



Local Thriving Communities Joint Coordinating Communique – No. 7

15 June 2022 – Brisbane and remotely via Teams

The Local Thriving Communities (LTC) Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) met in Brisbane and online on 15 June 2022.

LTC Implementation

Community representative Ms Kelly Barclay co-chaired the meeting with Dr Chris Sarra, Director General, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DSDSATSIP). Youth representative Ms Zhanae Dodd supported the co-chairs as a capacity building opportunity to further her leadership and governance skills and experience. Ms Zhanae Dodd will co-chair the November JCC meeting as a next step in her development. Ms Barclay and Dr 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 Mr Michael Bond has stood down from the JCC. The Committee acknowledged Mr Bond's valuable contribution to the LTC reform including co-design of the LTC Action Plan 2022-24 and thanked him for his cultural insight and leadership.

Dr Sarra welcomed Mr Laurie Nona to the meeting as a guest.

The Committee noted the publishing of [the LTC Action Plan](#) developed in genuine co-design between community and government and thanked all members for their contributions. [The progress report](#) on the Queensland Government response to the Queensland Productivity Commission Report (QPC) into service delivery in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities was also published to provide insight into government progress towards the reframed relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the Queensland Government since the release of the government response to the QPC inquiry.

The Committee acknowledged significant progress since the Committee last met. There are now five interim Local Decision Making Bodies (LDMBs) with Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council endorsing a resolution to establish the Wujal Wujal Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee as an Advisory Committee to Council. The interim LDMB includes representation from community and council. Other leadership models are emerging in Palm Island and several other communities with councils expressing support for progressing LTC in their community. The Committee discussed the Queensland Government endorsement of expansion of the LTC approach into urban and regional areas and considered how this will shape the role of the JCC moving forward. Mayor Sam confirmed his support to host the September JCC meeting on Palm Island.

The Committee acknowledged the recent changes of alcohol management carriage limit in Mornington Shire and Kowanyama and reflected on how community and government have worked together in the spirit of the reframed relationship with community driving change. A third Sly Grog Working Group was held to identify key blockers, enablers, and strategies to address the issue. The Committee reflected on the innovative way LTC is considering grant applications for funding. Ms Dodd was a member of the panel which evaluated applications for social reinvestment funding to community. Ms Dodd said that she appreciated the opportunity to bring insights as a young person, community representative, and professional working with young people to the decision-making process.

Mr Robert Willmet, National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), provided an update on the Commonwealth Government's processes which are enabling local decision-making. Mr Willmet said that the NIAA has committed to working closely with LTC. An example of this is the collaborative

support for the leadership model that is emerging in Aurukun; a single local decision-making body that will work with State and Commonwealth governments. There is potential for both levels of government to learn from this collaborative model for other communities that are keen to progress local decision-making that works with both levels of government. Mr Willmott said that the Australian Government has made a commitment to implement the Uluru Statement from the Heart and that he intends to provide a more fulsome update at the next meeting.

The Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) provided an update on the [Framework for Stronger Community Justice Groups](#). Community Justice Groups (CJGs) deliver specific court-based activities in 50 communities across Queensland, however their activities and services span government portfolios including provision of crisis support, home visits, transportation, parenting programs, men's and women's groups, yarning circles, On Country healing and supports for clients transitioning from custody. DJAG encourages improved and sustained contribution to the whole of government commitment to the Stronger CJGs Framework and there is a need to consider how CJGs and LDMBs may be aligned to ensure inclusion for all groups and to avoid duplication.

The Committee discussed the synergies between the aims and operations of CJGs and LDMBs and the need for local leadership groups to be coordinated and not create further duplication. Members noted that a workshop was being held to contemplate a way forward that can enhance government's ability to embrace and work with the voice of local leadership in community.

The Committee was provided with a further update on the development of a new Economic Strategy to replace *Moving Ahead* which is due to expire at the end of 2022 and provided feedback and input. The Committee provided insight to inform the development of local economic plans tailored for each remote and discrete community.

Ms Kelly Barclay brought the meeting to a close with an acknowledgment of Elders who have passed. Ms Barclay noted it is through Elders that community survives and thrives through both the hard times and the good times. Their knowledge, their stories and their presence set the journey before us to continue when they are gone.

Ms Barclay acknowledged the important work of all of those who have passed and contributed to improving the lives and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Attending members accepted Ms Barclay's request to observe a minute's silence as a sign of respect for those (Elders, Individuals, Families and Community) who have passed.



LTC Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting 15 June 2022 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 Zhanae Conway-Dodd	Youth community representative
	Ms Joann Schmider	Community representative
	Ms Susan Sewter	Community representative
	Mayor Mislam Sam	Mayor, Palm Island Regional Council
	Mayor Janita Motton	Mayor, Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council
	Mr Drew Ellem	Head, Policy and Performance, Queensland Treasury
	Ms Jennifer Lang	Deputy Director-General, Justice Services, Department of Justice and Attorney-General
	Mr Paul Taylor	Deputy Commissioner, Queensland Police Service
	Mr Robert Willmet	Group Manager, Operations & Delivery, Eastern Group (Qld, NSW & ACT), National Indigenous Australians Agency
	Proxies	Mr Ron Weatherall (Proxy – Ms Kate Connors)
Aaron Hoffman (Proxy - Ms Haylene Grogan)		Senior Director Engagement Branch, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Division, Queensland Health
Ms Jo Stephenson (Proxy - Ms Stephen Robbins)		Regional Director Northern, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
Ms Sharon Kenyon (Proxy - Ms Mary-Anne Curtis)		Executive Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Housing and Homelessness Services, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
Mr Leon Proud (Proxy - Ms Sharon Schimming)		Assistant Director-General, State Schools – Indigenous Education
Ms Rachel Welch (Proxy – Ms Rebecca McGarrity)		Executive Director, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Apologies	Mayor Patricia Yusia	Mayor, Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council
	Mayor Kyle Yanner	Mayor, Mornington Shire Council
	Mayor Josh Weazel	Mayor, Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council
	Ms Sharon Schimming	A/Deputy Director-General, State Schools, Department of Education
	Mr Stephen Robbins	A/Deputy Director-General, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
	Ms Mary-Anne Curtis	Associate Director-General, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
	Ms Haylene Grogan	Chief Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Officer and Deputy Director-General, Queensland Health
	Ms Kate Connors	Deputy Director-General, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs

	Ms Rebecca McGarrity	Executive Director, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Guests	Mr Laurie Nona	Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Other Attendees	Mr Jason Kidd	Executive Director, Strategic Policy and Legislation, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
	Mr Tim Fell	Executive Director, LTC, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
	Mr Greg Anderson	Executive Director, Regional and Infrastructure Coordination, 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