COMMUNIQUE
FROM THE CHAIRPERSON
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE
21 NOVEMBER 2018

The Aboriginal Affairs Co-ordinating Committee (AACC) enables whole-of-government co-ordination on strategic government initiatives and policies that affect the lives of Aboriginal people in Western Australia.

The 4th meeting of the AACC took place on 21 November 2018, at Dumas House in West Perth.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) provides secretariat and administrative support to the AACC.

The AACC considered the following:

- **South West Settlement Community Development Reference Group – Terms of Reference**
  - DPC has been working with the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC) to develop draft Terms of Reference for the South West Settlement Community Development Reference Group.
  - The AACC members considered a number of matters in development of the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the SWS Community Development Reference Group. Further work on development of the draft ToR will continue.

- **Closing the Gap Refresh – Update December COAG Meeting 2018**
  - DPC updated members on activities related to WA’s response to the COAG Closing the Gap (CTG) Refresh ahead of the December COAG meeting.
  - All jurisdictions continue to work collaboratively seeking to develop a jointly-agreed refreshed CTG framework, with the Commonwealth adopting many of the amendments suggested by Western Australia and other States.

- **Violence in Schools**
  - The Department of Education (DoE) initiated a discussion about the Violence in Schools Action Plan policy, including its alignment to the broader McGowan Government Community Safety Agenda.
  - The policy aims to automate the process for students to engage in alternative placements and does not intend to exclude students from all education pathways.
  - It was proposed the Violence in Schools Action Plan be a formal agenda item for both the Director General’s Implementation Group and Community Safety and
Family Support Cabinet Sub-Committee. The AACC noted the Department of Education’s brief to members.

- **Community Response Planning**
  - The AACC discussed the need for a coordinated whole-of-government response to Aboriginal communities in crisis.
  - It was noted that since the Machinery of Government changes there is a need to revisit the appropriate process and decision making structure.
  - AACC members agreed to consider further in 2019.

The next meeting of the AACC is expected to take place in March 2019.

*confidential deliberations are not included.*