

2024 Commonwealth Partnership Stocktake

Australian Government and First Nations partnerships during 2024

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Justice Policy Partnership (JPP) Reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and adults within the criminal justice system.	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (NATSILS) and representatives from relevant First Nations peak bodies	Attorney-General's Department (AGD) and representatives from all state and territory governments	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 10 Outcome 11	Met	Met	Met	Partially Met
Partnership Activities									
In 2023-24, the JPP progressed from the establishment and strategic planning phase of the partnership towards an implementation phase. The JPP met four times in 2024. The JPP contributed to the implementation of national Justice Reinvestment initiatives, the development of a National Justice Reinvestment Strategy, and the design of a National Justice Reinvestment Unit. The JPP further worked towards finalising a Justice Impact Assessment Reporting Template, which will enable JPP government members to report to Joint Council on Closing the Gap on the impacts of justice policies and law reforms on the overincarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
In 2024, the JPP developed its first Implementation Roadmap, setting out a long-term implementation planning cycle to achieve the goals of its already established Strategic Framework. The JPP presented a report to the Standing Council of Attorneys-General, with recommendations to reform bail and remand frameworks to reduce the overincarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
Clause 33 was strengthened through securing extended and expanded funding for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services, particularly to support them to lead development of a National Sector Strengthening Plan, and to better support jurisdictional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services to engage with the JPP in 2024-25. Clause 32B was strengthened by updates to the JPP's Terms of Reference to reflect agreed approaches, including a revised quorum rule.									

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Advisory Group Provides advice, guidance and where appropriate, oversees Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-specific projects and programs within the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare workplan or externally funded projects.	Representatives from peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisations, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and research groups. ¹	Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare and representation from Australian Government, state and territory health departments	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 1 Outcome 2 Outcome 14	Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
The Advisory group was reviewed in late 2024 to develop a revised Terms of Reference and refreshed membership, informed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholder input, to ensure it gives effect to the principles that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination, self-management, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community control. Meetings are expected to occur 3-4 times per year, with further planning sessions to determine further details.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
The partnership's Terms of Reference were refined and membership was refreshed.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The Commission invites the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisations to nominate representatives and for members for the Committee to identify any gaps in membership - the Commission does not select members. Additionally, consideration was given to membership and meeting structure to support member engagement. Further, the Advisory Group continues to collectively review strong partnership elements that have not been fully met									

¹ Government self-reported due to membership refresh in late 2024. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners permission to publish will be sought in 2025 Partnership Stocktake.

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Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and Central Land Council (CLC) partnership regarding research to restore sacred water places This partnership aims to help restore sacred water places in Central Australia.	Anangu Luritjiku Ranger group and Ltyentye Apurte Ranger group from Central Land Council (CLC)	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	New	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not met	Met	Partially met
Partnership Activities									
The project team work with the Traditional Owners and the Indigenous rangers to ensure they respect cultural connections. The project uses co-designing sessions to ensure all partners have equal say in project planning.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
This year was building stronger relationships with CLC. This included building working and trusted relationships with the Indigenous rangers and their facilitators, and the Regional Coordinators. It also required connecting with the new Central Western Desert IPA Facilitator. This entailed working hand-in-hand with them on the restoration activities, training the Indigenous rangers to use digital technology and scientific methods, and ensuring we are following Traditional Owner priorities and ensuring they are leading the design and decision-making for the project through steering committee meetings and on-Country discussions and guidance.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
This was a new partnership and will continue to look to ways to strengthen the partnership to meet the strong partnership elements.									

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Indigenous-led aquaculture venture in Torres Strait Purpose is to develop a business model and provide scientific support for Indigenous-led initiative in establishing a sea cucumber aquaculture business in Ugar Island (Torres Strait).	Torres Strait Islander Industry Representatives	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not Met	Met	Partially met
Partnership Activities									
Activities included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trips to Cairns and Thursday Island for inputs into business plan with Queensland government agencies, Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC), Enterprise Management Group ('My Pathways'), SeaSwift (freight business that services Ugar Island), BDM buyers and supply/value chain parties, regional and fisheries regulators (Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) and the Torres Strait Island Regional Authority (TSRA)), and CEO of the recently incorporated Torres Strait Indigenous Fishing enterprise Zenadth Kes Fisheries Ltd. One-day meeting between Traditional Land Owner (TLO) of the land proposed to be used in the aquaculture project, Indigenous project partner and the Ugar Registered Native Title Bodies Corporate (RNTBC). Meeting in Brisbane with the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC) to discuss funding and support opportunities. Convened consultation meetings on site with the Ugar Community to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Present and discuss the proposed project concept – strategy, operations, infrastructure development, governance, social engagement and impacts, local indigenous employment and training, financial benefits and returns, etc, Develop and document their community vision, values, strategy, and expectations for the project. Convened a meeting with Ugar Community to formally consider, discuss and vote for incorporation of a proposed community entity. Community has voted to incorporate a new Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC)registered Ugar Community entity - now in process to incorporate. 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership activities Outcomes/Deliverables for the reporting period (1Jan – 31 Dec 2024) include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Secured Ugar Traditional Land Owner (TLO) approval for the project, Met for initial discussion with a range of other project funders, including agencies, Indigenous and corporate philanthropic organisations, Secured TLO and community approval to inspect site of the proposed aquaculture hatchery on Ugar Island and use the site if needed (pending Indigenous Land Use Agreement negotiation), Refined our project concept to enable broader participation in the project by fishers/communities on other Torress Strait islands, including the relevant impacts on the commercial business model, Developed a detailed draft production plan and financial model to assess the operational and financial feasibility of the venture across 18 years over 4 development stages: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CSIRO R&D Trials Ugar Ranching Demonstration Torres Strait Venture - Low production capacity Torres Strait Venture – High production capacity. 									

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gained support from Ugar Community for visit of CSIRO marine and aquaculture scientists in May 2025 for science survey and site inspection. Their concurrent discussions with AFMA and QDAFF will ground truth the production capacity of the project. This will also enable more accurate estimates for capex and opex to establish infrastructure, logistics, and reef ranching grow-out zones. The project financial model will then be far better able to accurately assess commercial feasibility.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
A formal agreement to be jointly organised which will determine who the parties are, roles and the purpose of the partnership.									

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National Closing the Gap Inland Waters Target (15C) Working Group The purpose of the working group is to agree on an approach to developing an Inland Waters Target to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' access to, ownership of, and management of inland waters.	Coalition of Peaks	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	New	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 15	Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Not met
Partnership Activities									
The Inland Waters Target Working Group held 5 workshops in 2024.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
The Inland Waters Target Working Group presented a proposed jurisdictional approach to developing an Inland Waters Target to the Partnership Working Group on Closing the Gap and to Joint Council on Closing the Gap. The jurisdictional approach was endorsed by Joint Council at the 5 July 2024 meeting. The working group has developed a series of strategic documents for the Inland Waters Target work including a set of principles and objectives to guide and support the development of the Inland Waters Target and a data methodology framework to support jurisdictional governments to develop their inland waters baseline and targets. This framework presents a process that can be operationalised by jurisdictions to suit their legislative environments.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
In September 2024, the Inland Waters Target Working Group endorsed a Co-Chair arrangement between DCCEEW and the National Native Title Council. This has been implemented.									

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First Nations Heritage Protection Partnership The partnership works to facilitate consultations and engagements with First Nations communities, organisations, groups, Industry, and governments across Australia on options to reform the <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984</i> (Cth).	The First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance (the Alliance)	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
The Partnership participated in consultations on matters pertinent to First Nations cultural heritage.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
In June 2024, the Government renewed its partnership with the Alliance, extending the formal agreement to June 2026.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
This partnership meets all the strong partnership elements.									

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<p>Partnership Agreement between the Nari Nari Tribal Council (NNTC) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) in relation to planning, delivery and monitoring on Commonwealth environmental water of Nari Nari Traditional Lands</p> <p>The purpose of the partnership is to:</p> <p>(1) share decision-making to maximise environmental and cultural outcomes over time by enabling NNTC to facilitate environmental watering on Nari Nari Country, according to their lore;</p> <p>(2) establish a framework for coordinating Commonwealth environmental water delivery between the NNTC and CEWH (within the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water).</p>	Nari Nari Tribal Council (NNTC)	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Outcome 15	Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Partially Met
Partnership Activities									
<p>The partnership worked to manage and monitor environmental water on Nari Nari Country. Entered into a funding agreement under the partnership to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Embed First Nations voices into environmental water planning, monitoring and delivery• Identify future opportunities to implement the Partnership Agreement• Identify opportunities for knowledge sharing in the context of Nari Nari Country.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2024 as a partnership with CEWH, NSW DCCEEW and NNTC water was delivered to Nari Nari Country on both Gayini and Toogimbie• In 2024 NNTC worked in partnership with the CEWH to deliver a knowledge sharing event on Gayini bringing together representatives from various Murrumbidgee Nations									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>During 2024, with reference to Cl 33, the partnership entered a contract to support the establishment of a NNTC funded position to work on environmental water with the aim of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Embedding First Nations voices into environmental water planning, monitoring, and delivery• Identifying future opportunities under the Partnership• Identifying opportunities for knowledge sharing in the context of Nari Nari Country.									

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Early Childhood Care and Development Policy Partnership (ECCDPP) The ECCDPP brings together senior officials from all jurisdictions and First Nations representatives to participate in shared decision-making on issues and actions to deliver progress towards early childhood Outcomes.	SNAICC – National Voice for our Children is Co-Chair of the ECCDPP, with representatives from relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies and independent representatives.	The Australian Government Department of Education is Co-Chair of the ECCDPP, with representatives from all state and territory governments across the education and child and family services portfolios, including the Australian Government Department of Social Services and National Indigenous Australians Agency.	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 2 Outcome 3 Outcome 4 Outcome 12 Outcome 13	Met	Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<p>In 2024, the ECCDPP continued to build on its foundations and progress its work to improve early childhood outcomes for children and families through convening four in-person meetings and agreeing a Year 2 Workplan to support the objectives of the ECCDPP and guide its actions and activities over the year. The Year 2 Workplan and outcomes of the meetings are published on the Australian Government Department of Education and SNAICC websites.</p> <p>In July 2024, the ECCDPP agreed to build on the work of its six Year 1 priorities with a further set of 16 priority activities, representing the focus of its work over the coming year. The priorities reflect the scope of the ECCDPP across early childhood education, child care, maternal and child health, child safety and children and families and its intersections with disability and housing. To progress these the priorities, the ECCDPP is collaborating across government and with other policy partnerships.</p>									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<p>In 2024, the ECCDPP commissioned and delivered two pieces of independent research including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding Model Options for ACCO Integrated Early Years Services Report; and Evidence on Optimal Hours of Early Childhood Education and Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children Literature Review. <p>Both reports were provided to the Productivity Commission’s inquiry into Early Childhood Education and Care, with the ECCDPP’s engagement and advice informing the recommendations of the Productivity Commission’s final report. Following its release, the Australian Government announced that from January 2026, families will have access to three days a week of subsidised early childhood education or for families caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, 100 hours of subsidised care per fortnight. This reform closely aligns to the ECCDPP research outcomes and priorities progressed by the Partnership.</p>									

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<p>In July 2024, the ECCDPP delivered its first set of recommendations to Joint Council on Closing the Gap, one of which refers to developing implementation advice on the research reports. Joint Council on Closing the Gap accepted the recommendations, and they are being progressed by government. The ECCDPP also tabled its 2023 Annual Report and 3-Year Strategic Plan, with Joint Council and published on the Department of Education and SNAICC websites.</p> <p>The ECCDPP also collaborated with Safe and Supported governance to drive progress towards the establishment of a fully empowered and legislated National Commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People, which began operations in January 2025 under an appointed Acting Commissioner and will continue to be an advisory point for the National Commissioner.</p> <p>The ECCDPP has also agreed to commission another research project to develop an Evidence Guidance Framework for the ACCO child and family services sector for delivery in 2025.</p>									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>This partnership has met all strong partnership elements.</p> <p>However, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives note further action from government parties is needed to continue to strengthen the Partnership as a shared decision-making forum. As outlined in the Productivity Commission Review into the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, governments need to undertake transformational change to deliver on the intent of the National Agreement. This is further explored in the ECCDPP 2023 Annual Report, which outlines how government structures and processes can pose barriers to shared decision-making and meeting the ambitions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members in the ECCDPP.</p>									

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Formal Partnership Agreement Australian Government Department of Education and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Corporation (NATSIEC) The Partnership between the Department of Education and NATSIEC ensures that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, aspirations and solutions, as represented through NATSIEC, are considered in education policy decisions, including, but not limited to, policies targeted to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and students.	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Corporation (NATSIEC)	Department of Education	New	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Outcome 3 Outcome 4 Outcome 5 Outcome 6 Outcome 7 Outcome 14 Outcome 16	Met	Partially Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
In 2024, NATSIEC and the Coalition of Peaks were involved in the development and negotiations informing the Better and Fairer Schools Agreements, and this involvement lead to the development of the first intergovernmental agreement that recognises the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and knowledge and honours the Australian Government’s commitment to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
Operational funding of \$12.5 million over 4 years, to enable engagement under this Partnership Agreement, will be provided to NATSIEC by the department as announced in the 2024-25 Budget.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
Clause 32B was partially met as the agreement was not yet published in 2024 - this has since been actioned (Formal Partnership Agreement Australian Government Department of Education and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Corporation - Department of Education, Australian Government)									

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Social and Emotional Wellbeing Policy Partnership (SEWB Policy Partnership) The SEWB Policy Partnership provides advice on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional wellbeing, mental health and suicide prevention. This includes promoting cultural safety and Indigenous leadership across all mental health and suicide prevention initiatives.	Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia and representatives from relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies	Department of Health and Aged Care and representatives from all state and territory governments	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 14	Partially Met	Met	Partially Met	N/A – Ongoing discussions
Partnership Activities									
<p>The SEWB Policy Partnership met twice in 2024. On Gadigal Country (Sydney) on 14 March 2024 and on Yawuru Country (Broome) on 29 August 2024.</p> <p>At the March 2024 meeting members agreed to finalise the SEWB Policy Partnership’s Strategic Plan in order to progress to Joint Council on Closing the Gap. The Strategic Plan lists seven priority actions for the next 18 months. Changes to the SEWB Policy Partnership’s Strategic Plan were discussed and endorsed at the August 2024 meeting, with emphasis on key points including the SEWB Framework Refresh and the Commissioning Framework. The Strategic Plan will progress to the first meeting of 2025.</p> <p>At the August 2024 meeting the CEO of Gayaa Dhuwi was endorsed as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Deputy Co-Chair of the SEWB Policy Partnership and members agreed to an authorising environment and endorsement process that emphasises shared decision-making. Future reporting will see the SEWB Policy Partnership seeking endorsement from Health Chief Executives Forum (HCEF) directly before seeking Health Ministers’ Meeting (HMM) endorsement for key policy documents, frameworks, and strategies, emphasising the role the SEWB Policy Partnership plays in the policy landscape.</p> <p>The SEWB Policy Partnership endorsed several key documents in the reporting period, including the refreshed National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy and the Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Declaration Framework and Implementation Plan.</p>									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
Partnership deliverables include the endorsement of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy and the Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Declaration Framework and Implementation Plan.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The Department and Gayaa Dhuwi continue to work together to strengthen the Partnership approach through the membership, Co-Chair and Joint Secretariat relationships. There is ongoing collaboration on clearly identifying roles and responsibilities, understanding what engagement means for both partners, and establishing clear processes and timeframes, as evidenced by the August 2024 decisions to appoint an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Deputy Co-Chair and the updated authorising environment and endorsement process.									

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Rheumatic Fever Strategy The Rheumatic Fever Strategy (RFS) Partnership guides national Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) policy implementation through the RFS governance structure jointly chaired between the Department of Health and Aged Care and the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (NACCHO).	National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)	Department of Health and Aged Care	New	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 1 Outcome 14 Outcome 17	Met	Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guided national RHD policy implementation through the Rheumatic Fever Strategy (RFS) Enabled NACCHO to lead the national coordination and management of RFS activities over the period 2021-22 to 2024-25 Ensured delivery arrangements reflect the views of key stakeholders, including the perspectives and priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and evidence based clinical advice 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities about Acute Rheumatic Fever (ARF)/RHD and prevention strategies, and enabled those communities to co-design and implement locally responsive approaches to reducing ARF/RHD 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
This partnership has met all strong partnership elements.									

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Northern Territory Primary Health Care Expert Advisory Group (EAG) The Expert Advisory Group will focus on addressing the workforce shortages in Aboriginal primary health care (urban, remote and very remote), as areas where the shortages are most extreme, and the health needs the greatest.	Aboriginal Medical Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT)	Department of Health and Aged Care and Northern Territory Government	New	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Outcome 1	Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
The partnership was new in 2024 and establishing governance arrangements.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
The partnership was new in 2024 and working to develop and agree an action plan to address solutions to the NT workforce challenges for governments to consider.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The Terms of Reference (relating to clause 32B) was developed together with parties to clearly define the partnership, expectations, membership and scope.									

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National cervical self-collection campaign National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) is engaged to partner with the Department of Health and Aged Care to co-design and co-decide a national cervical self-collection campaign. The campaign targets Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and people with a cervix and healthcare providers (HCPs) who support these consumers. It also targets other under screened communities, including women and people with a cervix from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities.	National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)	Department of Health and Aged Care	New	Other	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Outcome 1 Outcome 17	Met	Met	Met	Partially Met
Partnership Activities									
The agreement was executed in January 2024. Throughout 2024, the partnership agreed to an engagement of a campaign team, contributed to campaign planning and governance, identified key partnerships, commenced evaluation and monitoring, and commenced community engagement grant model planning.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
As a result of activities listed, the partnership was able to plan and order campaign merchandise.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The partnership was new in 2024 and is looking to ways to continue to strengthen against strong partnership elements.									

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<p>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Protection Sub-committee (NATSIHP), a sub-committee of the national Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)</p> <p>NATSIHP provides holistic and culturally safe advice on health protection matters for First Nations peoples and communities. Focusing on communicable and chronic diseases, environmental health, and disaster management in primary health settings, and health issues related to COVID-19.</p>	National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) (Co-Chair), with additional expert members	Department of Health and Aged Care (Co-Chair), with additional members from state and territory government health bodies	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 1 Outcome 2	Partially Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Not Met
Partnership Activities									
In 2024, there was continued recognition of the Advisory Group's valuable contribution in providing clinical expertise to advise and inform decisions on all First Nations health protection matters and relevant health outcomes of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
Advisory Group information, including communiques , are published on the Department of Health and Aged Care website.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
Regarding the Advisory Group's formal agreement, in addition to the current publicly available information (including members and communiques), the Strategic Workplan and Membership guidelines will be made publicly available once endorsed.									

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First Nations Aged Care Governance Group The First Nations Aged Care Governance Group (FNACGG) provides advice to the Department of Health and Aged Care on aged care reform and healthy ageing for First Nations people. A key function is to promote First Nations' voices as central to policy design and program implementation. Partnership advice is aligned to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and to achieve the National Health Plan's healthy ageing objective. FNACGG is Co-Chaired by the First Assistant Secretary of the Market and Workforce Division within the Department of Health and Aged Care and the CEO of The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing and Aged Care Council (NATSIAACC).	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing and Aged Care Council (NATSIAACC) (Co-Chair), and members from relevant First Nations organisations	Department of Health and Aged Care	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 1	Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Not Met
Partnership Activities									
The partnership established a new national working group to develop a First Nations Aged Care Workforce plan. The partnership was further active in providing input into national consultations and roundtables regarding the drafting of the New Aged Care Act, review of First Nations assessments and for the Support at Home program reform.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
The partnership endorsed a definition of cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander aged care that was developed by NATSIAACC. This definition was used to inform intrinsic material (i.e. Explanatory Statement) in the New Aged Care bill.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
FNACGG strengthened their Terms of Reference so that it includes co-design, self-determination and other relevant values-based elements to set principles for FNACGG, aligning with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.									

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Connected Beginnings Advisory Group The Connected Beginnings Advisory Group (CBAG) brings together leaders from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies, philanthropy, research, Connected Beginnings funded sites and Aboriginal community-controlled early years services, who have the expertise in supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to achieve their aspirations. The group was established in 2022 to provide strategic advice on the expansion of the Connected Beginnings program (target to reach 50 sites by June 2025). The CBAG is Co-Chaired by the Department of Education and SNAICC.	SNAICC, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), First Peoples Disability Network, Coolabaroo, Nikinpa Aboriginal Children's Service, Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre and Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre as well as an Aboriginal representative from the Centre of Health Equity, University of Melbourne.	Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and Department of Education	Continuing	Policy Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 3 Outcome 2 Outcome 3 Outcome 4	Met	Partially Met	Met	Not Met
Partnership Activities									
The group held two meetings during 2024 to provide advice on various aspects of Connected Beginnings' implementation, particularly following the recommendations from the 2024 Connected Beginnings mid-term evaluation.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
One of the core purposes of the group is to inform the expansion of Connected Beginnings to 50 sites by June 2025. In 2023, the group approved the new Site Selection Methodology - developed by SNAICC and NACCHO - which guided the expansion of Connected Beginnings throughout 2023 and 2024. After community conversations throughout 2023 and 2024, the milestone of 50 Connected Beginnings sites was reached in January 2025. With the majority of the expansion work completed in 2023 and 2024, the focus and deliverables for the group in 2024 focussed on their advice on strategic areas such as a Connected Beginnings philanthropic engagement framework, enhancing Connected Beginnings data work and alignment with Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles, lessons learnt from the ACCO Leadership Framework, and the future of Connected Beginnings governance to align better with the Closing the Gap Priority Reforms.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
All advice from the group has been actioned by the Co-Chairs with input from the (now) Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and NACCHO.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>The Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara / Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory and Square Kilometre Array Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA)</p> <p>The partnership is between the Wajarri Yamaji, represented by the Wajarri Yamaji Aboriginal Corporation (WYAC), Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR) and Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), as the representatives of the Australian Government. The aim of the partnership is to deliver the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) Project.</p> <p>The Wajarri Yamaji are giving their consent to the construction and operation of the project on their traditional lands.</p> <p>This partnership is formalised through the Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara / Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory and Square Kilometre Array ILUA and Project Agreement, and the partners are jointly and equally accountable to each other through those documents.</p>	Wajarri Yamaji Aboriginal Corporation (WYAC)	<p>Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR)</p> <p>Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)</p>	Continuing	Place-Based	<p>Priority Reform 1</p> <p>Priority Reform 2</p> <p>Outcome 8</p> <p>Outcome 17</p>	Met	Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<p>The partnership is defined by the commitments and obligations in the Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara / Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory and Square Kilometre Array ILUA and Project Agreement. This agreement was negotiated over many years and was formalised in September 2022. The key areas of activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection and preservation of Wajarri Yamaji cultural heritage. • Cultural Awareness training. • Environment management. • Enterprise and training. • Educational opportunities. • Recognition of Wajarri Yamaji People. 									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<p>To the end of 2024:</p> <p><u>Engagement</u></p> <p>In 2024, the partnership met regularly through formal and informal engagements.</p> <p>Formal engagements outlined in the SKA ILUA and Project Agreement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ILUA Liaison Committee (ILC): this forum provides the opportunity for all partners to meet and discuss how the Project Agreement is being implemented, and to work together to agree on how to do better when needed. This committee met four times during 2024. Heritage Protection Committee (HPC): this forum provides a mechanism for all parties to manage and protect Wajarri Yamaji cultural heritage and discuss how the Cultural Heritage Management Plan is being implemented. The HPC met three times during 2024. <p>Informal engagements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wajarri Yamaji Industry Opportunities Working Group: the working group was established to allow the partners and other relevant stakeholders to meet and discuss upcoming business development and employment opportunities. The Working Group met monthly during 2024. Wajarri Yamaji Opportunities and Capabilities Workshop: this engagement brought together the partners, plus relevant stakeholders from local, state and Australian government agencies. The Workshop aimed to share upcoming business development and employment opportunities, share the current capability of Wajarri Yamaji businesses and explore how to increase Wajarri Yamaji participation with the ILUA Project Area, and the Mid-West and Murchison regions. This workshop was held once in 2024. <p><u>Other key achievements include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wajarri Enterprise Limited (WEL), the commercial arm of WYAC, has formed a Joint Venture partnership with Ventia, an Australian large-scale infrastructure services provider, to operate the accommodation village for SKA-Low construction workers. The success of this joint venture and other SKA-Low contracts won by WEL has driven WEL's growth from 0.5 FTE to approximately 40 employees within 18 months. Wajarri Yamaji has represented between 24-31% of people engaged at the site in construction activities. This includes Wajarri field technicians who are engaged and being trained to deploy more than 131,000 SKA-Low antennas at the site. Of the 10 people engaged in the first intake of Field Technicians, seven were Wajarri. Four Wajarri businesses have also been contracted to support the construction activities at the site. Mullewa Senior High School visit to the Observatory, to coincide with visit by astronaut Katherine Bennell-Pegg. Wajarri Yamaji artwork showcased in the 'Cosmic Echoes' art exhibition that was launched in Cape Town, South Africa during the International Astronomical Union General Assembly Supported two Wajarri Yamaji people to attend and deliver a joint presentation at the International Astronomical Union General Assembly in Cape Town. Supported a Wajarri Yamaji person to attend and deliver a joint CSIRO presentation at the International Conference on Research Infrastructures, held in Brisbane. 510 employees and contractors working at the Observatory completed the Wajarri Yamaji Cultural Training full day induction in 2024. Ongoing Cultural heritage management during the construction of the SKA-low radio-telescope, which included the provision of Heritage Monitors during ground disturbance activities. Heritage monitoring activity includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 342 days with heritage monitors. Combined total of 4372 heritage monitors on site. 									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
Regular communications, including through meetings of the above committees.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Policy Partnership (LPP) The key function of the LPP is to deliver recommendations to Joint Council on national policy priorities for languages.	First Languages Australia (FLA) and representatives from relevant First Nations peak bodies	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts (DITRDCA) and representatives from all state and territory governments	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 16	Met	Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
The LPP established foundations of the partnership, focussing on embedding strong partnership elements and governance arrangements in line with Priority Reform 1 of the National Agreement.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
The LPP developed core governance and operational documents to guide its work.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The LPP emphasised shared decision-making, particularly regarding determining LPP national priorities. The LPP is committed to enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to have their voice heard, demonstrated through the online consultation forum.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Strategic Partnership Agreement Between the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and First Languages Australia (FLA). This partnership provides a framework for collaborative activities which can be undertaken nationally and/or locally. It aims to foster positive local relationships between the ABC and FLA member organisations and the coordination of larger projects across any number of regions and support career pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in media and languages sectors. Activities under this Agreement may relate to broadcast content and/or any part of the functions of each organisation.	First Languages Australia (FLA)	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts (DITRDCA) - Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)	Continuing	Other	Priority Reform 1	Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Not Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Partnership partnered with the PULiiMA Indigenous Languages & Technology Conference and West Kimberley Language Gathering and supported the ABC Archives Kin-nect program (that opens up ABC archives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities at no cost) to present at language conferences. ABC staff members were seconded to language centres including Binij Kunwok Regional Language & Cultural Centre, Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring language centre, and Nyamba Buru Yawuru language centre. The partnership also worked towards ABC content continuing to be embedded into Gambay map (which featured on ABC Indigenous website). 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victorian and Tasmanian State Election TV broadcasts included 'Colour patches.' On advice of the partnership, ABC Education re-released 'This Place and Mother Tongue' on an updated website, which included an ABC and FLA co-produced collection of 6 Indigenous language songs and accompanying teaching resources. 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The strategic partnerships are working documents that hold details of mutually agreed work schedules not for publication however, upon the signing of the partnership agreement ABC and FLA published press releases that provided broad details of the work to be undertaken and the duration of the partnership.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Strategic Partnership Agreement Between the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and First Nations Media (FNMA). This partnership is to encourage increased collaboration between the ABC and the First Nations media organisations and broadcasters that FNMA represents. This Agreement intends to provide a framework for collaborative activities which can be undertaken nationally and/or locally. It supports fostering positive local relationships between the ABC and FNMA member organisations and the coordination of larger projects across any number of regions.	First Nations Media Australia (FNMA)	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts - Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)	Continuing	Other	Priority Reform 1	Met	Partially Met	Partially Met	Not Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The partnership supported the ABC to launch the Kin-nect program (which opens up ABC archives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities at no cost) at the FNMA Converge conference in Canberra. The partnership advised regarding the ABC donation program, where excess and decommissioned ABC equipment and furniture is donated to FNMA member organisations. 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ABC donation program led to Indigenous Community Television (ICTV) outfitting their own outside broadcast truck, enabling them to broadcast cultural festivals and sporting events live from across central Australia. 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the ability to engage in the partnership, ABC Legal delivered Media Law Fundamentals training to FNMA member and continues to provide pro-bono legal advice to FNMA members upon request, and ABC News staff are delivered masterclasses as part of the FNMA News Initiative - Community Reporter Training program. The partnership shared content, including Indigenous Community Television (ICTV). The partnership has collaborated to support ABC staff to do ABC funded secondments to FNMA organisations including Torres Strait Islander Media Association (TSIMA), Indigenous Community TV, Koori Radio, Ngaarda Media and 6DBY Larrardi Radio, IndigiTUBE, and staff exchanges with the National Indigenous Radio Service, News Digital and the Northern Territory Newsroom. 									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Housing Policy Partnership (HPP) The HPP is a mechanism for the members to develop a joined-up approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing policy. The HPP’s objectives are to improve housing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and make recommendations to the Joint Council about improving housing outcomes and homelessness prevention.	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Association (NATSIHA) and representatives from relevant First Nations peak bodies	Department of Social Services (DSS) and representatives from all state and territory governments	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Outcome 9	Met	Partially Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
In 2024, the HPP agreed to a yearly standing item on the HPP agenda to note and learn from the outputs of the Housing Australia Future Fund \$200 million acute housing measure for the repairs, maintenance and improvements of housing in remote Indigenous communities. It also agreed to formalising a partnership between the HPP and an Australian university for a proposed Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Project research project. If approved by the ARC, the proposed Linkage Project will aim to create a shared Indigenous housing data resource to describe and monitor Indigenous housing and give a voice to Indigenous householders through providing opportunities for them to share their experiences and aspirations of housing and home). Further work included progressing the development of a framework for jurisdictional working groups that will enable government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to come together to align and advance the important work and priorities of the HPP in between meetings moving forward. The HPP also finalised the development of the Strategic workplan for 2025.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
The HPP provided advice to DSS on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander component of the new National Agreement on Social Housing and Homelessness (NASHH) with the HPP formally embedded into the NASHH to provide oversight and assurance functions of arrangements relating specifically to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people under the agreement.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
In 2024, the HPP partnership met the strong elements with progress being made towards implementing a shared Secretariat role between the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Association and the Department of Social Services and publishing the Housing Policy Partnerships Agreement to Implement. In addition, the HPP enhanced the partnership's governing documents and frameworks.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>Our Ways - Strong Ways - Our Voices: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan to End Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Steering Committee (Steering Committee)</p> <p>The Steering Committee provides guidance and advice from the diverse perspectives, leading to the development of the Our Ways - Strong Ways - Our Voices National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan to End Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence (Our Ways - Strong Ways - Our Voices). The 24 members of the Steering Committee consist of 12 non-government First Nations representatives, two Australian Government representatives, eight state and territory representatives, and the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner.</p>	SNAICC – National Voice for our Children	Department of Social Services (DSS)	New	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Outcome 13	Partially Met	Partially Met	Met	Partially Met
Partnership Activities									
Our Ways - Strong Ways - Our Voices will be a signature piece of policy that will guide a whole of society approach to addressing the unacceptable rates of violence against First Nations women and children. In January 2024, members for the Our Ways - Strong Ways - Our Voices Steering Committee were officially appointed by the Minister for Social Services. Co-Chaired by a government and non-government member, the Steering Committee held 8 meetings throughout 2024. Community consultations lead by the Steering Committee and SNAICC commenced 5 September.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
In February 2024, SNAICC provided a draft Community Engagement Plan to the department for review, which had been co-designed and endorsed by Steering Committee members. In April, the Steering Committee approved the Terms of Reference, the working title, and the artwork for the engagement phase of Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan to End Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Steering. In December, the Steering Committee agreed to a number of key elements of Our Ways - Strong Ways - Our Voices, enabling the commencement of drafting.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
Whilst the Steering Committee was appointed by Ministerial Appointment, advice was sought from Coalition of Peaks regarding the shortlisted applicants.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>The Terms of Reference (the partnership agreement) were developed and agreed in partnership within the Steering Committee. While the Terms of Reference were not available publicly at the end of 2024, a full list of the First Nations non-government Steering Committee members is publicly available online (https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/burney/2024/expert-first-nations-steering-committee-advise-reducing-rates-family-violence-and-abuse).</p> <p>To ensure perspectives from diverse communities, public consultations across a wide cross-section of society will be undertaken (to support the development of the First Nations National Plan).</p>									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>Stronger Places, Stronger People (SPSP)</p> <p>SPSP is a place-based, collective impact initiative stewarded by the Australian Government in partnership with state and territory governments and 10 communities across Australia. It seeks to disrupt disadvantage and create better futures for children and their families through locally tailored and evidence-driven solutions to local problems, in partnership with local people.</p> <p>Collective Impact is the framework for local implementation of a staged and structured long-term approach to solving complex problems. It involves collaboration across governments, business, philanthropy, not-for-profit organisations, community groups and local citizens – all of whom have a key stake in the problems – to achieve significant and lasting change.</p> <p>Funding to an initial 6 SPSP communities for shared decision-making and local solutions commenced in 2023. The development of formal collaboration agreements and frameworks to support shared decision-making are being progressed in these communities. ²</p>	For future Partnership Stocktakes, it is anticipated that SPSP partnerships will be separately outlined to provide further clarity.	Department of Social Services (DSS)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	For future Partnership Stocktakes, it is anticipated that SPSP partnerships will be separately outlined to provide further clarity against each clause.			
Partnership Activities									
<p>A backbone team in each community works with, and is accountable to, a local community leadership group, supporting the community in developing and implementing their tailored strategy and plan of action. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership in these governance arrangements are structured differently across SPSP communities. Further information found at https://www.dss.gov.au/stronger-places-stronger-people.</p> <p>State and territory governments are partners in the Stronger Places, Stronger People initiative and provide co-funding and/or in-kind support.</p>									

² 6 SPSP communities are receiving funding for shared-decision making and local solutions as part of the extension to the initiative to 2028-29; Maranguka (Bourke, NSW), Hands Up Mallee (Mildura, VIC), Burnie Works (Burnie, TAS), Far West Community Partnerships (Ceduna, SA), Logan Together (Logan, QLD), and Gladstone Region Together (Gladstone, QLD).

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<p>Changes achieved as a result of this different way of working have been published in the Early Evidence of Impact Report (EEIR) and will continue to be captured through the Understanding, Measurement, Evaluation and Learning (UMEL) processes. Link to EEIR:</p> <p>https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59fabd9490bcce30df85b49f/t/63772d275f80ce5a62e6dd9b/1668754748102/SPSP+Early+Evidence+Impact+Report_20221101+FINAL.pdf</p>									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>The development of a shared decision-making framework is underway and the initial processes to design and implement of local solutions progressing. Formal collaboration agreements will underpin the approach to shared decision-making.</p>									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>Safe and Supported Partnership Agreement</p> <p>This Partnership Agreement expresses the formal partnership between the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Group (Leadership Group) and Australian, state and territory governments (through Community Services Ministers), to implement Safe and Supported: the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children 2021-2031 (Safe and Supported), in line with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap Priority Reform One.</p>	<p>The Leadership Group is convened and chaired by SNAICC - National Voice for Our Children (SNAICC). Leadership Group members and special advisory members include jurisdictional peak bodies and nominated representatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Commissioners and subject matter experts.</p>	<p>Department of Social Services (DSS)</p>	<p>Continuing</p>	<p>Policy</p>	<p>Priority Reform 1 Outcome 12</p>	<p>Met</p>	<p>Met</p>	<p>Met</p>	<p>Met</p>
Partnership Activities									
<p>In 2024, governments and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Group have continued to progress implementation of the Safe and Supported First Action Plan 2023 – 2026 and the Safe and Supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Action Plan 2023 – 2026.</p>									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<p>On 31 January 2023, the Safe and Supported: First Action Plan 2023-2026 and Safe and Supported: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Action Plan 2023-2026 were launched by Community Services Ministers and the Leadership Group. This is the first time First Nations people have designed and launched their own Action Plan, in partnership with government. In 2024, governments and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Group for Safe and Supported have continued to progress implementation of Safe and Supported through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan and First Action Plan. On 8 March 2024, on Kurna Country (Adelaide), the Leadership Group and Community Services Ministers from across Australia met for the first time as the Shared Decision-Making Committee to sign and launch the Safe and Supported Partnership Agreement, which formalises shared decision-making under Safe and Supported in alignment with Priority Reform 1.</p>									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>The Leadership Group, as representatives of the ACCO child and family sector and communities, have led significant pieces of work under the Action Plans in partnership with governments. In 2024, the Australian Government committed \$8 million to establish a National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Support. The Australian Government commissioned SNAICC to develop a design report for the Centre for Excellence. This First Nations led initiative seeks to drive self-determined research grounded in First Nations knowledge to support evidence-based approaches to delivering support to First Nations children, young people and families. The Leadership Group has co-designed the Improving Multidisciplinary Responses (IMR) program which included the development of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, a Factsheet outlining priorities for funding, and a Shared Decision-Making Framework defining how First Nations people and communities will share in the decision-making through every stage of the program. The Australian Government has committed \$44.5 million over 6 years (2021-22 to 2026-27) for the IMR program. A similar process was undertaken for the Innovation Fund grant opportunity, which will test the actions and principles of the National Child and Family Investment Strategy (Investment Strategy), which is being developed by SNAICC. In particular, grant guidelines and sites will be developed with advice from SNAICC, in accordance with the priorities of the ACCO sector and in consultation with the Leadership Group. The Australian Government has committed \$10.01 million over 5 years (2022-23 to 2026-27) to develop the Investment Strategy and the Innovation Fund.</p> <p>In February 2024, the Australian Government announced its commitment to establish a National Commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People. This responded to calls from First Nations people for a dedicated National Commissioner for many years. The Australian Government has engaged with the Leadership Group regarding the establishment, role and functions of the National Commissioner throughout 2024.</p>									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>This partnership is strengthened through a formal Partnership Agreement between Australian, state and territory governments and the Leadership Group, which was agreed on 8 March 2024. This Agreement demonstrates a new way of working with First Nations people and communities. This Agreement captures all governments’ commitment to working in partnership and shared decision-making with First Nations leaders to achieve the goals of Safe and Supported.</p> <p>Parties to the Partnership Agreement are continuing to work towards fully delivering all clauses of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working towards greater transparency and ensuring all parties have access to the same data and information on which any decisions are made Working to ensure that the Leadership Group are resourced to engage independent policy and advice and engage with and seek advice from Aboriginal and Torres Strait people from all relevant groups within affected communities. 									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Shared Hearing Services Partnership To co-design a new way of establishing partnerships between Community Controlled Health Services and Hearing Australia to embed shared-design and decision-making regarding ear health and hearing services for local communities. The intent is to place the needs of the community at the centre of service design. Three services partnered with us on the design and trial of the process. At the end of June 2024, a further 20 services had commenced or completed a co-design to meet the needs of their service. ³	Orange Aboriginal Medical Service, Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service and Katherine West Health Board partnered in the design and trial of the process.	Hearing Australia	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4 Outcome 4 Outcome 5	Met	Not Met	Partially Met	Not Met
Partnership Activities									
The partnership continued to work on activities to embed shared-design and decision-making regarding ear health and hearing services for the partner communities.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
In 2024, the group designed new documents and processes that were used to formalise service arrangements and plans between Community Controlled Health Services and Hearing Australia.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
In 2024, new Shared Hearing Services agreements were drafted that will strengthen governance of service delivery at the local level, ensuring reporting of outcomes to ACCHO CEOs and their Boards. Hearing Australia continued to provide secretariat support, and consider ways in which partnerships arrangements can be strengthened through the formal agreement.									

³ At the end of 2024, 20 Shared Hearing Services Plans co-designed with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations in place in the following towns: Bairnsdale (Vic), Ballarat (Vic), Healesville (Vic), Orbost (Vic), Derwent Park (Tas), Lake Tyers (Vic), Lakes Entrance (Vic), Mildura (Vic), Hastings (Vic), Morwell (Vic), Ulverstone (Tas), Orange (NSW), Sale (Vic), Robinvale (Vic), Swan Hill (Vic), Hobart (Tas), Launceston (Tas), Forster (NSW), Dubbo (NSW).

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>Partnership on Closing the Gap governed by the Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap</p> <p>The Partnership Agreement expresses the agreed arrangements for the formal partnership between all Australian governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people represented by their community-controlled peak organisations on Closing the Gap. The Partnership's purpose is to design, implement and monitor the outcomes listed in the National Agreement and the Closing the Gap framework.</p>	The Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Bodies (Coalition of Peaks)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reforms 1 - 4 Outcomes 1 - 17	Met	Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The design phase of the Closing the Gap National Agreement was completed and the Implementation phase commenced, with ongoing support for the Peaks Secretariat through the 2022-2026 Peaks Secretariat contract. Funding to support the partnership beyond 2026 will be considered in 2025/26. Joint Council on Closing the Gap (JC) endorsed Terms of Reference for the first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led Review and Assembly in November 2024 for delivery by the end of May 2025 and for consideration by Joint Council no later than July 2025. 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Productivity Commission Review (PCR) and JC response - The Productivity Commission provided its first review of progress on the National Agreement on Closing the Gap in January 2024. JC accepted all four recommendations from the PCR and 15 of the 16 recommended actions. JC did not agree to Action 2.2 as members considered further work was required before agreeing to establish a Bureau of Indigenous Data. JC agreed to establish a Data Policy Partnership (DPP) in the second half of 2024 which has been delayed to 2025. Closing the Gap Commitment Stocktake - In response to a JC request and a PCR recommendation, a workshop was held with Partnership Working Group (PWG) members to review and prioritise National Agreement commitments and JC/PWG meeting actions to inform the CtG 2025 Forward Work Plan. The workshop was held October 2024. JC endorsed the proposed 2025 Forward Work Plan and prioritised commitments and actions mid-November 2024. 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2024 the Coalition of Peaks and NIAA representatives established regular meetings with the Minister for Indigenous Australians to discuss Closing the Gap priorities. In line with the commitment made under clause 125 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, the Australian Government agreed to fund the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led Review and Assembly to the value of \$2M 12 months after JC first considered the draft Terms of Reference for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Led review and six months into the allocated timeframe to deliver the Review as stated in Clause 125. 									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>Commonwealth Joint Working Group (JWG)</p> <p>JWG provides strategic oversight of the development and delivery of the Commonwealth’s Implementation Plan, with a focus on ensuring alignment with the National Agreement. It supports the development, monitoring, and coordination of the Commonwealth Implementation Plan over the life of the National Agreement.</p> <p>JWG has a focus on the Priority Reforms and have oversight of the socio-economic targets and cross-cutting areas (JWG Terms of Reference).</p>	The Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Bodies (Coalition of Peaks)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Partially Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
The JWG took a 'deep dive' approach, aligning meeting agenda items with the Priority Reforms.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
In 2024, the JWG provided oversight and strategic direction on the development and publication of the 2023 Commonwealth Closing the Gap Annual Report and 2024 Implementation Plan.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
In 2024, the JWG considered ways in which to make their Terms of Reference public and easily available.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
East Arnhem Land Youth Model (EALYM) The East Arnhem Land Youth Model (EALYM) agreement supports the communities' desires to engage and support young people and also enhances local governance by building capacity for Yolngu to direct investment for their communities.	Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) (also partnering with Northern Territory Government)	New	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Outcome 1 Outcome 5 Outcome 8 Outcome 11 Outcome 12 Outcome 13 Outcome 14	Met	Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
The purpose of Gunga'yunga Djamarrkuliny (the project) is to empower Yolngu led solutions targeted at Djamarrkuli/Yothu. The project model is facilitated by the Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA). The project was created as the ALPA board and Yolnu leaders throughout the region believe that the younger generations are at a critical point and urgent action is required to strengthen their connections to their Yolnu culture and identity. The project initially was a trial and post the 2-year pilot phase the Regional Youth Strategy and the Local Youth Strategy was implemented. A number of local activities have been held across the region, all with succeeding outcomes.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
ALPA together with the local communities advocate for a local strategy to become the guiding document for local youth engagement. The key to this program/partnership is to provide evidence that the local Yolngu people are best placed to make meaningful and informed decisions for their young people, consequently proving that local decision making and governance is the best course of action for remote communities.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
This partnership meets all strong partnership elements. The project is community led with community input that meets the needs of the local people.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>Remote First Nations Food Security Strategy Project Reference Group</p> <p>The Australian Government partnered with the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and relevant state/territory governments to develop a National Strategy for Food Security in Remote First Nations Communities. The partnership’s objective is to develop a Strategy targeted to address the unique and specific barriers to food security experienced in geographically isolated communities.</p>	Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT) (Co-Chair), with state and territory peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisation as members.	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Policy	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Outcome 1 Outcome 2 Outcome 4 Outcome 5 Outcome 9 Outcome 15 Outcome 16 Outcome 17	Met	Met	Met	Partially Met
Partnership Activities									
The Strategy was informed by a series of consultations (including face-to-face).									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
Strategy development partners developed a discussion paper drafted around eight focus areas impacting the remote food system – Country; Health; Housing; Families and Community Infrastructure; Stores; Supply Chains; Healthy Economies; and Policies, Practice and Governance. The purpose of the discussion paper was to support interested stakeholders in providing their views on the design of the Strategy.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
Clause 32A was strengthened where membership to the Project Reference Group was expanded to include more ACCHOs across NSW, QLD, SA and WA.									

Empowered Communities Partnerships

In previous Partnership Stocktakes, Empowered Communities (EC) has been captured as one submission to capture NIAA’s partnership with multiple EC sites. In 2024, NIAA has reported on individual EC partnerships to strengthen reporting.

Empowered Community (EC) submissions to the 2024 Stocktake were approved for publishing by EC partners in late 2024/early 2025. Following this, NIAA made updates to the reporting template to improve useability. The below reporting captures previously agreed content alongside information drawn from progress reports drafted by EC regions.

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – West Kimberley Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	West Kimberley Futures - Empowered Communities Ltd	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
In 2024, the West Kimberly Region EC undertook activities including mapping of services, collaboration with TAFE and other local organisations and promotion of services, particularly to support family and youth empowerment. To enhance governance and shared decision-making, the EC held 16 Local Management Committee meetings and seven community panels in 4 West Wimberley Locations and expanded member organisations in the region to 27 organisations. The EC participated in key regional housing forums and discussions with government agencies to progress housing reforms including transitional housing for Aboriginal youth, ACCO worker accommodation, new housing and capital works programs, and opportunities for home ownership support, and with regards to employment and training, the EC worked with government in a shared decision-making context with regards to the Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP), Indigenous Ranger Expansion and the Remote Jobs Economic Development Program (RJED).									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
In June 2024, Phase 1 of the Jirril Birrnyurdany Aboriginal Centre of Excellence co-design project was completed, further supporting family empowerment. In November 2024, the EC partnership endorsed a new constitution and publicly launched a new strategic plan. During 2024, the EC also completed the Ngurra Buru Youth Safe Space Design Project, supporting local youth.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>The Empowered Communities partnership takes a learning by doing approach. Both partners seek out new opportunities to collaborate in the support of EC regional priorities, both within the NIAA and across the Australian Government and other tiers of government. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership.</p> <p>The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.</p>									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – Cape York Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Cape York Institute – Pama Futures	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
Cape York EC participated in joint decision-making arrangements to review and provide recommendations regarding the proposed Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP) (Phase 2) activities in its regions. Further, the Cape York EC actively engaged with the broader NIAA consultation process for the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program – bringing local perspectives to employment needs, and service gaps. After December 2023 flooding, the Cape York EC supported the Wujal Wujal community, with the Cape York Pama Futures team being instrumental in coordinating the response from local, state, and federal agencies, case management of displaced families, and advocating to government on community’s behalf. Additionally, workshops, community engagement and Summits were held, which inform the ongoing Regional Development Agenda.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
As a part of its activities in 2024, the Cape York EC provided recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Rangers Program expansion activities in its region, with over \$17 million in new ranger program funding applications considered by 45 community leaders from across Cape York.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth. The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – Ngarrindjeri Ruwe Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Ngarrindjeri Ruwe Empowered Communities Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation (NREC)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 3	Met	Not Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in Joint Decision-Making arrangements with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP) – Phase 2 – activities in the regions Cultivated effective relationships with local governments Partnered with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Rangers Program expansion activities in the region Focused on establishing effective regional governance arrangements and data projects 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
Delivered priority reform projects including the Ngarrindjeri Independent Learning Centre and Small Business Hub.									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.</p>									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – Far West Coast Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Far West Community Partnerships Limited (FWCP)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
Some of the activities from 2024 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in joint decision-making arrangements with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP) – Phase 2 – activities in its regions Facilitated the Ceduna Service Collaboration Continued implementation of the Far West Change Agenda (the region's Regional Data Agreement), with data collected and measured against local and national indicators After the successful implementation and initial growth of a satellite service hub in Yalata, early work was undertaken to expand across the region 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented a regional partnership structure, led by the Far West Indigenous Regional Partnership Table (Far West Aboriginal Community Leaders Group) Reviewed and provided recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Rangers Program expansion activities in the region Established a youth intervention strategy and working group Designed and implemented a flexible service response strategy with its opt-in agencies 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – East Kimberley Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Binarri-binyja yarrowoo Aboriginal Corporation (BBY)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
Some examples of achievements in 2024 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in Joint Decision-Making arrangements with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP) – Phase 2 – activities in the region BBY has continue to provide professional backbone support to Empowered Communities East Kimberley in line with its Strategic Plan 2023-26 Participated in the EC National Leaders Group and attended the EC National Leaders Summit in Brisbane in December 2023 Ongoing negotiations in relation to the East Kimberley Closing the Gap Place-Based Partnership 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
Youth/Early Years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional funding was secured for the Kununurra Youth Patrol & Family Support Pilot Project The East Kimberley region was selected as a Connected Beginnings site which will improve access to early childhood, maternal and child health and family support services in the region Supported the implementation of Empowered Young Leaders (EYL), in the East Kimberley’s holding their first youth gathering in Kununurra Undertook extensive work with the early years priority working groups in Kununurra, Wyndham and Halls Creek, to finalise a review of the Regional Development Agenda for Growing Up Strong Kids Food security: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Food Security Working Group convened a community forum in Halls Creek to progress key cross-organisational collaboration and action to improve food security outcomes for children and families 									

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Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.</p>									

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Empowered Communities – Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council Aboriginal Corporation (NPYWC) (Tristate Empowered Communities, auspiced by NPYWC); and an alliance of regional Aboriginal organisations (Regional Anangu Services AC; Purple House; Mai Wiru; Central Land Council; APY Art Centre Collective)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in joint decision-making arrangements with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP) – Phase 2 – activities in the region. Partnered with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Rangers Program expansion activities in the region. Kulintja Kutju (the joint decision-making panel) continued to grow, providing guidance more generally to local EC work, and emergent governance for future independent backbone organisation. Continued to work on projects relating to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anangu-led decision making and community empowerment Education, culture and youth support Work, financial security and meaningful engagement. 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 successful ISEP projects will progress highly collaborative streams of work linked to EC engagement in the region: Support for Anangu Workers and School to Work Transition The collective First Nations partners established its main office at the Desert Knowledge Precinct, as an initial step towards establishing an independent backbone organisation 									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.</p>									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – Central Coast Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Barang Regional Alliance Ltd (Barang)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
Activities were aligned to the Barang Regional Development Agenda and included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focusing on economic and social independence Allocating public funding through joint decision-making, directing resources to community priorities Partnering with NIAA to enhance the Indigenous Skills and Employment and Indigenous Rangers programs. 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched Connected Beginnings across two sites, supporting early childhood development Secured NSW Government funding to expand local decision-making, ensuring services align with community needs Engaged 800+ young people through the Regional Youth Investment Program and trained 20 in the Guyung Minig Leadership Program Co-authored the Governance of Indigenous Data guide, advancing Indigenous data sovereignty 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – Inner Sydney Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Inner Sydney Empowered Communities Ltd (ISEC)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not Met	Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
Activities included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driving participatory regional and community planning processes, facilitating negotiations and agreement making, and delivering outcomes under Development Plans Partnering with NIAA on shared decision making for the participated in Joint Decision-Making arrangements with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Skills and Employment Program (ISEP) – Phase 2 – activities in its regions Partnering with NIAA to review and provide recommendations regarding proposed Indigenous Rangers Program expansion activities in the region Implementing key regional development priority projects Conducting joint decision-making processes to improve productivity and to improve government decision-making about the best use of grant funding in their region 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working closely with Redfern Aboriginal Alliance and La Perouse Aboriginal Community Alliance to create accurate service delivery maps, detailing geographical footprints and local government area boundaries The housing priority at La Perouse demonstrates ISEC’s commitment to empowering the community and its organizations to achieve long-term independence. Through strategic support in resource optimization and capacity building, ISEC reinforces its pivotal role as a backbone organization driving sustainable growth and self-reliance in the region. 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.									

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The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.									

Empowered Community Sites that did not meet the minimum threshold to be included in the 2024 Partnership Stocktake

The Northeast Arnhem Land and Goulburn-Murray Region Empowered Communities did not meet the minimum threshold to be included in the 2024 Partnership Stocktake. In 2024 these two Empowered Community Partnerships did not undertake ‘shared decision-making’ (Clause 32C).

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
<p>Empowered Communities – Goulburn-Murray Region</p> <p>The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.</p>	The Kaiela Institute Ltd	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not met	Not Met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Youth Panel that came from the 2023 action planning and investment model design workshop continue to progress priorities.Rumbalara Football Netball Club was supported to undertake the Rumba Resilience project.									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refresh of Goulburn Murray Regional Prosperity and Productivity PlanEngagement survey and 1:1 consultations undertaken with 33 Plan Champions to measure the impact of Plan Champions' engagement in implementing the Goulburn Murray Regional Prosperity and Productivity PlanMunarra Centre, a regional hub for education, cultural affirmation and sporting excellence, opened in August 2024Data Sovereignty Workshop hosted at Rumbalara Football Netball Club, bringing together approximately 50 representatives from key First Nations organisations and academic institutions, including Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation, First Peoples Assembly of Victoria, Kaiela Arts, and researchers from University of Melbourne, SAMHRI, La Trobe University, Deakin University, and Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre									

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Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.</p>									

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partner/s	Government Partner/s	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes	Clause 32A	Clause 32B	Clause 32C	Clause 33
Empowered Communities – Northeast Arnhem Land Region The Empowered Communities (EC) model is an Indigenous designed and led shared decision-making initiative that places Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in true partnership with the Australian Government. Under EC, government works with Indigenous communities to put in place processes, reforms, and support so that communities are empowered to partner as equals with government.	Yothu Yindi Foundation Aboriginal Corporation (YYF)	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4	Met	Not met	Not met	Met
Partnership Activities									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 2024 Garma Festival, the Prime Minister and Minister for Indigenous Australians were provided meeting time to formally meet with the Dilak Council The work on the Garma Institute Phase One was commenced 									
Partnership Outcomes/Deliverables									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Yutjuwala Djiwarr Model of Care has been recognised nationally. Yutjuwala Djiwarr Aged Care Centre designed and delivered. New classroom for Dhupuma Barker Families as First Teachers Program delivered. Gungirr Mental Health Care App developed. 									
Activities to Strengthen the Partnership									
<p>Both partners continue to seek out new opportunities to collaborate in the support of EC regional priorities, both within the NIAA and across the Australian Government and other tiers of government.</p> <p>The NIAA has agreed to a further four years funding to support EC backbone to 30 June 2028 across all 10 EC regions. As part of the commitment to strengthening the partnership, the NIAA conducted workshops in April to May 2024 across every EC region to discuss priorities and key areas to progress the partnership over the coming year. These will be articulated in the refreshed Local Partnership Agreements. NIAA is also discussing with EC better ways of supporting data sharing and for refining joint decision-making and influencing policy and program design processes within NIAA and across the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Empowered Communities Partnership Lessons Learned Project is underway which will be focussed on the partnership between NIAA and EC. The findings will explore the key changes in processes, systems, behaviours and legislation that have enabled shared decision making between NIAA and EC. The NIAA and EC have engaged the Institute of Social Science Research (ISSR) at the University of Queensland to undertake the project.</p>									

First Nations Advisory Groups (advising a government forum)

A number of submissions for the 2024 Partnership Stocktake were identified as First Nations Advisory Groups rather than partnerships with shared decision-making as defined in the National Agreement. While these are beyond the parameters of this Partnership Stocktake, they are important arrangements that demonstrate the Australian Government’s commitment to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. The below is a small sample that was identified through the 2024 stocktake process and does not represent the full scope of Advisory Groups.

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Lead	Government Support	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes
<p>Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Water Interests (CAWI)</p> <p>CAWI advises the National Water Committee (NWC) on First Nations water reform matters. This includes renewing the National Water Initiative. The NWC is made up of senior officials from federal, state and territory water agencies. They guide the implementation of water policy reform at the national level.</p> <p>CAWI also advises the Australian Government on water programs, policies, and initiatives relevant to First Nations Peoples.</p>	<p>CAWI Membership is outlined on the DCCEEW website</p>	<p>Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)</p>	<p>Continuing</p>	<p>Policy</p>	<p>Priority Reform 1</p> <p>Priority Reform 2</p> <p>Priority Reform 3</p> <p>Priority Reform 4</p> <p>Outcome 15</p>
Activities					
<p>CAWI increased its reach across Australia through participation in listening and engagement activities. CAWI attend all DCCEEW National Water Reform Committee meetings as observers and to provide advice on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ water interests. CAWI are invited to attend National Water and Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council meetings as standing observers. CAWI completed a Health Check of its operations to identify opportunities for improvement.</p>					
Outcomes/Deliverables					
<p>CAWI strengthened its strategic policy position to better inform national water reform initiatives through publishing of its Insights Paper and Timeline (both available on CAWI webpage).</p>					

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Lead	Government Support	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes
<p>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Collaboration</p> <p>The Collaboration provides advice to the Health Chief Executive Forum (HCEF) and Health Ministers Meeting (HMM) on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and is currently working on co-designing a First Nations Schedule for the National Health Reform Agreement and to inform the mainstream Addendum.</p>	<p>National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (NACCHO) is the Co-Chair. Other members are state and territory peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health bodies.</p>	<p>Department of Health and Aged Care</p>	<p>New</p>	<p>Policy</p>	<p>Priority Reform 1</p> <p>Priority Reform 2</p> <p>Priority Reform 3</p> <p>Priority Reform 4</p> <p>Outcome 1</p> <p>Outcome 2</p> <p>Outcome 10</p> <p>Outcome 11</p> <p>Outcome 12</p> <p>Outcome 14</p>
Activities					
<p>The Australian Government hosted the 2024 Health Roundtable on 22 March 2024, facilitated by the Lowitja Institute. Additionally, jurisdictional based activities have progressed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Two jurisdictions meeting to discuss measures that report on institutional racism within the health system, and measures access by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to culturally safe health servicesOne jurisdiction progressing health workforce activity around models of care (with work underway in several clinics)Two jurisdictions have worked together to identify best practical next steps to deliver progress on Indigenous Data Sovereignty.					
Outcomes/Deliverables					
<p>The Health Care in Prisons Review was completed by Nous Group. with the independent report being submitted to the Department of Health and Aged Care and the findings and recommendations provided to all Health Ministers by August for their consideration.</p>					

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Lead	Government Support	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes
Culture Care Connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group The Culture Care Connect program works in co-design with community to develop locally relevant planning and response activity for suicide prevention, whilst building a sustainable and supported First Nations workforce.	National Aboriginal and Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)	Department of Health and Aged Care	Continuing	Place-Based	Priority Reform 1 Priority Reform 2 Priority Reform 3 Priority Reform 4
Activities					
<p>In 2024, NACCHO, in partnership with the Department of Health and Aged Care, finalised the roll out of all four tranches of the Culture Care Connect Suicide Prevention Networks (CCSPNs). To date, 36 CCSPNs (including Affiliate sites) have been established, with 38 aftercare services funded (approximately 60 FTE for funding aftercare workers across the country). Onboarding sessions were held for Network Coordinators and Aftercare workers in early 2024.</p> <p>The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group has met in 2024 to discuss the monitoring and evaluation process for CCC.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of the Program commenced in 2024. This work will help inform future funding and policy considerations for the Program and is being undertaken in consultation with NACCHO and with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group.</p>					
Outcomes/Deliverables					
<p>As part of the 2021-22 Federal Budget, the Government announced a commitment to address the devastating and disproportionate impact of suicide on First Nations peoples and communities. This commitment included the establishment of community-led regional suicide prevention and aftercare service networks and Indigenous mental health first aid training, now known as the Culture Care Connect Program.</p>					

Name of Partnership & Description/ Purpose	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Lead	Government Support	New or Continuing?	Function	Relevant Priority Reforms/ Outcomes
<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council on family, domestic and sexual violence (Advisory Council)</p> <p>The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council on family, domestic and sexual violence was established to work in formal partnership with government to develop the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022-2032 (National Plan).</p>	<p>A full list of the First Nations non-government Advisory Council members is publicly available online (https://formerministers.dss.gov.au/19425/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-advisory-council-to-inform-the-next-national-plan-to-end-family-domestic-and-sexual-violence/)</p>	<p>Department of Social Services (DSS)</p>	<p>Continuing</p>	<p>Policy</p>	<p>Priority Reform 1 Outcome 13</p>
Activities					
<p>The Advisory Council has led the development and implementation of the dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan (Action Plan) under the National Plan and providing advice on culturally safe, whole of population approaches to ending violence against women and children under the National Plan. The Advisory Council developed the dedicated Action Plan in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, communities and organisations.</p>					
Outcomes/Deliverables					
<p>In September 2021, the Advisory Council was tasked with developing a dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan (Action Plan), under the National Plan. The Action Plan was published in August 2023.</p> <p>Men’s Webinar</p> <p>The Advisory Council hosted a National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men’s webinar on 6 August 2024 to discuss strategies to end gender-based violence. The men who participated in the webinar (both individually and collectively) have maintained a continued presence and representation of men in this sector for many years. Their efforts led to the formation of the National Aboriginal Men’s Community Healing and Family Violence Prevention Network. Key outcomes from the webinar informed Advisory Council advice to the Rapid Review of Prevention Approaches Expert Panel.</p> <p>Presentation to NACCHO Conference – 5 December 2024</p> <p>Professor Sandra Creamer and Professor Muriel Bamblett presented to the National Aboriginal Community Control Health Organisation (NACCHO) annual conference on behalf of the Advisory Council. The members provided two presentations at the Conference – a plenary session for men to increase men’s voices in the Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence (FDSV) sector and a presentation in the main theatre on the work of the Advisory Council and the Action Plan, drafting of the First Nations National Plan, and the link between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and FDSV.</p> <p>Rapid Review Panel</p> <p>On 1 May 2024, following a meeting of the National Cabinet, the Prime Minister announced the Australian Government would undertake an expert-led rapid review of best practice, evidence-based approaches to prevent gender-based violence. The Advisory Council met and discussed the Rapid Review and on 18 June 2024 provided input to the panel for consideration in the Panel’s final report to government. The Advisory Council shared the outcomes of the Men’s Webinar with the Rapid Review Panel and 3 recommendations, all in line with recommendations in the Action Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorse the establishment of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men’s advisory body as an immediate priority. • Endorse services and practices that support truth telling and healing – including establishing Aboriginal Men’s Wellness Centres. • Endorse actions that support improvements to terminology, and engagement practices used in the sector. <p>On 23 August 2024 the panel leading the Rapid Review briefed the Advisory Council ahead of the release of their report.</p>					

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<p>Family Domestic Sexual Violence Policy Partnership / FDSV Sector Strengthening Plan</p> <p>The Advisory Council has discussed measures to implement a Family Domestic Sexual Violence Policy Partnership, solidifying engagement and safeguarding the important partnerships at meetings in June 2024 and again in October 2024. The department and First Nations Advocates Against Family Violence (FNAAFV) are Co-Chairs for the development of the Sector Strengthening Plan.</p> <p>Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission</p> <p>Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner Michaela Cronin and Assistant Commissioner Jenna Roberts met with Advisory Council members at their meeting on 1 October 2024. The Advisory Council later wrote to the Commissioner with recommendations to strengthen reporting and accountability under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan in the sector.</p> <p>Consultation on government policies (in Advisory Council meetings and out of session)</p> <p>The Council has provided written and verbal advice to the Minister and the department on a variety of topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensuring culturally appropriate actions are accelerated across all levels of government (Advisory Council meeting October 2024)• Contributing to an independent evaluation of 1800 Respect• Findings of the Strategic Review of Governance arrangements for the <i>National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032</i>• Responding to the Missing and Murdered First Nations Women and Children report 2024• Review and feedback on the development of Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan to End Family, Domestic, and Sexual Violence.					