

ACT ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AGREEMENT 2019-2028

Delivering equitable outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

PHASE TWO FOCUS AREA ACTION PLAN

July 2022 – December 2024















FOCUS AREA:Justice

OUALITY LIFE OUTCOME:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their families and communities thrive in a safe environment and have equitable access to justice and culturally safe restorative justice, prevention, and diversion programs.

WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS OUTCOME BY FOCUSING ON:

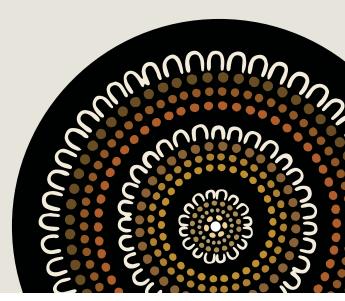
- Working with the Aboriginal and Torres
 Strait Islander community to end the cycle
 of engagement with the ACT criminal
 justice system before it starts by diverting
 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young
 people to wrap around supports, avoiding
 the potential reinforcing trauma of engaging
 with the criminal justice system.
- Reinvesting in the criminal justice system in a manner that reduces engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, for both those that have previously engaged with the system and for those that have not.
- Focusing on supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to transition out of detention in order to reduce recidivism.
- Where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community engagement with the criminal justice occurs, provide fair and equitable treatment without discrimination, providing access to culturally appropriate supports where available.

CLOSING THE GAP TARGETS

- By 2031, reduce the rate of incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to achieve parity with the rate of incarceration of non-Indigenous people.
- By 2031, reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (10-17 years) in detention by at least 30 per cent.

ACT HEADLINE INDICATORS

- Decrease in rate of return to custody for adults within two years.
- Decrease in adult imprisonment.
- Increase in 18-25 year olds referred to restorative justice.
- Decrease in the detention of young people.











PHASE-BASED QUALITATIVE STATEMENTS

Closing off on Phase One implementation

While some key actions have been completed, work towards many of the Phase One actions in the Justice focus area are still in progress, and this work will continue to be advanced in parallel to implementation of the Phase Two Action Plan. In addition, some actions under Phase One represent commitments to ongoing work. Full detail on the status of the actions under Phase One is available on the Community Services Directorate website under the section on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Policy Development.

Successes of the Agreement that are evident at the end of Phase One include delivering more opportunities for young people to participate in culturally safe, restorative justice practices; supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples post release to engage with their community and have access to appropriate housing, healthcare, education, and employment; and establishing partnerships across the ACT Government to develop activities and initiatives on Country to promote health and wellbeing and improve justice outcomes.

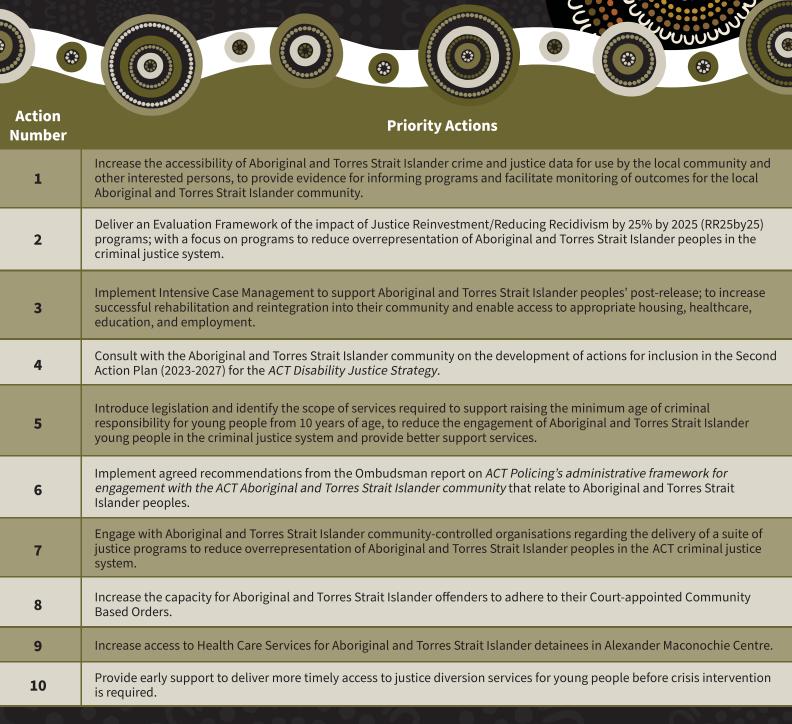
To be achieved in Phase Two implementation

By the end of Phase Two implementation:

- reduced contact between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
 peoples and the criminal justice system, and where contact occurs
 increase culturally appropriate interactions, encourage connection to
 community, and equips Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
 with the tools to thrive outside of the system.
- by early 2024, commence implementing the raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility for young people from 10 years of age, to reduce the engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in the criminal justice system.







STATUS BAR | 10-YEAR PLAN

The status bar provides an at-a-glance timing of Agreement phases highlighting the current Phase.

Phase One Feb 2019 – Jun 2022 Status: Complete

PRIORITY ACTIONS

New Priority Actions for Phase Two Implementation

Phase Two
Jul 2022 – Dec 2024
Status: In progress

Phase Three Jan 2025 – Dec 2027 Status: Not started Phase Four Jan 2028 – Dec 2028 Status: Not started



