

Joint Steering Committee to the National Partnership for Remote Housing NT



Communique – Meeting #3

The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) held its third meeting in Canberra on 13 February 2020. Representatives from Anindilyakwa Land Council, the Australian Government National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), Central Land Council, Northern Land Council, Northern Territory Government (NTG), and Tiwi Land Council were in attendance.

Property and Tenancy Management

The JSC considered the final Property and Tenancy Management (PTM) Framework. JSC members agreed to amend the Aboriginal employment targets to align with the Implementation Plan. JSC members requested additional time to provide feedback out-of-session.

The JSC also discussed and agreed on the importance of Housing Reference Groups (HRG). The JSC requested visibility of HRG processes relating to membership nominations, membership tenure and HRG responsibility.

Capital Works Program for 2019-20

The JSC discussed the proposed 2019-20 Beyond Economic Repair schedule and current program presented by the NTG. The NTG also highlighted the recent success experienced following a drone exercise in Amoonguna. The drone provided external and internal imagery of houses, floor plans, 3D images, and condition of houses. JSC members requested a presentation be provided at a future meeting. The JSC provided in-principle endorsement of the 2019-20 Beyond Economic Repair schedule, noting more information will be provided.

Joint Review of the Remote Housing and Leasing Models Subcommittee

The Joint Review of the Remote Housing and Leasing Models Subcommittee met on 11 February 2020. The Subcommittee is currently considering the final draft Terms of Reference, before providing to the JSC for approval. The Subcommittee has engaged an external consultant to provide recommendations for the review. A follow-up meeting is planned for mid-March 2020.

Reporting Framework Subcommittee

The Reporting Framework Subcommittee met on 11 February 2020. The meeting focused majorly on the draft Reporting Framework, and the draft Terms of Reference for the Subcommittee. NIAA proposed the Subcommittee engage an external evaluation consultant, and offered to undertake this process (with involvement from Subcommittee members). Discussions around the draft measurements within the Framework resulted in agreement that alignment to the Closing the Gap targets is required (once finalised).

Other business

Members expressed further interest in the Healthabitat 'Housing for Health' program, and its implementation in Northern Territory communities. NTG confirmed a presentation on the program will be provided to the JSC at its next meeting.

The next meeting was agreed to be held on Thursday 14 May 2020.