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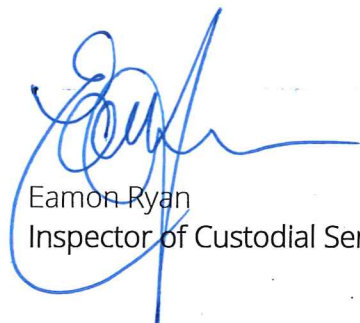
Developing the Western Australian Government's Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the discussion paper titled 'A path forward: Developing the Western Australian Government's Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy'. We strongly support all elements of the strategy. The proposed goals, principles, strategic elements and framework are appropriately focussed on empowering Aboriginal people. Each of the elements identified in the discussion paper are important in achieving this objective.

We welcome the observations in the discussion paper that long term strategies are needed, along with continual monitoring and evaluation to ensure the impact is being assessed. One of the most important elements of the proposed strategy is the whole-of-government focus and the engagement of all stakeholders, both government and non-government, working together towards the objectives.

In our experience, some of the most effective outcomes come about through collaboration between agencies and with community organisations. This is particularly evident in influencing adult and juvenile incarceration and recidivism rates.

The Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy provides an opportunity to work with Aboriginal people differently. We welcome this initiative and offer our support and commitment to its objectives.



Eamon Ryan
Inspector of Custodial Services