



ACT ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AGREEMENT 2019—2028

Delivering equitable outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

SIGNIFICANT FOCUS AREA: HOUSING

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES HAVE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, SECURE AND APPROPRIATE HOUSING SUITABLE TO THEIR NEEDS

WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS OUTCOME BY FOCUSING ON:

- Supporting culturally appropriate public and community housing accommodation options and support programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Improving access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to housing support and assistance that meets individual and family needs.
- Creating more opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to become home owners.
- Enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and families to stay connected to their school community.

TARGETS TO ACHIEVE THIS OUTCOME

These targets are indicative and may be updated following the Closing the Gap refresh.

Targets will be monitored and reviewed periodically throughout the implementation of the *ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028*:

Closing the Gap

- Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population living in appropriately sized (not overcrowded) housing to 82 per cent by 2028.

ACT

- Increase in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander home ownership.
- Decrease in the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders experiencing homelessness.
- Increase in culturally appropriate housing options in the ACT.
- Increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisations and management committees.
- Increase in housing and accommodation options for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in contact with the justice system.



PRIORITY ACTIONS

The Priority Actions will be progressed during the first 18 months of the Agreement. Further actions will be determined over the course of the Agreement.

- Implement the ACT Housing Strategy including delivery of actions that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Establish a community participation approach to understand housing needs and requirements in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to develop housing options and opportunities that may form the basis of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Policy.
- Work with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body to expand the range of culturally appropriate housing options for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and enhance the capacity of the community housing sector to deliver culturally appropriate housing options for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Work closely with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to co-design the new long-term accommodation complex for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Support the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander managed community housing in the ACT.
- Undertake a targeted communications project to promote the role of Indigenous Business Australia as housing financier for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians to purchase a home with low cost financing.
- Provide primary health services at the Early Morning Centre to allow ongoing medical support for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Work closely with schools and communities to ensure appropriate consideration is given to kinship connections when enrolling subsequent siblings to a school when a family is living outside their priority enrolment area. Education will look to reflect this within the enrolment policy.
- Supporting diversionary programs that assist with accommodation options for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

