforce development (in ACCOs and mainstream government agencies), by way of funding and in-kind support, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> additional funding in service contracts for provision of accredited training to Aboriginal workforce capacity building of accredited Aboriginal training providers 	2025 - 2026	<p>OCPSE SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TAFE and Universities implement targets for Aboriginal graduates by discipline as a percentage of total graduates SA Government to provide targeted financial support for pre-employment training that advances Aboriginal participants on identified career pathways further study to gain qualifications in management (similar to previous programs which provided support for Aboriginal staff to gain a Diploma in Management or Master of Business Administration) workplace mentoring (particularly middle management). 		
2.29	Delivering for Community - Tauondi Aboriginal College Supporting business and commercial development capability		DSD (Skills SA)
2.30	Responding to concerns about escalating antisocial behaviour among Aboriginal youth cohorts in Port Lincoln and Whyalla: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port Lincoln: Currently funding Kornar Winmil Yunti (KWY) Aboriginal Corporation for two Aboriginal Youth Worker positions, and West Coast Youth and Community Support (WCYCS) for a night bus service. Whyalla: Funding committed towards similar services through Plaza Youth (youth workers and night bus service), commencing August 2024. 	To be determined	DHS
2.31	<p>DHS has been funding the Australian Red Cross since 2018 to provide backbone support to Port Adelaide Aboriginal Leadership Group - Tiraapendi Wodli, for the coordination and implementation of the Justice Reinvestment Port Adelaide Initiative. This action spans across multiple targets.</p> <p>Tiraapendi Wodli uses a community-led, place-based and holistic approach to working alongside the community to identify and influence system level changes and outcomes for Aboriginal families. Tiraapendi Wodli takes a grass-roots and practical approach to building local leadership and capacity for community to identify and lead their own solutions.</p> <p>More recently, DHS contribute an additional grant which made it possible to engage the Kowa Collaboration to co-design the Tiraapendi Wodli Understanding, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (UMEL) framework. The TW UMEL formed the basis of discussions to implement the evaluation funded by with the Paul Ramsay Foundation.</p>	2018 - 2025	DHS

Priority Reform 2: Building the Community-Controlled Sector

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
2.32	<p>Deliver assertive outreach and Return to Country service. This action spans across multiple targets.</p> <p>DHS has funded Umoona Community Council from January 2024 to January 2025 to deliver an assertive outreach and Return to Country service alongside DHS led return to country coordinated programs.</p>	2024 - 2025	DHS
2.33	<p>Through the Safety and Wellbeing Taskforce, DHS is working in partnership the local Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community, service providers, and three levels of government to resolve a Port Augusta community safety and wellbeing plan, to support safety and wellbeing in the region and ensure a sustainable and culturally appropriate service response for the next four years.</p>	2028 (4 years)	DHS

Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

SA Government Lead Agency – Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC)

Outcome: Governments, their organisations and their institutions are accountable for Closing the Gap and are culturally safe and responsive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including through the services they fund.

Target: Decrease in the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have experiences of racism.

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
3.01	Identify, develop or strengthen an independent mechanism or mechanisms to support, monitor and report on the transformation of government.	Further work to determine timeframes is underway, in conjunction with SAACCON.	AGD-AAR SAACCON
3.02	Develop and implement a Closing the Gap Policy Impact Statement co-designed with SAACCON. This will include tools and guidance for how it's used, which will detail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> policy criteria when it's applied the process of applying a CTGPIS guidelines for agencies and statutory authorities on best practice guidelines on engaging SAACCON / ACCOs to support completion of CTGPIS on an ongoing basis, including: guidance on development of remedies for disproportionate impacts identified through process an impact assessment tool which includes Closing the Gap Targets as measures. 		DPC AGD-AAR
3.03	Embed the Closing the Gap Policy Impact Statement into departmental policies and Cabinet processes, including through its addition to approval standards.		DPC AGD-AAR
3.04	Report on the implementation of the Closing the Gap Policy Impact Statement through the Annual Report.		DPC AGD-AAR

Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
3.05	<p>Identify and eliminate racism by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a whole of government anti-racism strategy, reviewed in partnership with SAACCON. Delivering ongoing programs that improve cultural competence of agency workforce, leadership and governance acknowledging that cultural learning requires non-Aboriginal people to engage in self-reflective practice, to recognise their privileges and role in addressing ongoing systemic racism. SAACCON and OCPSE will co-design the learning programs and materials in partnership. Monitoring and evaluating the implementation and outcomes of the strategy in partnership with SAACCON. 	Anti-Racism Strategy established with Action Plan for delivery from 2023 to 2028.	OCPSE SAACCON
3.06	Embed and practice cultural safety by identifying key learnings, points of consistency and alignment, best practice, shared challenges, and opportunities across SA government. An environmental scan will include learnings from current national Closing the Gap initiatives.	Ongoing	OCPSE AGD-AAR SAACCON
3.07	Develop and implement a whole of government approach to transformation that embeds cultural safety and practice in partnership with SAACCON.	Ongoing	OCPSE AGD-AAR SAACCON
3.08	<p>The Partners will evaluate a select list of Aboriginal-specific programs to identify success factors, evidence gaps and build a culturally responsive knowledge base.</p> <p>The list of programs will be jointly developed and agreed.</p> <p>The evaluations will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> be Aboriginal-led be jointly selected by SAACCON and SA Government incorporate measures of success which have been jointly determined by SAACCON and SA Government establish mechanisms to measure outcomes at program and population levels with learnings available to both Partners. 	2026–2027	DPC SAACCON

Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
3.09	Review the public sector's Work Health and Safety Framework for cultural safety in partnership with SAACCON.	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
3.10	Review Aboriginal cultural competencies across the public sector, including measurement of a baseline that gives consideration to the level of cultural capacity required for specific roles and functions (e.g. assessment, decision-making etc).	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
3.11	In partnership with SAACCON, review cultural awareness training programs. Learnings may be demonstrated through case study outcomes.	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
3.12	Implement whole of government cultural learning programs, which will be developed and delivered in partnership with SAACCON and will consist of multiple levels of learning. This multi-level approach acknowledges that understanding Aboriginal cultures and being culturally responsive is an individual journey, and not everyone will be at the same stage of that journey. This approach must acknowledge that cultural learning requires non-Aboriginal people to engage in self-reflective practice, to recognise their privileges and role in addressing ongoing systemic racism.	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
3.13	The learning programs will be delivered via multiple mediums including; online, face-to-face and cultural immersion elements and will be mandatory for all executive and front-line service staff, at a minimum and accessible to members of Boards and Committees.	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
3.14	The impact of the reviewed Work Health and Safety Framework and cultural learning programs will be evaluated in partnership with SAACCON.	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
3.15	Review and develop strategies to increase the representation of Aboriginal peoples in agency governance and support their development.	To be determined	OCPSE SAACCON
3.16	In establishing the SA social worker registration scheme, and in consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders, embed cultural capability requirements as part of the registration and ongoing professional learning requirements.	The Social Workers Registration Bill 2021 was passed on 9 December 2021. The Social Workers Registration (Commencement) Amendment Bill	DCP SAACCON

Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
		<p>2023 was passed by the Parliament on 16 November 2023.</p> <p>The Social Workers Registration Board (the Board) was announced in the South Australian Government Gazette on Thursday, 28 March 2024.</p>	
3.17	Work with the tertiary sector to advocate that social work graduates have obtained appropriate cultural competencies as part of their degree.	<p>The Board commenced on 1 May 2024 and expires 30 April 2027.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Regulatory Practice Advisor is expected to commence in September 2024.</p>	<p>DGP</p> <p>SAACCON</p>
3.18	<p>Review outcomes from action taken to improve trauma-informed, healing focussed and strength-based service delivery for Aboriginal peoples in health, education, human services, youth and adult justice systems.</p> <p>The review will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify key learnings, points of consistency and alignment, best practice, shared challenges and opportunities across SA government. An environmental scan will include learnings from current national, Closing the Gap initiatives determine priorities to inform future work including updates to cultural awareness and sector-specific practice training. 	To be determined	<p>AGD-AAR</p> <p>OCPSE</p> <p>SAACCON</p>
3.19	Develop and implement a whole of government standard of practice in partnership with SAACCON.	To be determined	<p>AGD-AAR</p> <p>OCPSE</p> <p>SAACCON</p>
3.20	Emergency management safeguards people at risk during and following an emergency with specific consideration given to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This will be achieved through collaborative engagement, comprehensive and integrated planning to enhance coordination, information sharing and outcomes.		<p>DPC</p> <p>SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
3.21	DHS and SAACCON, will, in partnership co-design and implement an Aboriginal Youth Justice Practice Framework for South Australia.	July 2025	DHS SAACCON
3.22	DHS and SAACCON will, in partnership co-design and implement an Aboriginal model of care in youth justice systems that supports culturally trauma informed care and rehabilitation practices through culture. The partnership will also co-design monitoring mechanisms.	March 2025	DHS SAACCON
3.23	The new whole of government State Disability Inclusion Plan will be developed in line with the requirements set out in the <i>Disability Inclusion Act 2018 (SA)</i> and the <i>Disability Inclusion (Review Recommendations) Amendment Act 2024</i> . The new State Disability Inclusion Plan will acknowledge and address Aboriginal people with disability as a legislated priority group.	June 2025	DHS SAACCON
3.24	DHS will conduct targeted consultation with SAACCON and its members during the development stages of its agency Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) to ensure the DAIP can address the overlapping barriers to access and inclusion experienced by Aboriginal people with disability, including women and children who have experienced violence.	December 2025	DHS SAACCON
3.25	In partnership DCS and SAACCON to identify opportunities to improve outcomes for Aboriginal prisoners leaving prison, with a particular focus on reducing the rate of recidivism. This will include (at a minimum): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> development and co-design of a best practice framework for engaging ACCOs in partnership with SAACCON noting this will have to comply with SA procurement legislation and piloted by a few government agencies receive updates of current reintegration and transitional support programs to determine the proportion of released prisoners that access these programs consideration of all release episodes, given the overwhelming majority of prisoners will be released to bail, off court or sentence served and most likely following a period of remand. 	On track	DCS SAACCON
3.26	In partnership establish a Women’s and Family Safety Partnership Committee co-chaired by SA Government and SAACCON representing relevant service divisions that will provide advice and oversee implementation of any actions undertaken that will directly affect Aboriginal women and children experiencing family, domestic and sexual violence.	December 2025	DHS-OFW SAACCON

Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
3.27	The South Australian Government committed to a Royal Commission into Family and Domestic Violence within South Australia starting July 2024. It is anticipated to be completed in June 2025 and will engage with SAACCON to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific issues are included.	To be determined	DHS-OFW SAACCON
3.28	The Office for Women will engage with SAACCON to develop an accompanying action plan focused on responding to violence against Aboriginal women and children in SA. The development of this dedicated action plan will be a commitment within the new strategy frameworks in SA.	Pending	DHS-OFW SAACCON
3.29	<p>Work with the Pastoral Board and pastoral leaseholders to build awareness and understanding of Aboriginal rights and interests on pastoral leases. This has been built into the Pastoral Board's Strategic Plan 2023-2025. The plan has an action to provide pastoral leaseholders with information about Native Title and Aboriginal Heritage.</p> <p>Information about leaseholders' obligations regarding Native Title, Aboriginal Heritage and Aboriginal access to pastoral leases has been included in a pastoral lessee handbook, to be released in 2024.</p> <p>Information on Aboriginal rights and interests will also be included in other Board policies and guidelines, such as its new Guideline on Stockproof Boundary Fencing (April 2024), and forthcoming Guideline on Changes of Land Use on Pastoral Land.</p> <p>Future guidelines will also include similar information where relevant.</p> <p>DEW also undertakes regular consultation on Aboriginal rights and interests with SA Native Title Services and First Nations of SA to ensure these are incorporated in Pastoral Board decision-making.</p>	July 2025	DEW SAACCON
3.30	<p>Government agencies will support greater Aboriginal representation on government boards and ensure that boards are aligned to and actively engaged with a relevant Reconciliation Action Plan.</p> <p>DPC will coordinate a review of current Board appointment and management practices across government and support each portfolio to determine the most appropriate approach to achieving this action. Each portfolio will then be supported to implement the agreed changes.</p>	Ongoing	DPC
3.31	The Aboriginal Affairs Executive Committee will provide strategic across-government leadership and endorsement of workplans to address whole of government strategic priorities to improve	N/A	DCS

Priority Reform 3: Transforming Government Organisations

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<p>outcomes for Aboriginal peoples, including Closing the Gap-related work. It will also create opportunities to identify and develop emerging Aboriginal leaders across the public sector.</p> <p>The AAEC has established four working groups to progress Shared Forward Work Plans that address four specified South Australian Government strategic priority areas for Aboriginal affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • over-representation of Aboriginal South Australians in the Criminal Justice Sector • supporting the Growth in Community Controlled Organisations (Shared Forward Work Plan to be developed in partnership with SAACCON) • building Capacity in Vulnerable Families • economic Participation (Employment and Procurement). <p>The AAEC is co-chaired by the CE of the Department for Correctional Services and the ED of AGD-AAR. Each working group is co-chaired by a senior Aboriginal public servant and a CE from an unrelated agency.</p> <p>Shared Forward Work Plans will be provided to the NACTG IRG for endorsement and inclusion in this Implementation Plan where relevant.</p>		
3.32	<p>All Chief Executive Council agencies will have current Reconciliation Action Plans.</p> <p>DPC will coordinate the implementation of a whole of government Reconciliation Action Plan.</p>	Delayed	DPC
3.33	<p>The Safety and Wellbeing Taskforce established a temporary site at Edwards Park called a ‘Safer Place to Gather’ where remote visitors who are rough sleeping and often impacted by alcohol misuse and chronic health conditions can seek shelter and access support services in a safe setting.</p> <p>DHS also coordinates a Return to Country (RtC) program throughout South Australia that enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people whose primary place of residence is a remote or regional community, to return home, should they desire.</p> <p>A multidisciplinary DHS Remote Visitor Outreach Team (RVOT) works closely with other government agencies, including SAPOL, SAHT and local government to provide a coordinated and joined-up service approach, with daily visits to Adelaide and Port Adelaide parklands to provide assertive outreach and the Return to Country program. The Team also conducts targeted visits to individuals to address specific concerns or needs.</p>	2023 – 2025	DHS

Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

SA Government Lead Agency – Department of Treasury and Finance

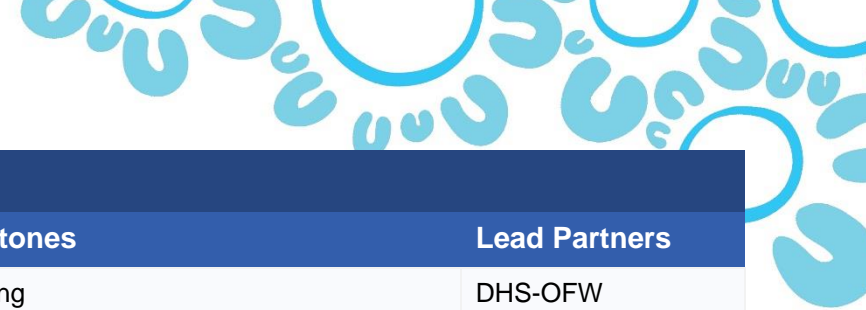
Outcome: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to, and the capability to use, locally relevant data and information to set and monitor the implementation of efforts in Closing the Gap, their priorities, and drive their own development.

Target: Increase the number of regional data projects to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to make decisions about Closing the Gap and their Development.

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
4.01	<p>Develop and implement a plan for continuous and sustained collaboration between SA Government agencies, statutory authorities and SAACCON / ACCO sector on data and information sharing. This plan will align with the outcomes and actions of the Data Development Plan endorsed by Joint Council in August 2022.</p> <p>Regional level data outcome is that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regional data sets matched to data needs of local / regional Aboriginal community groups and organisations data on Aboriginal specific programs and outcomes to support evaluation of those programs. <p>Statewide data outcome is that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ACCO sectors' initial priority is to share regional data and information to support decision-making. The regional data sets should provide sufficient information about regional populations and priority focus areas to make informed decisions to address inequities (for example, for the most vulnerable families) progress a place-based data sharing agreement to inform Aboriginal-led service design, delivery, review and community-driven evaluations. Community-driven evaluations will be designed in partnership with the community and evaluation findings provided to enable the community to design solutions. 	<p>Initial work has been focused on the location-based data project for the western suburbs of Adelaide.</p> <p>This project will deliver data on priority areas identified by the community and explore the best mechanisms for ongoing partnership between community and the SA Government.</p>	<p>DTF-ODA SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
4.02	<p>The Partnership Agreement will necessitate regular data collection and analysis to understand the impact of actions and outcomes specifically related to Aboriginal peoples and communities. Data is being collated by the Productivity Commission and both Parties will have access to this. To improve shared access to data and information to enable Aboriginal communities to make informed decisions, SAACCON, in partnership with the Office for Data Analytics, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implement (and adapt if necessary) the Maiam Nayri Wingara Indigenous Data Sovereignty Principles in a South Australian context, ensuring that appropriate governance structures are developed in relation to collection, authorisation and use of data • develop mechanisms and timelines for building the capacity of SAACCON and ACCOs to independently collect and manage data, in accordance with the Maiam Nayri Wingara Indigenous Data Sovereignty Principles • progress the work of the SA Implementation Plan for Closing the Gap that relates to Priority Reform 4, including: • investigate mapping ACCO sector digital/information technology infrastructure (including hardware and software), identifying workforce capability and training needs and existing data governance and controls environment, with consideration to any relevant work that Commonwealth may be progressing and the relevant Commonwealth timeframes • investigate mechanisms and infrastructure to support data capability of the ACCO sector • develop a plan to map existing data collections and assess data needs based on agreed priority areas of government and ACCO sector. 	<p>Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles will be explored through the Community Data Project.</p>	<p>DTF-ODA SAACCON</p>
4.03	<p>The Office for Women will share appropriate de-identified data/key themes collected through the Family Safety Portal for use in the Women’s and Family Safety Partnership Committee to assist in decision-making.</p>	<p>July 2025</p>	<p>DHS-OFW SAACCON</p>



Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level			
#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
4.04	The Office for Women will engage with SAACCON to ensure any review of the Family Safety Framework incorporates culturally responsive tools and practices.	Ongoing	DHS-OFW SAACCON
4.05	The Office for Women will explore opportunities to increase ACCO engagement under the Family Safety Framework.	To be determined	DHS-OFW SAACCON
4.06	In consultation with SAACCON, the Department for Education will develop and deliver or work with other relevant agencies to develop and deliver a series of workshops for SAACCON and its membership regarding what data is publicly available, and how to access and interpret the data. Workshops will cover the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • skills funding • skills data • schools funding • schools data • early childhood education and care funding • early childhood education and care data • Aboriginal education program-specific data. 	Mid 2025	DE SAACCON
4.07	Following the completion of these workshops, the Department for Education will work with SAACCON to understand SAACCON's data requirements, and any further supports required to develop the expertise of the ACCO sector to access and interpret data. Further actions will be discussed and agreed at that time.	TBD	DE SAACCON
4.08	DE and SAACCON to participate in Data Sub-Committee being convened by DTF-ODA.	This committee will be established following the completion of the SACCON and Department for Education workshops.	
4.09	SAACCON, in partnership with AGD-AAR and DTF-ODA will identify relevant agency and ACCO representatives (who will work with Commonwealth and local government representatives if they wish), to lead community engagement required to inform potential site nominations.	In progress This will be explored through the community data project.	DTF-ODA SAACCON



Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a process, criteria and governance arrangements for determining priorities and approving community data projects. Nominate community data projects to Joint Council for consideration. <p>External research organisations and institutions may be invited to participate, including universities, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies and the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute.</p> <p>The community data project will be established by way of a localised agreement. That is, SA Government and all relevant parties will enter into a local partnership agreement, consistent with Priority Reform One, with participating Aboriginal organisations in the region. The community data project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enable an Aboriginal community and participating Aboriginal organisations to access and use location-specific data on the Closing the Gap outcome areas support an Aboriginal community to analyse and use regional specific data to help drive their own development and discussions with governments on Closing the Gap enable an Aboriginal community and participating Aboriginal organisations to collect and access other data which they consider important. 		
4.10	<p>The <i>Public Sector (Data Sharing) Act 2016</i> provides a legal framework to share public sector data between government departments and other trusted entities in South Australia. This is a multi-stage project and will require project management resources / champions to scope and define the project parameters and develop approach and a project plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish commitment from SAACCON, DPC and Office of Data analytics. Establish Project Management Team. Conduct workshops with SA Government agencies, SAACCON and ACCO partners, to inform data required and presentation formats. Develop Project Plan. Audit of parties' ability to meet 5 SAFE Controls (see Data Controls action below). 	<p>Not yet due to commence.</p> <p>This will be explored through the community data project.</p>	<p>DTF-ODA SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

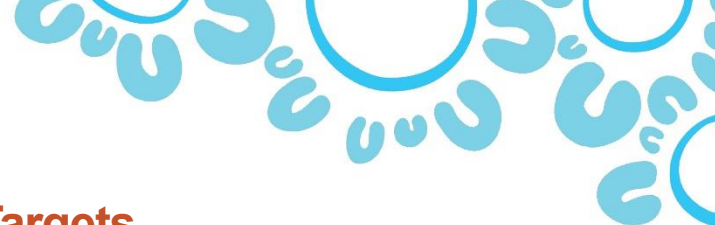
#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct workshops for user centred (UX) design with key stakeholders, SA Government and community-controlled sector. • Develop prototype solutions / specify data requirements. • Validate data specifications / reporting solutions with key stakeholders, SA Government and community-controlled sector. • Finalise data sharing agreement. • User Acceptance testing (validate data sharing against agreement and specifications) with test groups representing key stakeholders, SA Government and community-controlled sector. • Communicate and train users as required. • Integration with the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. <p>It is expected that the SA Government will need to support the community-controlled sector to build capacity in order to improve upon elements of the Five Safes Framework (see separate subsidiary project below).</p> <p>Data sharing will also necessitate an ongoing program of data cleansing and improvement in order to maximise the benefits of shared data. All data and information sharing projects should, as a principle, move toward the state-wide standardisation of data definitions and collection principles to improve data integrity, reliability, usability and allow for consolidation and integration of data sets across government agencies and the Aboriginal community-controlled sector.</p>		
4.11	Data SA is SA Government's Open Data Registry and contains links to over 1,600 data sets including some local government community profiles (Port Adelaide Enfield and Onkaparinga local government areas for example). In the first instance, SA Government could support ACCOs to build capability in using and interpreting data by providing training which assists ACCOs to identify, access and use data sets already available via Data SA.	Not yet due to commence. This will be explored through the community data project.	DTF-ODA SAACCON
4.12	Utilise the mapping of digital/information technology infrastructure (including hardware and software), identification of specialised workforce and levels of previous investment in relevant workforce development and training by organisation, sector and location to	Not yet due to commence. This will be explored through the community data project.	DTF-ODA SAACCON

Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
	develop an investment map for prioritisation and action by SA Government and SAACCON.		
4.13	<p>The Data Sharing Act applies the Five Safes framework to shared data proposals and determines whether they are satisfied and the parties are able to enter an approved Data Sharing Agreement. The Five Safes break down the decisions surrounding data access and use into five related but separate dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe projects - Is this use of the data appropriate, lawful, ethical and sensible? • Safe people - Can the users be trusted to use it in an appropriate manner? • Safe data - Does the data contain sufficient information to allow confidentiality to be breached? • Safe settings - Does the access facility limit unauthorised use or mistakes? • Safe outputs - Is the confidentiality maintained for the outputs of the management regime? <p>The steps to address the Five SAFES across ACC sector could be managed as a state-wide data project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish commitment from SAACCON, DPC and Office of Data analytics. • Establish Project Governance and Project Management Teams. • Develop Project Plan. • Audit the Safe Settings of ACCO's control environment and identify gaps (this will necessarily include mapping of digital/information technology infrastructure (including hardware and software), identification of specialised workforce and levels of previous investment in relevant workforce development and training by organisation, sector and location) in addition to the controls environment. • Project Governance team to determine phased approach dependent on the size and spread of identified gaps. • Develop Action Plans to identify gaps and assign responsibility to implement and monitor action plans to Project Management team members. • Commence phased implementation as approved by Project Governance team. 	<p>In progress – delayed.</p> <p>This will be explored through the community data project.</p>	<p>DTF-ODA SAACCON</p>

Priority Reform 4: Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

#	Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
4.14	DHS has facilitated the Ceduna Data Sharing Agreement which is now signed with all agencies and the West Coast Partnership. The agreement establishes formal partnerships to share relevant data between various Government agencies and Far West Coast Partnerships, the backbone organisation coordinating community action for the Far West Coast Region. The data shared under the agreement will improve local capacity to collect, manage and interpret data to inform shared decision-making.	Ongoing	DHS SAACCON
4.15	Establish a working group with membership from Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation and the State Records SA Aboriginal Reference Group to improve access to archives by developing criteria to be used when assessing applications for access to records. This working group will also review and develop how the process to access archives is communicated to the community.	Ongoing	State Records South Australia



Progress of the Socio-Economic Targets

All parties to the National Agreement have agreed to focus on 17 socio-economic outcomes, each with specific targets.

Data is collected for each area, which help build a picture on how each jurisdiction is tracking against the socio-economic outcomes of the National Agreement.

This section of the Implementation Plan describes how SA intends to deliver progress against each Outcome.

Key themes

In this Implementation Plan, we have grouped socio-economic targets into ‘themes’.

Theme	Related socio-economic targets
Health, Wellbeing and Development	Outcome 1: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy long and healthy lives.
	Outcome 2: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are born healthy and strong.
	Outcome 4: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children thrive in their early years.
	Outcome 14: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy high levels of social and emotional wellbeing.
Education and Training	Outcome 3: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are engaged in high quality, culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years.
	Outcome 5: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieve their full learning potential.
	Outcome 6: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students reach their full potential through further education pathways.
	Outcome 7: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are engaged in employment or education.
Employment	Outcome 8: Strong economic participation and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.
Housing	Outcome 9: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need.



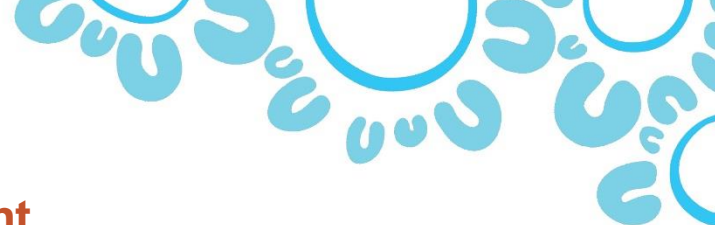


Theme	Related socio-economic targets
Justice	Outcome 10: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
	Outcome 11: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
Families and Kin	Outcome 12: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are not overrepresented in the child protection system.
	Outcome 13: By 2031, the rate of all forms of family violence and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children is reduced at least by 50%, as progress towards zero.
Country	Outcome 15: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people maintain a distinctive cultural, spiritual, physical and economic relationship with their land and waters.
Language	Outcome 16: By 2031, there is a sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken.
Digital Inclusion	Outcome 17: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to information and services enabling participation in informed decision-making regarding their own.

About the target data

Where data has been made available on the Productivity Commission’s Closing the Gap Information Repository Dashboard an overview of progress and trends has been included, as of 2024.

Data is drawn from www.pc.gov.au/closing-the-gap-data. Assessments of progress should be used with caution as they are based on a limited number of data points.



Health, Wellbeing and Development

Health and wellbeing is made up of holistic and interconnected elements, and encompasses both physical health and social, emotional, spiritual and ecological wellbeing for individuals and communities.¹

The socio-economic outcomes aimed at improving physical health and the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal people are:

- **Outcome 1** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy long and healthy lives
- **Outcome 2** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are born healthy and strong
- **Outcome 4** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children thrive in their early years
- **Outcome 14** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy high levels of social and emotional wellbeing.

Productivity Commission statement on Health, Wellbeing and Development

'The unique protective factors found in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures such as connection to land, spirituality, ancestry, family and community are sources of strength and resilience (Dudgeon et al. 2014; Sutherland and Adams 2019).

Strengthening and restoring protective factors can improve health outcomes and the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (Dudgeon et al. 2014; Kelly 2009).'

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report, p 14

¹ Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report, p.14



Outcome 1 - Aboriginal people enjoy long and healthy lives

Lead agency: Department of Health and Wellbeing

Target data: Productivity Commission Closing the Gap assessment of progress.

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: Close the Gap in life expectancy within a generation, by 2031.	No assessment – no data available.	Improvement but not on-track (for both males and females).

Where we are now

Nationally, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males born in 2020–2022 are expected to live to 71.9 years and females to 75.6 years, and non-Aboriginal males and females to 80.6 years and 83.8 years respectively.

SA does not yet have data available at the state level.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Refresh and launch campaigns and resources to encourage Aboriginal people toward smoking cessation.	2024-2025	Preventive Health SA
Provide grants that support the Aboriginal Community Controlled sector to strengthen culture and improve wellbeing.	September 2024 to June 2025	Preventive Health SA
Partnering with SAHMRI to address racism in local sports and find evidence-based solutions.	June 2025	Preventive Health SA
Developing an evidence-driven plan focused on the determinants of social and emotional wellbeing for South Australian Aboriginal children and adolescents.	2024-2025	Preventive Health SA
Partnership with AHCSA to fund the establishment and implementation of local Suicide Prevention Networks in Aboriginal communities.	2024-2025	Preventive Health SA
Delivering community education and awareness of the National Cancer Screening programs, including One Stop Screening Shop.	June 2025	Preventive Health SA
Develop a formal partnership with the Aboriginal Community Controlled sector to co-design health and wellbeing initiatives, and partnering with SAACCON to support the implementation of Closing the Gap in South Australia, with an embedded approach to Health in All Policies.	Commence October 2024	Preventive Health SA
The draft South Australian Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategy 2024-2030 aims to prevent and reduce the harms and risks associated with alcohol and other drugs in South Australia. It outlines progressing the Closing the Gap priorities on partnerships with Aboriginal organisations and communities, and shared access to data and information embedding Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles.	2027 mid-term review 2030 final evaluation	Preventive Health SA SA Police



Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Developing a formative research to determine a culturally appropriate campaign to prevent/reduce alcohol consumption when planning and during pregnancy, and while breastfeeding to avoid risks of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).</p> <p>Exploring partnership opportunities with Women's and Children's Health Network, in providing a culturally safe environment, to increase the community knowledge and awareness about the harms of drinking alcohol during pregnancy, when planning a pregnancy and during breastfeeding.</p>	Ongoing	Preventive Health SA





Outcome 2 – Aboriginal children are born healthy and strong

Lead agency: Department of Health and Wellbeing

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies with a healthy birthweight to 91%	No change (from baseline year)	Good improvement and on-track

Where we are now

Nationally in 2021, 89.6% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children born were of a healthy birthweight.

Data from 2021 shows that in SA, the proportion of children born with healthy birthweights has not changed since the baseline year of 2017, noting that there is low data available to make this assessment.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Undertake initial scoping to explore steps to implement (linked to an MoU between LHNs and ACCHOs) this action include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthing centres on Country or birthing at local hospitals for better mother and child outcomes. 		DHW DHS SAACCON





Outcome 4 - Aboriginal children thrive in their early years

Lead agency: Office for Early Childhood Development

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children assessed as developmentally on track in all 5 domains of the Australian Early Development Census to 55%	Improvement	Worsening

Where we are now

Nationally, a lower proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children have been assessed as developmentally on track, and the target is not on track to be met by 2031.

National data from 2021 shows that 34.3% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children commencing school were assessed as being developmentally on track in all five Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) domains. This was a decrease from the 35.2% in the baseline year (2018).

In SA there has been progress against this target. Latest data, from 2021, shows that 31.3% of Aboriginal children commencing school were assessed as being developmentally on track in all 5 AEDC domains. This is an increase from the 2018 baseline of 29%.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
In partnership with Aboriginal leadership, local Aboriginal communities, the community-controlled sector and Aboriginal peak bodies, co-design initiatives to retain and increase the benefits of 3-year-old preschool for Aboriginal children, for rollout from 2026.	Implementation of initiatives to commence from 2026	OECD





Outcome 14 - Aboriginal people enjoying high levels of social and emotional wellbeing

Lead agency: Department of Health and Wellbeing

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: Significant and sustained reduction in suicide of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people towards zero	No assessment (no available data)	Worsening

Where we are now

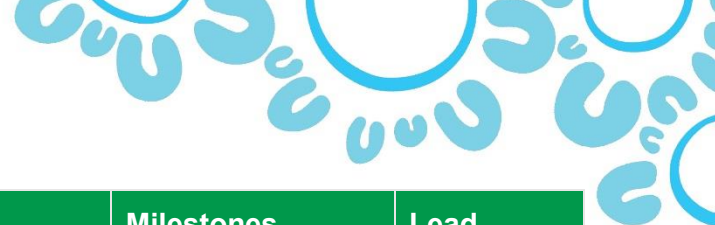
Nationally, the target of significant and sustained reduction in suicide of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people towards zero is not on track to be met.

In 2024, there is not enough data to make an assessment for each state and territory's progress.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>DEW will work with First Nations groups and other partners to co-design a repatriation policy for repatriation of old people (ancestral remains and materials) to Country on National Parks and Crown land. Key deliverables include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a repatriation policy and work with First Nations groups on the policy and its procedures, which also contributes to a proposed SA Government Repatriation Plan. First Nations groups provide input into the draft policy and/or procedure and are involved in subsequent consultation processes and evaluation, including ensuring that sites of cultural significance along with cultural knowledge and interests are appropriately considered and respected throughout the process. 	December 2024	DEW
Establish and sustain Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Networks - aligned with current and new suicide prevention networks across South Australia.		DHW - Office of the Chief Psychiatrist
<p>DHS currently funds two ACCOs to deliver Aboriginal Gambling Help Services in a number of locations across South Australia from the Gambler's Rehabilitation Fund (GRF).</p> <p>Following legislative reform governing the GRF for the first time in almost 30 years, the administrative body responsible for the GRF, the Office for Problem Gambling, has been undertaking a rigorous consultation exercise to inform a future investment framework in line with the new legislation.</p> <p>This has involved ACCOs, Aboriginal people, communities and those impacted by gambling harm co-designing future interventions to</p>		DHS





Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>ensure the future model of gambling harm support for Aboriginal people is designed by Aboriginal people for Aboriginal people.</p> <p>As and when Aboriginal Gambling Help services are re-commissioned, a portion of funds will be dedicated to Aboriginal community controlled organisations. Additionally, in mainstream tenders, providers will be required to demonstrate their capacity to work with Aboriginal clients, their families and communities.</p>		
<p>Engage and establish a new Aboriginal Coordinating Partner service to strengthen the program's cultural responsiveness, commission new Aboriginal Community Partner (ACP) services to strengthen Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing, and commission an evaluation of ACP services to be designed and delivered in partnership with ACP service providers.</p>	<p>June 2025 Program is ongoing</p>	<p>DHS</p>
<p>The Services to Aboriginal Youth Program currently funds the following Aboriginal community controlled organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Family Support Services. • Ceduna Aboriginal Council. • Point Pearce Aboriginal Corporation. • Koonibba Aboriginal Corporation. • Raukkan Community Council. • Yalata Community Council. 	<p>June 2025</p>	<p>DHS</p>
<p>Through the SA Anti Racism Strategy Preventive Health SA will develop the Race Equity Appraisal Tool to support government agencies to identify and address institutionalised racism.</p>	<p>2026</p>	<p>Preventive Health SA</p>





Education and Training

Engagement in education and training is intertwined with many social and economic factors that support young people to thrive.

The socio-economic outcomes aimed at driving improvement in education and post-school pathways outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people are:

- **Outcome 3** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are engaged in high quality, culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years
- **Outcome 5** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieve their full learning potential
- **Outcome 6** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students reach their full potential through further education pathways
- **Outcome 7** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are engaged in employment or education

Key to success is ensuring education and training approaches are culturally appropriate and responsive.

Productivity Commission context statement on Education and Training

For thousands of years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have sustained and developed intricate systems of learning and education, deeply rooted in cultural wisdom and oral tradition, and refined through experience and observation across generations (Burrige and Chodkiewicz 2012). Government policies of assimilation sought to replace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges with a Eurocentric model of education and values (Morrison et al. 2019). As a result, the epistemological foundations, or ways of knowing, in the Australian education system value Western knowledges above Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges (Bodkin-Andrews and Carlson 2016).

Culturally responsive schooling supports academic attainment through enacting cultural competency and tailoring education to a student's cultural frame of reference, including knowledges, values and skills (Perso and Hayward 2020). It involves a fundamental shift in the educational system towards understanding the links between education, power and cultural hierarchies (Bishop and Vass 2021).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children engaged in early childhood education and care can experience benefits such as improved school readiness and cognitive development (Biddle and Bath 2013; Sims et al. 2011). Beyond enrolment, ensuring access to holistic, culturally safe and responsive early childhood education is essential for supporting the development and identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, helping them to be strong members of their families and communities (SNAICC 2022, 2024; SNAICC et al. 2023).

Primary and secondary school education that recognises the strengths and potential of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students is vital. This includes a focus on high expectations, strong teacher-student relationships where teachers connect with students' life-worlds, socio-political awareness and placing value in diversity as an asset (Morrison et al. 2019).

Engagement in education and training is intertwined with many social and economic factors that support young people to thrive. In particular, higher education can play a crucial role for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, supporting improved health and wellbeing, increased access to housing as well as future employment and earning opportunities (AIHW 2022a; Department of Education 2012; Venn and Biddle 2018).

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, p.40





Outcome 3 - Aboriginal children are engaged in high quality, culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years

Lead agency: Department for Education

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2025, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in Year Before Full-time Schooling (YBFS) early childhood education to 95%	Improvement	Good improvement and on track

Where we are now

Nationally, the proportion of Aboriginal children enrolled in Year Before Fulltime Schooling early childhood education is increasing and the target is on track to be met by 2025.

National data from 2023 shows the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in YBFS early childhood education was 101.8%. This is an increase from 99.2% in 2022, and a significant increase from the baseline (2016), when 76.7% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students were enrolled in a preschool program.

SA is assessed as showing improvement against this Target. In SA in 2023, 106.7% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were enrolled in a preschool program in the year prior to full time schooling. This is an improvement from the 2016 baseline of 96.3%.²

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Co-design an Aboriginal Workforce strategy with the Aboriginal Community Sector, to be launched in mid-2025.	Launch of Aboriginal Early Childhood Workforce Strategy in mid-2025, and priority workforce initiatives to be progressed in early-2025	OECD

² Enrolment rates exceed 100% for the national figure and some jurisdictions because the numerator and denominator come from different data sources and are based on different assumptions.





Outcome 5 - Aboriginal students achieve their full learning potential

Lead agency: Department for Education

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (age 20–24) attaining year 12 or equivalent qualification to 96%	Improving	Improving but not on track

Where we are now

Nationally, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people attaining Year 12 or equivalent is increasing, but the target is not on track to be met by 2031. In 2021, 68.1% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 20–24 years nationally had attained Year 12 or equivalent qualification.

In SA in 2021, 64.6% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have attained Year 12 or equivalent, or Certificate III or above. This is a 3% increase from 2016.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Continue to implement the Aboriginal Education Strategy, through which the Aboriginal education community and the Department for Education have set a vision that each Aboriginal child and young person is a proud and confident learner, achieving at their highest potential.</p> <p>Three goals underpin this vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal children establish foundations for success in the early years. Aboriginal children and young people excel at school. Aboriginal young people are on pathways to success. 	2029	DE
<p>Learner Support Services assists students facing complex barriers to successfully complete their training and transition post school to further study or employment; and embeds structured mentoring and cultural diversity awareness training in funded activities.</p> <p>DSD invests in Learner Support Services for VET student who need support, over and above what their RTO is expected to provide, to stay in and succeed in their training and in the transition to further training or employment.</p> <p>Specialist services are available to Aboriginal students.</p>	Ongoing	DSD (Skills SA)



Outcome 6 - Aboriginal students reach their full potential through further education pathways

Lead agency: Skills SA

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25-34 years who have completed a tertiary qualification (Certificate III and above) to 70%	Improving	Improving but not on track

Where we are now

Nationally, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25–34 years who have completed a tertiary qualification is increasing, but the target is not on track to be met by 2031.

In SA, Aboriginal people with a completion of non-school qualifications of a Certificate III or above has increased by 2.6% since 2016 (the baseline year) and is at 42.2% (2021 data). This compares with 71.9% of non-Aboriginal people in SA in 2021.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Skills SA are working with SAACCON to develop an Aboriginal Adult Education and Training Strategy in partnership with Aboriginal communities including consideration of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting training pathways for all Aboriginal learners including VET in schools, and adult learners seeking to build, deepen or broaden their skills. Delivery at all levels including pre-vocational community learning, foundation skills and certificate courses at all levels. Culturally appropriate supports for Aboriginal learners, recognising Aboriginal cultural leadership. Building capacity of Aboriginal Community Controlled RTOs. Building capability of RTOs to support Aboriginal learners. Targeted support for students to improve retention. <p>The strategy will consider social, community and economic outcomes for Aboriginal learners and community, noting that skills contribute to workforce development across a variety of Closing the Gap priority areas.</p> <p>To develop the Strategy, Skills SA and SAACCON will work together to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish shared governance for developing and delivering the strategy. 		DSD (Skills SA) SAACCON



Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake desktop research to identify needs and inform discussions. • Identify key stakeholders. • Facilitate community engagement. • Identify shared priorities, goals and outcomes. • Identify and establish course delivery partnerships. • Consider a range of funding arrangements to provide stability of Aboriginal RTOs to deliver courses. • Identify short, medium and long term actions. • Prioritise actions and opportunities to align these to existing and planned activities supporting adult education and training. 		
<p>The Office of the Industry Advocate (OIA), with assistance from DTF, will seek approval to establish links to its SA Aboriginal Business Checklist for State and Local Government Procurement on agency websites to increase awareness of available services.</p>	<p>December 2024</p>	<p>DTF-OIA SAACCON</p>
<p>OIA and SAACCON will review and identify any unaddressed factors that impact the growth and participation of Aboriginal businesses based on the outcomes of increasing the proportion of services delivered by ACCOs and consider mechanisms for addressing these.</p>		<p>DTF-OIA DPC (The Circle) SAACCON</p>
<p>DTF, OIA, DSD, The Circle (DPC) and SAACCON to draft plan for preparing a broader Economic Participation Strategy for Aboriginal people and businesses that would bring together the pieces of work being undertaken across agencies and be a central repository of links to different services offered.</p> <p>This plan should draw on work being undertaken to increase the proportion of services delivered by ACCOs.</p>		<p>DTF-OIA DPC (The Circle) SAACCON</p>



Outcome 7 - Aboriginal youth aged 15–24 are engaged in employment or education

Lead agency: Department of State Development (Skills SA)

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth (15-24 years) who are in employment, education or training to 67%	Worsening	Improving but not on track

Where we are now

Nationally, data from 2021 indicates the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people fully engaged in employment, education or training has increased but the target is not on track to be met by 2031.

National data from 2021 shows that 58.0% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15–24 years were fully engaged in employment, education or training.

In SA in 2021, 55.5% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15-24 years were fully engaged in employment, education or training. This is a decrease from 57.6% in 2016 (the baseline year), but an improvement from the first reporting period of 2001 which was 49.0%.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>The South Australian Government invests heavily in supporting apprentices and trainees including Aboriginal South Australians.</p> <p>Skills SA has a range of existing and new initiatives that offer flexible skills and training approaches that are Government-funded and co-designed with business and industry to support apprenticeship and traineeship growth.</p> <p>The South Australian Group Training Program provides funding based on training contract commencements and completions in the current financial year. Aboriginal learners are a 'targeted group', eligible for double the standard payment rate per commencement/completion.</p> <p>The Program was available in 2023-2024 and will continue to be available in 2024-2025.</p>	Ongoing investment	Skills SA
<p>The Fee Free TAFE Tranch 2 for First Nations learners commenced in 2024 and will continue for three years (to December 2026), offering 1,500 fee free training places for delivery by non-government training providers to Aboriginal students in South Australia.</p> <p>These places are supported by \$4.8m of funding by the Australian and South Australian Governments and they are additional to fee free places being offered to Aboriginal students by TAFE SA.</p>	Ongoing	Skills SA



Employment

Improving employment rates of Aboriginal people not only supports that individual to improve their overall economic, social and health outcomes.

It also has important benefits for their families and communities.³

The socio-economic outcome aimed at improving employment rates of Aboriginal people aged 25 – 64 is:

- **Outcome 8** - Strong economic participation and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.

Productivity Commission statement on Employment

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people face structural barriers to employment, including institutionalised racism and entrenched inequalities resulting from colonisation (Liddle 2018). People living in remote and regional areas also face geographic constraints which limit access to employment options and infrastructure (Jordan 2018).

Addressing structural barriers to employment, for example by working collaboratively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and building a more inclusive education system, can support workforce participation (Liddle 2018).

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, p.51

³ Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report 2024





Outcome 8 - Strong economic participation and development of Aboriginal people and communities

Lead agency: Skills SA

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25-64 who are employed to 62%	Improving	Improving and on track

Where we are now

Nationally, there has been improvement in the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people employed and the target is on track to be met by 2031. In 2021, 55.7% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25-64 were employed.

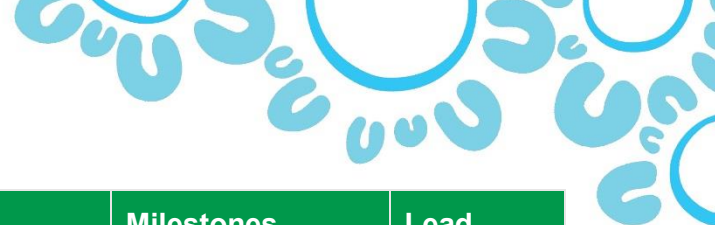
In SA, we have seen improvement against this target. In 2021, 50.1% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25-64 years were employed – an increase from 46.4% in 2016.

The employment rates of the non-Aboriginal population in SA recorded at 77.5% in 2021.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

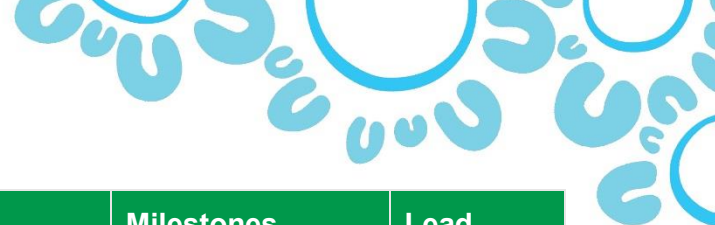
Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
An Aboriginal Arts Strategy will be developed as an area of focus in the development of the government's Arts Plan, to grow South Australia's leadership in arts and cultural development and expression, and build pathways to sustainable careers.	Ongoing	DPC
With the aim of continuing facilitate improved access to employment and business opportunities for Aboriginal people, the Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) supports the Aboriginal Economic Participation Policy (embedded in the South Australian Industry Participation policy). DEM will work closely with the Department for Innovation and Skills Procurement Team to increase the number and diversity of Aboriginal-owned businesses in winning procurement contracts for infrastructure projects with the department. Incorporated within DEM's procurement policy and procedures, the Aboriginal Economic Participation Policy aims to promote and stimulate the use of registered Aboriginal businesses throughout the department, particularly for contracts under \$220k where purchasing officers can utilise direct negotiation with a prequalified Aboriginal business.	Ongoing	DEM
In partnership with the Commonwealth Government, negotiate with the landowners (APY) a rehabilitation plan for the former Mintabie township in South Australia's Far North, and oversee the implementation of the agreed plan.	March 2025	DEM





Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Review of Government Building and Civil Construction industry capacity to stretch targets for relevant contracts. Deliverables include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Owner participation and project partnerships. • Traditional Owner and other Aboriginal cultural expression in urban design. • Labour hours for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainees and apprentices. • Spend on sub-contracts with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses. • Improve employment opportunities in Government Building and Civil Construction industry. • Deliver greater transparency and reporting on targets and Aboriginal employment/procurement outcomes. 		DIT
<p>Working Group of the Aboriginal Affairs Executive Committee – with a vision to make the South Australian Government a culturally-safe employer of choice for Aboriginal South Australians, and provide greater procurement outcomes for Aboriginal-owned businesses.</p>	To be determined	DHS
<p>An initiative to Incorporate carbon-based income streams into North West Indigenous Pastoral Project Indigenous pastoral operations. Deliverables include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce carbon farming sequestration activity on Aboriginal-held pastoral operations where appropriate and viable. • Improved fiscal viability of Aboriginal-held pastoral operations. • Establish carbon-based funding streams to enable ongoing pastoral development (infrastructure) on Aboriginal-held pastoral lands. 	On track	PIRSA
<p>The Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre (AACC) to be built at Lot Fourteen will be a global tourism attraction that showcases the past, present and future of Aboriginal cultures, while supporting contemporary visual, performing and multimedia arts and events. Construction of the AACC is scheduled to commence in late 2021, and the centre is due to open to the public in 2025. In 2021, the project will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-design of the facility in partnership with the AACC Aboriginal Reference Group. • Implement the AACC Stakeholder Engagement Action plan, ensuring ongoing involvement of key stakeholders in the project development and delivery. • Develop and implement an Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy, which will define and articulate opportunities across all AACC project phases including project development, design and construction delivery, and future operation of the AACC. 	In progress – delayed	DPC
<p>The Circle – First Nations Entrepreneur Hub has been established to assist the South Australian Aboriginal business sector with support to</p>	On track	DPC





Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>build their businesses through increased connections, capacity, capability and confidence. The initiative will focus on five key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Management – Streamlined access to existing support and services through individual case management, referral and connection to the Aboriginal Entrepreneur Hub community. • Access to new markets – Facilitating connections and building business to business relationships in a culturally safe and appropriate way. • Expert business advice. • Capability growth – networking opportunities. • Access to the physical Entrepreneur Hub. 		
<p>SAPOL are working to increase Aboriginal Employment in the South Australia Police Workforce.</p> <p>A landing page for First Nations employment has been approved for new recruitment, and First Nations specific recruitment material representing First Nations people in police, PSO, CC and ASO careers to attract First Nations applicants have also been developed.</p> <p>A review of the Community Constable Foundational Program is currently in the investigation stage. It will include attraction, recruitment, development, support and backgrounds, educational experiences and foundational skills of potential applicants and incorporate culturally responsive delivery and assessment methodology.</p> <p>SAPOL has also committed to a marketing strategy for Community Constables as well as a broader strategy for First Nations employees.</p>		SAPOL
<p>The Screening Unit will implement measures to make the assessment process more accessible to Aboriginal applicants and to ensure that these applicants have culturally appropriate information and support to respond to requests for information, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a tailored information sheet for Aboriginal applicants to ensure that the information is clear and relevant and include a pro-forma to offer Aboriginal applicants the option of consenting to a support person contacting the Screening Unit on their behalf. • Facilitating option for Aboriginal applicants to give a verbal submission. • Engaging an Aboriginal Liaison Officer (or utilising an existing Aboriginal Liaison Officer from within DHS). • Engaging the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement or other free legal advice providers to provide assistance to applicants. 	December 2024	DHS
<p>Dedicated financial support pathways are available for Aboriginal peoples to become qualified in early childhood education and care.</p>	Dedicated financial supports are available from mid-2024 until 2027	OECD





Housing

Access to safe and adequate housing is crucial for supporting health, emotional and social wellbeing, and economic security.

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap aims to ensure all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have secure and appropriate housing by ensuring that Aboriginal people have access to appropriate sized housing – and do not experience overcrowding – (Target 9A) and that Aboriginal people have access to essential services.

The socio-economic outcome aimed at improving access to housing is:

- **Outcome 9** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need.

Productivity Commission statement on Housing

Meeting the diverse needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people requires culturally appropriate housing designs and appropriate facilities. Increasing the availability and accessibility of social housing and addressing housing affordability may contribute to reducing overcrowding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, p.53



Outcome 9 - Aboriginal people secure appropriate, affordable housing aligned with their priorities and need

Lead agency: SA Housing Trust

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target 9A: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in appropriately sized (not overcrowded) housing to 88%	Improving	Improving but not on track
Target 9B: By 2031, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. within discrete Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander communities receive essential services that meet or exceed the relevant jurisdictional standard II. in or near to a town receive essential services that meet or exceed the same standard as applies generally within the town (including if the household might be classified for other purposes as a part of a discrete settlement such as a 'town camp' or 'town based reserve'. 	No assessment (data not available)	No assessment (data not available)

Where we are now

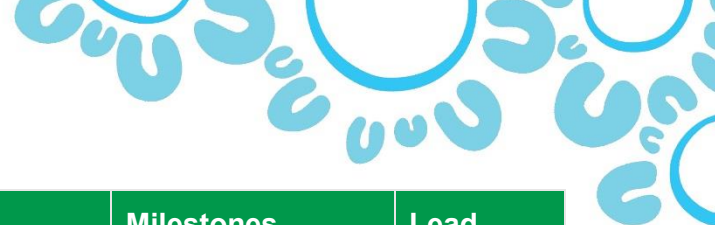
Nationally, Target 9A - the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in appropriately sized (not overcrowded) housing - is not on track to meet the target by 2031. In 2021, 81.4% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were living in appropriate sized housing.

In SA 82.8% of Aboriginal people were living in appropriate sized housing. This has seen a small increase from 82.5% in 2016.

Target 9B is not currently able to be reported against as there is no data source available which includes all required data elements.

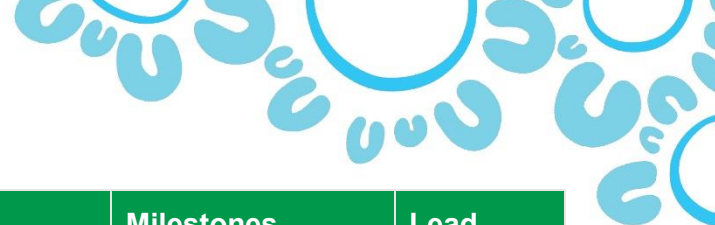
How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Review existing actions under Pillar 4 of the AHS to work in culturally responsive services (with a view of being an ACCO led service delivery model). This action will be undertaken in Partnership with SAACCON.	Yet to be determined	SAHT DHS SAACCON



Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Improve / increase referral pathways and specialist supported infrastructure eg crisis accommodation and supported accommodation for people who require these services.</p>	<p>Yet to be determined</p>	<p>SAHT DHS SAACCON</p>
<p>Collate existing data and research and partner with SAHMRI on Environmental Health Impacts to inform Community Infrastructure needs to facilitate conversations with Aboriginal Communities for Healthy Housing outcomes.</p>	<p>Yet to be determined</p>	<p>SAHT DHW SAACCON</p>
<p>Review and consolidate the Return to Country to be Aboriginal Community Controlled, led and delivered to ensure consistency.</p>	<p>Yet to be determined</p>	<p>SAHT DHS SAACCON</p>
<p>Improved integration and coordination of assertive outreach, culturally responsive support within Housing and Homelessness services.</p>	<p>Yet to be determined</p>	<p>SAHT DHS SAACCON</p>
<p>The Remote Area Energy Supply (RAES) provides electricity to the Aboriginal communities on the APY lands, Oak Valley and Yalata. The service consists of generation operations and maintenance, distribution maintenance, meter reading and retail. These services are provided by a single contractor Cowell Electric Supply – contract conditions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of annual profits as contribution to Yalari Limited - Educating Indigenous Children. • Partnership Alliances and Agreements with Aboriginal businesses for the purpose of identifying Aboriginal employment and other economic opportunities arising from the program. • Utilises services from Regional Anangu Services Aboriginal Corporations (RASAC) and Furnell Plumbing services on APY Lands. • Oak Valley (Maralinga) Inc.: Generation operations and meter reading contract with Cowell Electric for Oak Valley community. • Yalata Anangu Aboriginal Corporation (YAAC): Generation operations and meter reading contract with Cowell Electric for Yalata community. • Cultural competency and awareness training for Cowell Electric personnel and subcontractors. 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>DEM</p>
<p>Develop a standard for a basic level of safe and reliable potable water for self-supplied remote communities, including Aboriginal communities.</p> <p>Undertake groundwater assessments to inform water security planning for self-supplied remote communities at high risk of water insecurity.</p> <p>Identify and progress water infrastructure projects to improve water security for high risk self-supplied remote communities.</p>	<p>Groundwater quality and quantity assessment to be completed by 2026.</p> <p>Water infrastructure projects for other remote communities to be identified by 2026.</p>	<p>DEW</p>
<p>Developed in consultation with clients and their guardians, delivery of a culturally appropriate service model for Aboriginal people receiving</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>DHS</p>





Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
care and support through the Department for Human Services' Disability Accommodation Service.		
<p>Develop a Strategic Implementation Plan to embed and progress Closing the Gap activity across the agency.</p> <p>The Strategic Implementation Plan aims to ensure the National Agreement on Closing the Gap is emedded agency wide into business as usual.</p>	<p>2031</p> <p>The Trust engaged an Aboriginal Business Consultancy to facilitate the development of a Strategic Implementation Plan to embed an organisational wide approach for the delivery of South Australian Aboriginal Housing Strategy 2021-2031.</p>	<p>SAHT</p>





Justice

Evidence shows early contact with the criminal justice system leads to poorer health and wellbeing outcomes and increased risk of re-offending.

The rates at which Aboriginal people are imprisoned is unacceptable. Past Government policy has not worked to change this state of affairs. A multi-levelled approach, which spans generations, is imperative in reducing these rates, and vastly improving the lives of Aboriginal people.

The socio-economic outcomes aimed at reducing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in the justice system are:

- **Outcome 10** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system
- **Outcome 11** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system

Providing a significant investment and concentrated effort will work to achieve the transformative change that is required.

Productivity Commission statement on Justice

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been governed by their own rich and complex systems of Lore and Law for tens of thousands of years. This was deeply woven into the fabric of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, guiding all aspects of community life including decision-making processes, mechanisms of social control, and the moral and ethical codes of behaviour that dictated daily interactions and responsibilities (Dodson 1995).

Since colonisation, systems of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Lore and Law have been largely disregarded. In their place, a foreign legal framework has been forcibly imposed.

The overrepresentation [of Aboriginal peoples in the justice system] reflects a system of justice and laws that fail to understand and value culture, Lore and Law. Despite this, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities have maintained active resistance and advocacy, including continuing to practice Lore and Law and ensuring community wellbeing and connections are supported through community-led initiatives (Dudgeon et al. 2014). While the practice of Lore and Law remain protective factors for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, there are many risk factors that can increase the likelihood of contact with, and exposure to, the justice system.

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, p.61

Outcome 10 - Aboriginal adults are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system

Lead agency: Department for Correctional Services

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults held in incarceration by at least 15%	No change from baseline	Worsening

Where we are now

Nationally, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults are being incarcerated at an increased rate and the target is not on track to be met by 2031. In 2023, the age standardised rate of imprisonment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults was 15.2 times higher than for non-Aboriginal adults, compared to 12.5 times higher in 2019.

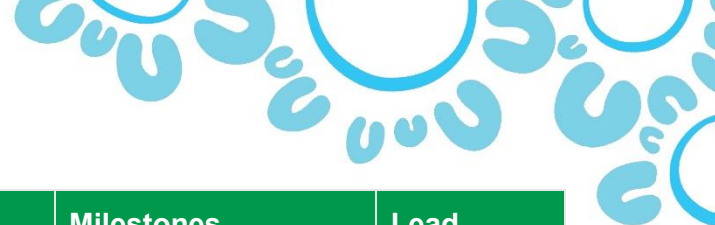
The rate at which Aboriginal adults are imprisoned in SA has, until 2021, been increasing, such that progress towards Target 10 was worsening.

In 2023, 2,372 Aboriginal adults were imprisoned for every 100,000 Aboriginal adults in SA. This represents an overall 1% decrease since the baseline year (2019).

The imprisonment rate for Aboriginal adults nationally increased by 5% between 2022 and 2023. SA achieved a decrease of 3% over the same period. We were one of only two jurisdictions to see a decrease in this rate between 2022 and 2023.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>The Aboriginal Strategic Framework aims to encompass the needs of prisoners, offenders, staff and community. It provides a culturally informed and tailored approach to address the needs of Aboriginal prisoners and offenders and ensures that DCS programs, policies and supports are culturally safe. The Framework was informed through consultation with prisoners, staff and the community and outlines three components to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure access to programs and services that are responsive to the unique cultural and gendered need of Aboriginal prisoners. • Build a culturally competent and responsive workforce. • Increase Aboriginal economic participation and strengthen partnerships with organisations, businesses and Aboriginal communities. 	<p>The Aboriginal Strategic Framework (ASF) 2022-2023 Close out report has been completed and will soon be endorsed.</p> <p>The new ASF 2024-2025 Action Plan is to soon be endorsed.</p>	DCS



Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Over-representation of Aboriginal South Australians in the Criminal Justice Sector Working Group (Aboriginal Affairs Executive Committee).</p> <p>A Working Group of the Aboriginal Affairs Executive Committee – with a vision to reduce the rate of incarceration and reoffending of Aboriginal South Australians through the delivery of more culturally appropriate and joined-up programs and services.</p> <p>The Department is committed to reducing the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults held in incarceration by at least 15 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>In progress.</p> <p>At the time of this commitment the percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners was 24.1%. The Department is committed to achieve a reduction of 20.5% by 2031.</p>	<p>DCS</p>
<p>Improve access to culturally appropriate alcohol and other drug support for Aboriginal prisoners by formalising partnerships with the Aboriginal Sobriety Group and Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council SA.</p>		<p>DCS</p>
<p>Develop the South Australian Road Safety Strategy to include a section that is specific for Aboriginal people. The areas of attention will include research, community engagement and collaboration to address the over representation of Aboriginal road users in road trauma as well as incarceration due to road traffic offences.</p>		<p>DCS</p>



Outcome 11: Aboriginal young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system

Lead agency: Department of Human Services

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (10-17 years) in detention by at least 30%	Improving	No change from baseline

Where we are now

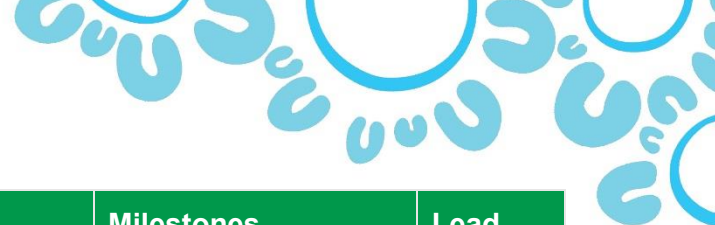
Nationally, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people continue to be overrepresented in the criminal justice system, and target 11 is not on track to be met.

National data shows that in 2022-2023, the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people aged 10–17 years in detention on an average day was 29 per 10,000 young people. The assessment of no change is provided with a low level of confidence, but there is a high level of confidence that the target is not on track.

In SA during 2022-2023, the rate of young people in detention on an average day was 18.8 per 10,000. This is a decrease from 28.5 per 10,000 young people on an average day in 2018-19 (the baseline year).

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Youth Justice Services Forum with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.	Ongoing	DHS
The Aboriginal Cultural Community of Practice now incorporates the Cultural Champions Network and has a broader range and scope. It is led by senior Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff. Membership is voluntary and driven by staff dedicated to improving cultural competency, safety and practice across DHS Youth Justice.	Ongoing	DHS
Senior Aboriginal Cultural Advisors and Consultants provide advice and support to staff working with Aboriginal young people across Community Youth Justice and Kurlana Tapa. There is also an emphasis on family mapping and scoping in collaboration with a young person and/or their families to identify young people's kinship networks and important community members. Key projects to further this action include the Aboriginal Youth Pathways to Employment Pilot Project with RAW Group (Aboriginal owned and managed Australian company), engagement with Aboriginal Cultural Consultants, in partnership with Metropolitan Aboriginal Youth and Family Services (MAYFS), and use of the	Ongoing	DHS



Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Genopro Program to assist with Family, Kinship and Community mapping.</p> <p>In Kurlana Tapa in 2023 two operational Aboriginal Cultural Support Worker roles were created and these were implemented in 2024. This teams strives to action the objectives of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Justice Principal by providing operational and cultural support and advocacy to Aboriginal young people admitted to Kurlana Tapa Youth Justice Centre.</p> <p>The Therapeutic Services teams based in Kurlana Tapa are culturally informed in their work and liaise closely with the Senior Aboriginal Cultural Advisor when conducting therapeutic work with young people.</p>		





Families and Kin

Strong family and kinship systems are essential for social and emotional wellbeing, particularly for children.

Closing the Gap aims to address issues impacting directly on Aboriginal families and kinship networks, with a focus on reducing the over representation of Aboriginal children in the child protection system and address the complex factors contributing to domestic and family violence (Target 13).

Both these issues are 'linked to the impact of colonisation, dispossession and cultural dislocation'.⁴

This section outlines actions against:

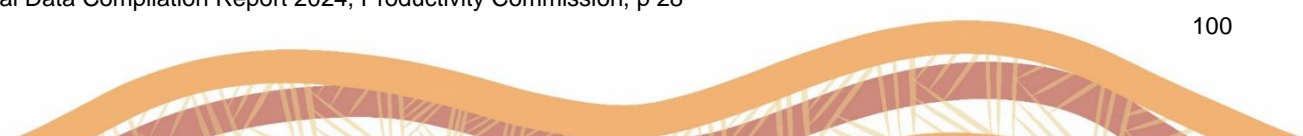
- **Outcome 12** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are not overrepresented in the child protection system.
- **Outcome 13** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and households are safe.

Productivity Commission statement on Family and Kin

Cultural healing and the restoration of self-determination can assist both individuals and communities to strengthen protective factors and connect to culture, kin and Country (Salmon et al. 2019). This connection, in turn, can build resilience and mitigate further harm (Clark 2000; Walker and Shepherd 2008).

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report, p 28

⁴ Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, Productivity Commission, p 28



Outcome 12 – Aboriginal children are not overrepresented in the child protection system

Lead agency: Department for Child Protection and Department of Human Services

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, reduce the rate of overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (0–17 years old) in out-of-home care by 45%	Worsening	Worsening

Where we are now

Nationally and in SA, the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care is increasing, and the target is not on track to be met by 2031.

In 2023, 57.2 per 1,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 0–17 years were placed in out-of-home care. While this shows an improvement for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children since 2021 (57.6 per 1,000 children), the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care has worsened since the baseline year (2019) (54.2 per 1,000 children).

In SA during 2023, the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 0-17 years in out of home care was 94.1 per 1,000 children, and an increase from 75.3 per 1,000 children in 2019 (the baseline year).

By comparison, the rate of non-Aboriginal children in out of home care in SA during 2023 was 7.8 per 1,000 children.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
South Australian Peak Body for Aboriginal Children and Young People – Design. In 2022, a Development of options for a South Australian Aboriginal Children and Families Peak Body: Final Report, was provided to government which included a clear plan for establishment, through a community designed model.		DCP
South Australian Peak Body for Aboriginal Children and Young People – Implementation.	Wakwakurna Kanyini will be incorporated as an independent entity by 30 September 2024	DCP
Strategy to Reduce the Over-representation of Aboriginal Children and Young People. Implementation of the SA Jurisdictional plan for the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children will be subject of negotiation and agreement.	Subject of negotiation and agreement by stakeholders through the established governance.	DCP, DHS and multiple agencies



Outcome 13 – Aboriginal families and households are safe

Lead agency: Department of Human Services

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, the rate of all forms of family violence and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children is reduced at least by 50%, as progress towards zero	No assessment No new data since baseline year (2018-19)	No assessment No new data since baseline year (2018-19)

Where are we now

Nationally in 2018-19, 8.4% of Aboriginal females aged 15 years or over experienced domestic physical or threatened physical harm. In SA, this figure was 7.2%. There is no new data available since 2018-19 (the baseline year), and therefore an assessment of progress is not available. There is also currently no disaggregation reported for this target.

The Productivity Commission outlines ‘While the lack of new data makes assessing progress difficult, evidence from research and multiple inquiries makes it clear that family violence is a complex and significant issue in Australia, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children.’⁵

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Continue work to improve the current service delivery model for the Independent Children's Lawyer involving Aboriginal children in litigation arising in the Adelaide registry of the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia.		ALRM
Building Capacity in Vulnerable Families Working Group (Aboriginal Affairs Executive Committee).		DEM
The Ceduna Services Collaboration supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe, healthy and supportive family and community environments. • Positive child development and prevention of family violence and self-harm. • Positive engagement, active participation and achievement by individuals, families and communities, including with education. Now adopted as business as usual. 	Ongoing	DHS
A new whole of government State Disability Inclusion Plan will be developed in line with the requirements set out in the <i>Disability Inclusion Act (2018) SA</i> and the <i>Disability Inclusion (Review</i>	June 2025	DHS SAACCON

⁵ Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, Productivity Commission, p33





Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<i>Recommendations) Amendment Act 2024.</i> The new State Disability Inclusion Plan will acknowledge and address Aboriginal people with disability as a legislated priority group.		
DHS will conduct targeted consultation with SAACCON and its members during the development stages of its agency Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) to ensure the DAIP can address the overlapping barriers to access and inclusion experienced by Aboriginal people with disability, including women and children who have experienced violence.	December 2025	DHS SAACCON





Country

Aboriginal people have a deep spiritual, social, cultural and economic relationships to Country and waters.

Colonisation and subsequent government policies have resulted in Aboriginal people being dispossessed from lands and disconnected from practicing culture on Country.⁶

The socio-economic target that seeks to increase Aboriginal people's rights and interests in land and sea is:

- **Outcome 15** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people maintain a distinctive cultural, spiritual, physical and economic relationship with their lands and waters.

Productivity Commission statement on Country

The relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and ancestral lands and waters forms the bedrock of cultures, livelihoods, and social fabric (Hartwig et al. 2021; Lowitja Institute 2020). This connection to Country is profound, transcending mere land ownership and serving as a vital source of resilience and wellbeing (Dudgeon et al. 2020; Zubrick et al. 2014).

In response to colonisation and historical dispossession, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have campaigned tirelessly for greater land rights (Hartwig et al. 2020). Native title and land claims have emerged as a result of this campaign and reflect a step towards greater recognition and protection of the traditional system of law, ownership and customs over lands and waters of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (ANTAR 2022; Central Land Council nd).

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report, p 57

⁶ Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, Productivity Commission, p 57



Outcome 15 - Aboriginal people maintain a distinctive cultural, spiritual, physical and economic relationship with their lands and waters

Lead agency: Department for Environment and Water

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target 15A: Land mass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s rights or interests	Improving	Improving and on track
Target 15B: Sea mass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s rights or interests		

Where we are now

Nationally, the target to increase land mass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights or interest is on track to be met by 2030. There was a 7.8% increase in the area of land subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights or interests between the baseline year of 2020 and 2023. This means that the target, which requires a 15% increase by 2030, is on track to be met.

In SA, at 30 June 2023, 754,877 square kilometres of the land mass of SA were subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s rights or interests. This is a slight increase from 752,905 sq km in the baseline year (2020).

The target of a 15% increase in sea area covered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights or interests is on track to be met or potentially exceeded by 2031. As at June 2023, 113,461 sq km of sea country was subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s rights or interests, already above the 2030 target of 103,790 sq km of sea country.

In SA, at 30 June 2023, 1,016 square kilometres of sea country of SA were subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s rights or interests. This is an increase from 373 square kilometres in SA’s baseline year (2020).

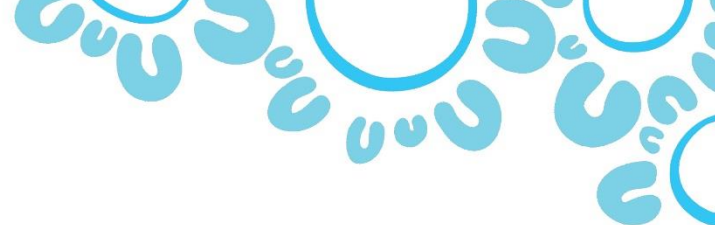
How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Flinders Ranges World Heritage Nomination – obtain free and prior informed consent from Adnyamathanha to Flinders Ranges World Heritage.	December 2026	DEW
National Water Reform Committee – Committee on Aboriginal Water Interests.	2024	DEW
Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin (HCHB) is an approximately \$70 million program, which will contribute to managing the Coorong for long-term ecological health.	June 2026	DEW



Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>HCHB will be implemented by the South Australian Government (delivered by DEW WIO).</p> <p>The current phase of the program is focussed on the delivery of wetland improvements are Teringie, Tolderol and Lake Hawdon North.</p>		
<p>Efforts will continue on an ongoing basis to embed Aboriginal engagement in water planning and management processes and to incorporate Aboriginal values and interests within water allocation plans as they are reviewed and amended.</p>	Ongoing	DEW





Language

Language plays a vital role in cultural identity and the sharing, and continuation of, cultural knowledge.

Past government practices and its impacts have led to a steep decline in the number of Aboriginal languages spoken today, with over half of the previously spoken languages lost, and many of the existing languages are considered endangered.⁷

The socio-economic outcome aimed at preserving language is:

- **Outcome 16** - Aboriginal cultures and languages are strong, supported and flourishing.

Productivity Commission statement on Language

There are mutually reinforcing links between culture, people, knowledges and language (First Languages Australia nd; Nakata 2024; O'Brien and Bobongie-Harris 2023).

Language plays a central role in cultural identity, facilitating the intergenerational transmission of culture and complex, local and valuable knowledges, and providing a sense of belonging and empowerment (AIATSIS 2023; First Languages Australia nd).

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, p37

⁷ Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, Productivity Commission, p.36





Outcome 16 - Aboriginal cultures and languages are strong, supported and flourishing

Lead agency: Department for the Premier and Cabinet

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2031, there is a sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken	No assessment	No assessment

Where are we now

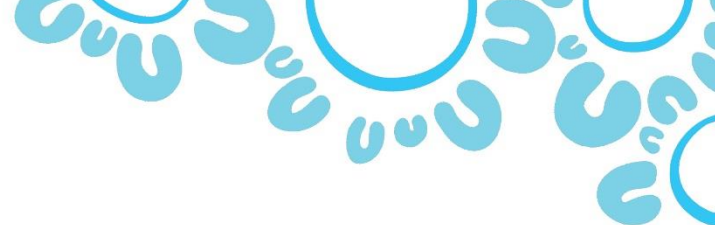
There is no new data available to report on the progress for a sustained increase in the number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

Nationally, in 2018-19 (the baseline year), there were 123 Aboriginal languages being spoken, with 14 considered strong. This included 16 Aboriginal languages being spoken in SA. No new data has been available since then.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<p>Establish a new Aboriginal Language Interpreting Service (ALIS) within the Interpreting and Translating Centre in DHS to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support improved access and delivery of critical services to Aboriginal people with limited or no English. • Strengthen fair representation within the justice systems. • Enable direct participation in forums on matters that directly impact their lives. <p>The ALIS service delivery model is being co-designed with key stakeholders including government service agencies, Aboriginal language speakers, communities and organisations.</p> <p>A key target for the ALIS is the expansion of the number of trained and experienced interpreters of Aboriginal languages. DHS is working with TAFE SA, Tauondi Aboriginal Community College, and Aboriginal community organisations to support Aboriginal Language speakers to undertake training, gain qualifications and be employed as interpreters in the ALIS.</p>	2029	DHS





Digital Inclusion

Access to digital inclusion is an essential right and necessary for meaningful and equitable participation in the opportunities provided by the digital age.

Many Aboriginal communities in SA face challenges to digital inclusion, and these challenges can result in digital exclusion and negatively impact health, education, employment and social and cultural outcomes for Aboriginal people.

The socio-economic outcome aimed at improving digital inclusion access is:

- **Outcome 17** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to information and services enabling participation in informed decision-making regarding their own lives

Productivity Commission statement on Digital Inclusion

Structural barriers such as lack of infrastructure, limited connectivity and socio-economic factors, limit access to digital health, education and employment opportunities (First Nations Digital Inclusion Advisory Group 2023; NACCHO 2021). Affordability, education, unstable housing and economic participation further widen the digital inclusion gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous people (McCallum and Papandrea 2009; NACCHO 2021).

Addressing these challenges by improving digital literacy and ensuring reliable, affordable telecommunications is essential for ensuring full participation in today's digital society. Enhanced access to information and digital literacy enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to make informed decisions and improve overall wellbeing (First Nations Digital Inclusion Advisory Group 2023).

Productivity Commission Annual Data Compilation Report 2024, p.71



Outcome 17 - Aboriginal people have access to information and services enabling participation in informed decision-making regarding their own lives

Lead agency: Department of Treasury and Finance

Target data: Productivity Commission progress assessment

Socio-economic outcome	SA Assessment (2024)	National Assessment (2024)
Target: By 2026, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have equal levels of digital inclusion	No assessment (no available data)	No assessment (no available data)

Where we are now

Data is not available to assess whether Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are on track to have equal levels of digital inclusion by 2026, due to a lack of data.

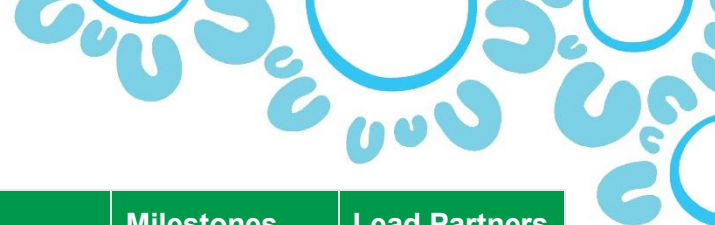
The target for 2026 was set in 2021 based on data from 2014-15 which showed that nationally 73.5% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia aged 15 years or over accessed the internet in their home. SA data matches this at 73.4%.

Without recent comparable data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal people, it is not possible to assess progress towards parity.

Available data does indicate that there are digital inclusion gaps between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Aboriginal people, particularly in remote and very remote areas.

How South Australia will progress this outcome

Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
Improve Narungga peoples' Access to Archives in State Records SA's Custody, including developing a training program for Aboriginal community researchers.	Ongoing	State Records SA
Amendments to the <i>Mining Act 1971</i> and Regulations came into effect on 1 January 2021. These amendments support public access to a broader range of information held on the Mining Register, which will be accessible via the internet. This will help Aboriginal people monitor the progress of mining and exploration projects and will provide a real time indication of what is happening on their land. The amendments also give DEM broad discretionary powers to release information on the Mining Register, unless release would be contrary to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any other Act or law breach an order of a court or tribunal involve disclosure of a trade secret 	2025	DEM



Action	Milestones	Lead Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• or be contrary to any requirement or restriction outlined in the Regulations. <p>Additionally, Aboriginal organisations such as Native title groups or Aboriginal land-holding authorities will be able sign up to receive electronic notifications at key stages of the licensing process, such as when an exploration licence is granted to support engagement between the Aboriginal organisation and the explorer or miner.</p> <p>The IT systems required to support this initiative are currently under development.</p>		





Government
of South Australia



SAACCON
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL
COMMUNITY CONTROLLED
ORGANISATION NETWORK



CLOSING THE GAP