

Ref: 4788228

6 September 2018

Aboriginal Policy Unit  
Level 2, Dumas House, Havelock St  
WEST PERTH WA 6000

Submitted via e-mail to: [AboriginalPolicy@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:AboriginalPolicy@dpc.wa.gov.au)

Dear Hon. Ben Wyatt

## **A PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY IN ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS**

Thank you for your letter dated 28 June 2018, seeking comments on the State Government's proposal to improve the way government works with and for Aboriginal Western Australians.

In the 2016 Census, the Australian Bureau of Statistics accounted around 7.3 per cent (2,185) Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander people made up of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's population of 30,059. Kalgoorlie-Boulder's Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander population is more than double the State's average of 3.1 per cent. The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder 2017 Growth Plan seeks to promote an inclusive future where Aboriginal people have the opportunity to contribute to and benefit equally from future economic growth in terms of jobs, involvement in business, wealth creation and associated community development opportunities.

Your proposal outlining the creation of a new independent office for accountability and advocacy in Aboriginal affairs in progressing the Government's reform agenda is supported by the City. Having an Aboriginal representation and voice is a good step in addressing issues and matters relevant to the interests of Aboriginal Western Australians. The City is also supportive of your plans to involve Aboriginal people and organisations in the appointment process of the office-holder.

If you have any queries with regard to the above please contact Almetra Bethlehem, Policy and Research Advisor, on (08) 9021 0939, or via email at [almetra.bethlehem@ckb.wa.gov.au](mailto:almetra.bethlehem@ckb.wa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



**JOHN WALKER**  
Chief Executive Officer

