



Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee

Meeting 3 of 2022: 22 and 23 June 2022 – Communique No. 4

The Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee (AJAC) convened for Meeting 3 of 2022 on June 22 – 23 2022. The AJAC met again in person, after meeting virtually in April due to the COVID-19 situation in Perth.

Aboriginal Advisory Council of Western Australia

The AJAC hosted Aboriginal Advisory Council of Western Australia (AACWA) Co-Chairs Gail Beck and Marty Sibosado, who presented on the role of the AACWA and how Aboriginal advisory boards across government can better work together to achieve positive change. The meeting represents the beginning of an ongoing collaboration between the AACWA and the AJAC.

Visit to Banksia Hill Detention Centre

AJAC members visited Banksia Hill Detention Centre (BHDC) where they met with Deputy Commissioner Andy Beck, Superintendent Wade Reid and the centre's Aboriginal welfare and education staff. Members inspected the facilities including the Education wing and the Intensive Supervision Unit.



Deputy Commissioner Beck and Superintendent Reid briefed members on a recent \$25.1 million funding commitment in the State Budget to BHDC and gave a presentation on future planning for the centre.

Strategic Priorities

The AJAC continued strategic planning for its first term, on the priority areas of Young People; Safe Housing and Homelessness; Aboriginal Workforce Development and Employment; and Procurement and Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations. The AJAC continues to refine and work towards agreed goals in each strategic priority area within the first membership term timeframe, setting short-term actions towards those goals.

Consultation

AJAC members received further updates on the development of key Department of Justice strategies including the **Aboriginal Cultural Capability Training Strategy** and the **Aboriginal Engagement Plan**.

Heads of Jurisdiction United Statement on Reconciliation

On Day 2 of the meeting, the AJAC hosted the State's most eminent judicial officers, the Heads of Court Jurisdiction, for a breakfast meeting at the David Malcolm Justice Centre.



The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Peter Quinlan, Chief Judge Julie Wager of the District Court, the Chief Magistrate Steven Heath, Judge Hylton Quail, the President of the Children's Court, and the State Coroner Rosalinda Fogliani attended.

Chief Justice Quinlan then led a discussion about the creation of a Heads of Jurisdiction *United Statement on Reconciliation*.

The AJAC will next meet on 15 and 16 September 2022.