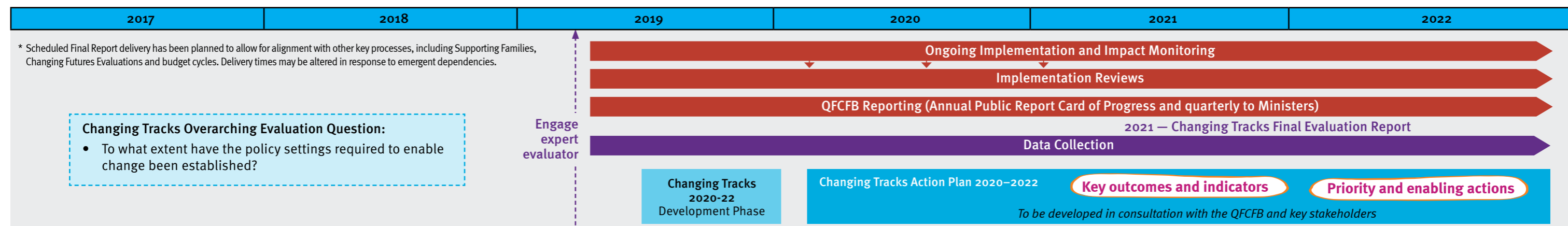


Changing Tracks Evaluation Plan Overview

The purpose of the *Changing Tracks Evaluation Plan*, covering the period 2017-2022, is to assess the outcomes that have been achieved through the implementation of actions and initiatives aligned to the *Changing Tracks Action Plans*.



Changing Tracks Action Plan 2017–19

Priority and enabling actions

- Family Wellbeing program – **Flagship evaluation***
- First 1000 Days program – **Flagship evaluation***
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family-led decision-making – **Flagship evaluation***
- Service reform project
- Queensland First Children and Families Board
- Empowering Families Innovation Grants
- Wellbeing outcomes framework and investment plan
- Queensland First Children and Families partnership agreement
- Analyse sector capacity and workforce capability investment
- Healing strategy

* Flagship Evaluations are led and funded by the agency leading the action

Key outcomes and indicators

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and families

- More parents and families participate in support programs including First 1000 Days and Triple P
- More children aged four to five years enrol in early childhood education
- More children have their health, education and developmental needs assessed and met
- More parents and families fully participate in decisions that relate to safety, wellbeing and belonging for themselves and their children
- More children live with kin, when they are unable to safely stay with their family
- The increasing rate of children entering the statutory child protection system has halted
- More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in out-of-home care are reunited with their parents and families
- Young people transitioning to independence from out-of-home care experience the same level of support and success as their counterparts who live at home

Services and systems

- Improve practice across the service system to build individual and community authority with a focus on participation, decision making, reunification, reconnection and preventing children re-entering the statutory child protection system
- Provide the right services at the right time to children and families through culturally capable family wellbeing and support services
- Increase employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including across the child and family support service system
- Set foundations for individual and systemic self-determination
- Invest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations that deliver services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families
- Align the Queensland child and family service and statutory child protection systems with Our way: A generational strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families 2017–2037

Changing Tracks priority areas

- Meeting the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young women under 25 years, and their partners, especially during the first 1000 days
- Increasing access to, and involvement in, early years, health and disability programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged two to five years
- Providing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families who have complex needs and children at risk with the right services
- Enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in out-of-home care to thrive, and re-engaging those disconnected from family and kin
- Enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people aged 15 to 21 years in or leaving out-of-home care to learn and earn, and stay safe and well

Outcome

Evaluation Focus: Building Blocks

Key Evaluation Questions:

- To what extent are Changing Tracks Priority and Enabling Actions contributing to the Our Way Building Blocks?
- How and to what extent have actions and initiatives delivered expected Action Plan Level outcomes?
- What further action is needed to sustain positive outcomes and drive continuous improvement and achievement of outcomes?
- What are the contextual factors and to what extent are they affecting (enabling and challenging) delivery of improved outcomes?
- To what extent have the outcomes of Changing Tracks contributed to *Our Future State: Advancing Queensland's Priorities*?

Evaluation Key Stakeholders

- Queensland First Children and Families Board and Family Matters Queensland
- Our Way Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group: QFCFB, CSYW, Queensland Government departments: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP), Premier and Cabinet (DPC), Education (DoE), Housing and Public Works (DHPW), Health (QH), Queensland Treasury and Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC)
- Changing Tracks Actions leads and partners: CSYW, DATSIP, DoE, QH, DPC, QT, DHPW, QFCC, University of Melbourne, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Council, National Disability Insurance Agency, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service, CREATE Foundation and Family Matters Queensland

Impact

Evaluation Focus: Targets

Key Evaluation Questions:

- To what extent are outcomes and initiatives aligned to Our Way contributing to:
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children experiencing parity across wellbeing domains, where parity is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' aspirations
 - Closing the gap in life outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families
 - Eliminating the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system
 - Benefits for the Changing Tracks priority areas

Data Sources (Qualitative and Quantitative)

- Existing Evaluation Reports from: Flagship evaluations, community-led initiatives and Priority and Enabling Actions (led by Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (CSYW), partner agencies and community).
- We will collate existing published evaluations from partners and assess and summarize key findings across evaluations
- CSYW corporate and performance data
- Our Way Implementation and Impact Monitoring data
- Our Way Implementation Review data
- Where knowledge gaps are identified, data will be obtained through appropriate methods, including focus groups, surveys, and case studies.