

Summary of recommendations

- Recommendation 1** **10**
That the NSW Government includes Aboriginal-specific targets in the relevant Priority areas of the State Plan as part of its next review. The targets should be derived from existing targets included in the Two Ways Together plan, and should include Aboriginal-specific justice indicators relevant to Priority Areas R1, R2 and R3.
- Recommendation 2** **13**
That the NSW Premier take steps to ensure that collaboration between the different levels of government in the coordination of service delivery, and consultation with Aboriginal communities, is given a high priority during future Council of Australian Government meetings on Indigenous issues.
- Recommendation 3** **15**
That the Premier report to Parliament on the first sitting day of each parliamentary year, on the progress the NSW Government has made in closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Aboriginal communities' views, as expressed through existing representative structures, on the government's success or failure addressing Indigenous disadvantage must be a key component of the Premier's report to Parliament.
- Recommendation 4** **32**
That the NSW Government require government departments and agencies involved in the delivery of services to Aboriginal communities to use the representative structures established by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs' Two Ways Together Partnership Community Engagement strategy to conduct their business.
- Recommendation 5** **32**
That the Department of Aboriginal Affairs increase the staffing complement of Partnership Community Officers to adequately support the Two Ways Together Partnership Community Engagement strategy. Additional funds must be allocated to the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to fund any additional positions. The Committee suggests that 40 Full Time Equivalent Partnership Community Officer positions may be an appropriate staffing level.
- Recommendation 6** **34**
That the Department of Aboriginal Affairs meet expenses associated with attending and participating in Partnership Community Engagement group meetings, such as travel expenses and meals.
- Recommendation 7** **37**
That NSW Government agencies engage Aboriginal communities to identify local problems and solutions, and tailor programs delivered in a community accordingly.
- Recommendation 8** **44**
That the NSW Government provide adequate funding and infrastructure resources to the Department of Aboriginal Affairs for the provision of training to Aboriginal people to deliver services to their communities, and meet accountability requirements.

- Recommendation 9** 46
That the Department of Aboriginal Affairs develop practical training to be delivered to NSW public servants on how to communicate clearly and effectively with Aboriginal communities, without using bureaucratic language.
- Recommendation 10** 54
That the NSW Government, through the representative structure supported by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, facilitate Aboriginal communities to determine measures of success for programs being delivered in local communities, prior to the commencement of the programs, and strengthen communities' capacity to meet those outcomes by providing relevant training and infrastructure.
- Recommendation 11** 63
That the following outcomes of the job compacts be included in the Premier's report to parliament, as recommended in recommendation 4:
- the number of job compacts negotiated and the number of organisations engaged in job compacts
 - the number of people employed under job compacts
 - the number of training opportunities provided
 - the number of people and businesses supported by mentoring.
- Recommendation 12** 68
That the Government commit to funding programs that have successfully completed a pilot for a minimum of three to five years.
- Recommendation 13** 70
That the funding provided to implement the Interagency Plan to Tackle Child Sexual Assault in Aboriginal Communities 2006-2011 be maintained for a minimum period of ten years at at least the current level of annual funding.
- Recommendation 14** 72
That the NSW Government develop a whole of government website containing comprehensive information on the funding sources available (including those available at Australian Government level) for Aboriginal community based programs services in specific regions, and across the State as a whole.
- Recommendation 15** 73
That the Government, in consultation with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Aboriginal communities, review funding criteria for services to Aboriginal communities, to provide greater flexibility and promote programs that focus on Aboriginal communities' identified needs.
- Recommendation 16** 82
That the Department of Aboriginal Affairs work with Indigenous community representatives and the Australian Government to develop a suitable definition of 'cultural resilience' to be used by all agencies when formulating and implementing policy objectives.

Recommendation 17**89**

That the NSW Department of Education and Training liaise with representatives of the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group and teacher training institutions in NSW to ensure that:

- there are sufficient teachers, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, qualified to teach those compulsory elements of the primary and secondary schools' curricula that relate to Aboriginal history and culture
- extensive and intensive in-service training is given to existing teachers so that they meet the standards required to effectively understand and teach Aboriginal culture and history

Recommendation 18**89**

That comparative studies of Australian history and culture be included as a mandatory core subject within all NSW educational institutions and that sufficient teachers are trained to ensure that it is taught effectively.

Recommendation 19**90**

That the NSW Department of Education and Training, in collaboration with the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, review, and amend as required, the current school curriculum and associated materials to ensure that the teaching of the history of colonisation in Australia includes a recognition of prior occupation and a rejection of terra nullius.

Recommendation 20**92**

That the NSW Government provide ongoing support and resources for continuing Indigenous language programs, recording of oral histories and the compilation of Indigenous dictionaries. The Premier should take ownership of this opportunity to raise the profile of Indigenous issues and emphasise the importance placed on Indigenous languages and culture by the NSW Government.

Recommendation 21**99**

That the NSW Department of Education and Training provide a one-week, fully funded, induction program for all teachers, principals and other school leaders commencing in positions in schools with significant Aboriginal student populations. The induction program should be tailored to meet the circumstances of the particular school and community, and be arranged in partnership between the school principal and local Aboriginal community organisations.

Recommendation 22**124**

That the NSW Government work with the Australian Government and the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly to finalise the Murdi Paaki Regional Partnership Agreement before the end of December 2008.

Recommendation 23**134**

That the NSW Government work collaboratively to develop and support policies and programs with the Australian Government which address Indigenous disadvantage in urban, regional and remote areas that are long-term, sustainable, and outlast the political cycle.