



Local Thriving Communities Joint Coordinating Communique – No. 5

8 December 2021 – Brisbane and remotely via Teams

The Local Thriving Communities Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) met in Brisbane and online on 8 December 2021.

LTC Implementation

Kelly Barclay co-chaired the final meeting of 2021. Dr Chris Sarra provided an acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Custodians in Brisbane and other parts of Queensland where members and guests were joining from online.

The co-chairs noted community representative Michelle Deshong standing down from the JCC. The Committee acknowledged the valuable contribution Michelle made to the Local Thriving Communities (LTC) reform utilising her strengths-based approach and cultural knowledge to inform LTC implementation and build cultural capability. The Committee considered membership and decided to use the vacancy to strengthen representation from the Torres Strait. The JCC will approach the Torres Strait Island Regional Council to assist with seeking expressions of interest for a community member due to their broad representative base across 15 islands.

The Committee noted LTC community implementation updates, including progress of interim local decision making bodies (LDMBs) and other leadership models and recent engagement, including in Cherbourg, Pormpuraaw, Yarrabah, Torres Strait, Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal.

The Committee was pleased to hear an update from Mayor Aileen Addo, A/Chief Executive Officer Tim Rose and Councillor Kiri Tabuai of the Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council on the formation and progress of the Interim Mapoon LTC Advisory Committee. The Committee heard how valuable the formation of the Interim LDMB has been for the Mapoon community providing a central point for coordination of government services and engagement and in turn providing a pathway for positive working partnership. The Council noted through this process the community now has a direct voice into decision-making, including on education for children in the community. The Interim LDMB met with the Department of Housing, Communities and Digital Economy on 25 November 2021 to discuss local housing priorities and provide input into the Mapoon Local Housing Plan. Committee members congratulated the Interim LDMB and welcomed the opportunity to work with them moving forward.

The Committee also noted the emerging LTC urban and regional local decision-making models including that the Mount Isa City Council and local First Nations community have expressed interest in establishing a local leadership group, with community safety and service delivery identified as key priorities.

An update was provided on the renewed approach to alcohol management and community-specific and co-designed Community Safety Plans submitted to date. On 10 November 2021 a workshop was held with representatives from the Torres Cape Indigenous Council Alliance (TCICA) members, and non-TCICA member council representatives and government agencies to discuss a number of community-led initiatives to tackle sly grog. A commitment was made by government to establish a senior working group with representation from government, Mayors and CEOS and other stakeholders.

Committee members noted the whole-of-government reform update, including progress of practice guidelines to assist communities in the establishment and operations of LDMBs. Further work has been done on cultural governance, representation, accountability to community about decision-making and principles of engagement with government. Interagency working groups have been meeting again to develop draft actions for the first LTC Action Plan. The Action Plan will progress for approval in early 2022.

Peter McKay, Queensland Public Service Reform Office consulted with the Committee about the work being undertaken to reform public sector legislation. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet is working with the Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships to explore how public sector legislation can support the Queensland Government's commitment to reframing its relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. The Committee heard how legislative reform could embed

public sector decision making and governance principles that promote the perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders through free prior informed consent, respect, recognition, self-determination, strengths-based and shared accountability. The Committee noted that this work will be a key enabler of the LTC government reform agenda.

An update was provided on the National Agreement for Closing the Gap. The Committee noted that the Queensland Government is supporting the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Coalition (QATSIC) to allow a partnership approach to implementation of the National Agreement. A Justice Policy Partnership is being progressed to address the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults and young people in incarceration and to improve data and reporting around deaths in custody. A key reform is strengthening the community-controlled sector to deliver high quality services to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Committee further discussed establishment of Place Based Partnerships to build and strengthen structures that empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to share decision-making with governments. In addition to any nominated location for Queensland, the Committee recommended that the Commonwealth Government considers an additional Place Based Partnership for the Torres Strait, given its distinct culture.

The Committee closed by reflecting on the achievements of 2021 including the formation of interim LDMBs, the development of cultural governance resources to inform LTC and the successful community led meeting in Yarrabah in March 2021. The Committee plans to meet in community in 2022 pending any COVID-19 restrictions with Woorabinda and Palm Island being considered as possible locations. The Committee looked forward to reconvening in 2022 with meeting dates to be finalised out of session.

LTC Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting 8 December 2021 Attendance

Attendees	Dr Chris Sarra (Co-Chair)	Director-General, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
	Ms Kelly Barclay (Co-Chair)	Community representative
	Ms Joann Schmider	Community representative
	Ms Susan Sewter	Community representative
	Mr Drew Ellem	Head, Policy and Performance, Queensland Treasury
	Ms Kate Connors	Deputy Director-General, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs
Proxies	Ms Ann Edwards (proxy for Jennifer Lang)	Project Director, Office of the Deputy Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General
	Mr Rhys Newton (proxy for Paul Taylor)	A/Chief Superintendent, Queensland Police Service
	Ms Bronwyn Blagoev (proxy - Ms Natalie Wilde)	Executive Director, Strategy and Service Delivery, Department of State Development Infrastructure Government and Planning
	Ms Rachel Welch (proxy – Mr Mark Cridland)	Executive Director, Social Policy, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
	Ms Marnie Wettenhall (proxy for Mr Robert Willmet)	Regional Manager, North Queensland Region, National Indigenous Australians Agency.
	Mr Dion Coghlan (proxy – Mr Peter Kelly)	Assistant Director-General, State Schools – Disability & Inclusion, Department of Education
	Ms Sharon Kenyon (proxy for Darren Scott)	Executive Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Unit, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
Guests	Ms Zhanae Conway-Dodd	Youth community representative
	Mayor Mislam Sam	Mayor, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council
Apologies	Ms Jennifer Lang	Deputy Director-General, Justice Services, Department of Justice and Attorney-General
	Mayor Patricia Yusia	Mayor, Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council
	Mayor Janita Motton	Mayor, Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council
	Ms Haylene Grogan	Chief Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Officer Deputy Director-General, Queensland Health
	Mayor Kyle Yanner	Mayor, Mornington Shire Council
	Mr Michael Bond	Community representative
	Mayor Josh Weazel	Mayor, Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council
	Mr Paul Taylor	Deputy Commissioner, Queensland Police Service
	Mr Peter Kelly	Deputy Director-General, State Schools, Department of Education
	Mr Darren Scott	A/Deputy Director-General, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
	Mr Robert Willmet	Group Manager, Eastern Group (Qld, NSW & ACT), Operations & Delivery, National Indigenous Australians Agency

	Ms Natalie Wilde	Deputy Director-General, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
	Mr Mark Cridland	Deputy Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Other Attendees	Mayor Aileen Addo	Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council
	Councillor Kiri Tabuai	Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council
	Mr Tim Rose	A/Chief Executive Officer, Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council
	Mr Peter McKay	Deputy Commissioner, Public Reform Office, Department of the Premier and Cabinet.
	Ms Denise Andrews	Director, Culture and Community Policy, Strategic Policy and Legislation, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
	Dr Bruce Visser	Director, Social Policy, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
	Mr Tim Fell	Executive Director, Local Thriving Communities (LTC), Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.
	Ms Charlotte Young	Director, LTC, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.
	Ms Michelle Hoffman	Manager, Governance and Policy, LTC, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.
	Ms Margaret Ross-Kelly	Secretariat, LTC, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
	Ms Jaya Foley	Senior Policy Officer, LTC, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships