



Aboriginal Water and Environmental Advisory Group Meeting 19 March 2025 Communique

The Aboriginal Water and Environmental Advisory Group (AWEAG) held its #22 meeting on 19 March 2025 at the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) Prime House office located in Joondalup. The meeting was co-chaired by Alistair Jones & Jillian Collard.

The main items presented and discussed included the following:

AWEAG Water Information Session and Strategic Planning Day

Day one began with an information session presented by the Water Licensing team, who guided members through the licensing process and its operations. Following this, the AWEAG Strategic Planning session took place, focusing on setting future plans for the year. The DWER team and AWEAG members collaborated to brainstorm ways to work together more effectively and inform DWER staff about AWEAG contributions to the department.

AWEAG First Nations Climate Resilience Project

The First Nations Climate Resilience Project has progressed since the previous update to AWEAG on 24 August 2023. The project is now finalising its approach to consultation, which is expected to commence at the end of March 2025. Regular updates will continue to be provided to AWEAG. Support for out-of-session activities will be facilitated through an AWEAG support letter.

SENIOR ABORIGINAL LEADERSHIP TEAM (SALT)

The Senior Aboriginal Leadership Team (SALT) are embarking on a strategic journey to drive significant change and strengthen our department's commitment. Our agency is well-positioned to lead this work, using system mapping and visual models to set an example for other agencies.

Key elements include:

- Strengthening portfolios and building overall strength.
- Prioritising targets to ensure reforms align naturally.
- Establishing consistent government settings for stability.

Our CTG overview, the first of its kind, aims to implement structural changes. A proactive review, including the AACC oversight response, highlights the need for a paradigm shift. SALT aim to focus on productivity, moving beyond compliance to drive meaningful delivery.

Guided by a state approach through Aboriginal empowerment bodies, we support our communities with a strategic focus, embedding an Aboriginal lens in our future strategies. The SALT team is integral to this effort, prioritising and supporting key initiatives.

As SALT embark on this journey, they're committed to implementing priority reforms with AWEAG as a key partner. SALT are in the early stages of substantial transformation, excited to allocate resources and bring our department along on this impactful journey.



<div></div> <div>DIRECTOR GENERAL (AWEAG Co-chair)</div> <div>/ / 2025</div>	<div></div> <div>ANTHONY BELLOTTI (AWEAG Co-chair)</div> <div>/ / 2025</div>
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