



ACT ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AGREEMENT 2019—2028

Delivering equitable outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

CORE FOCUS AREA: CULTURAL INTEGRITY

A SOCIETY THAT SUPPORTS THE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE BUILDING OF RESPECTFUL, FAIR AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS OUTCOME BY FOCUSING ON:

- Supporting the aspirations of the Ngunnawal traditional custodians, and showcasing Ngunnawal culture in public spaces including at the entry to Canberra from road, rail and air.
- Increasing cultural responsiveness, opportunities for authentic engagement leading to self-determination and delivering culturally specific and accessible services.
- Listening to the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the design of ACT Government policy and reform.
- Embedding the intent of *S.27 (2) of the Human Rights Act 2004* into the everyday business of the ACT Government to support the rights of Traditional Custodians.
- Establishing culturally safe spaces.
- Embedding cultural integrity into policy and practice of the ACT Government.
- Committing to the creation of a culturally proficient ACT Government.

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*:

ACT

- Increase the number of community based and visible events and artworks around the ACT which showcase Ngunnawal culture.
- Demonstrate cultural competency of ACT Government employees.
- Increase the number of culturally safe spaces.
- Demonstrate the increased usage of co-design principles in the development of government policy and reform.
- Embed the requirement for all services to be culturally appropriate and accessible.
- Demonstrate cultural proficiency of ACT Government.
- Feedback from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community around the meaningfulness of engagement and self-determination.



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.

- Work with traditional owners to hear their thoughts on Treaty and support a joint understanding of the opportunity for and implications of a Treaty process for the ACT.
- Establish a Traditional Custodian Caring for Country Council that will guide and support on country practices, investigations into joint and co-management (of country) arrangements and mentoring of ACT Government employees.
- Embed Traditional Custodian and the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community's aspirations into legislation and policy development.
- Raise awareness of Ngunnawal cultural values through the delivery of training on cultural site/values/assets identification, in partnership with community and representative Aboriginal organisations.
- Increase social inclusion and equity initiatives that support recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Review, develop and implement actions identified in Reconciliation Action Plans.
- Develop processes and mechanisms that embed cultural integrity into government.
- Develop and implement cultural standards and protocols across ACT Government.
- Engage with specialist organisations to develop tools and resources to measure the success or otherwise of engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- Include cultural proficiency measures within ACT Government reporting.
- Identify and improve culturally safe spaces through culturally specific and accessible service delivery.

