

Joint Steering Committee for Remote Housing Northern Territory

Communiqué

22 February 2024

The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) held its nineteenth meeting on Thursday 22 February 2024 in Darwin. Representatives from the Australian Government's National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), the Northern Territory (NT) Government's Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet, Anindilyakwa Land Council, Central Land Council, Northern Land Council, Tiwi Land Council and Aboriginal Housing Northern Territory were in attendance.

Capital Works Delivery in Remote Communities

The NT Government provided an update on the delivery of housing in remote communities and town camps. Members noted full delivery of the National Partnership for Remote Housing NT capital program was achieved in December 2023 and delivery under the one-year NT Remote Housing Federation Funding Agreement is ahead of schedule.

JSC members discussed reporting on Aboriginal business contracting and Aboriginal employment in remote housing. The NT Government noted the significant level of expenditure in Aboriginal businesses that has been reached to support delivery.

Homelands

The NT Government provided an update on the \$100 million Homelands Housing and Infrastructure Program which is delivering urgent repairs and maintenance to housing and infrastructure across NT homelands.

JSC members discussed the significant consultation that has occurred to identify key priorities and support delivery, noting the challenges in delivering an investment of this scale.

Future options for remote housing investment

JSC members considered and endorsed an approach to developing a formal partnership agreement between members that will support future funding agreements for remote housing in the Northern Territory, contingent on government budget announcements. The proposed partnership agreement is identified in the co-designed JSC's investment principles to underpin future funding agreements.

JSC members discussed the five key projects within the JSC's Work Plan and how they are informing future options for remote housing investment.

Essential services

The NT Government provided an update on actions associated with the essential services target 9b for the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. The NT Government also presented on the development of the Remote Power Systems Strategy.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 9 May 2024.



Australian Government



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TERRITORY
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Anindilyakwa
Land Council



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LAND
COUNCIL



NORTHERN
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TIWI
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