



Local Thriving Communities Joint Coordinating Communique – No. 10

17 May 2023

The Local Thriving Communities (LTC) Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) met on 17 May 2023 in Cairns and online. This was the first meeting of the new term of the JCC. The committee noted membership and welcomed and congratulated new and returning members on their appointments. Community representatives advised that the role of Co-Chair of the JCC will be rotated each meeting with Ms Kelly Barclay co-chairing the first meeting.

Joint Coordinating Committee

The committee considered and endorsed updated Terms of Reference to reflect the transition from informing the design of LTC to supporting implementation including the establishment of Local Decision-Making Bodies (LDMBs). Members also noted that JCC government membership has been expanded to include the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport to support tourism and innovation opportunities that build economic participation.

The committee also considered the outcomes of the review of the JCC, with member responses being overwhelmingly positive. Members reported that their level of trust and confidence in each other had grown over the term of the JCC. The review identified opportunities for the future including greater information sharing by government agencies, building upon collaboration, and enhancing opportunities to meet in community.

LTC implementation

The Committee noted that since the last meeting considerable progress had been made towards the establishment of Interim Local Decision Making Bodies (LDMBs). Eligible communities have received LTC operational grants to further support governance, coordination, engagement, capacity building and leadership development for their LDMB, with funding in several other communities being finalised.

The Committee discussed community implementation updates and the establishment of Local Decision Making Bodies across remote and discrete and urban and regional communities. As the pace increases in urban and regional areas work is underway to unpack several operational implementation considerations to support the establishment of LDMBs.

A key focus for the LTC reform is strengths-based initiatives that support cultural vibrancy and First Nations excellence. The Committee was invited to consider how LTC's approach of co-design, locally led initiatives can be adapted in the core business of government agencies and how promising pilot initiatives that demonstrate early impact can be sustained and supported across the Queensland Government.

Community Safety Plans have been shared with relevant government agencies through the Alcohol Management Interagency Working Group. The Committee were invited to consider how their agency is responding to the community priorities identified, particularly to enhance wellbeing where carriage limits have been increased (Mornington Island, Kowanyama and Pormpuraaw), or carriage limit change requests are being considered locally.

The final report from the independent audit and analysis of Government funded services on Mornington Island has been delivered. The Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts is working with Queensland Health and the Mornington Shire Council on the results of the audit. Investment mapping reports for another 11 priority remote and

discrete communities are also nearing finalisation. Work is ongoing to develop a sustainable method to enable investment mapping more broadly across Queensland.

Path to Treaty

The committee acknowledged the passing of the Path to Treaty Bill on 10 May 2023 with bipartisan support at the regional Parliamentary Sitting in Cairns. The Bill establishes a First Nations Treaty Institute to build the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups to work towards treaties and to co-develop a treaty making framework and a formal Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry.

Voice

Members heard how the First Nations Consultative Committee (FNCC) is considering a range of Indigenous Voice options, including the establishment of a state-wide representative body and how this could link with local and regional voices through existing Queensland reforms such as Local Thriving Communities and Path to Treaty and the national voice reform. This is being informed through a series of Design Yarns with key First Nations stakeholders including a meeting that was held with JCC community representatives on 18 April 2022 to consider the proposed relationship between voice entities and existing decision-making and leadership groups.

Closing the Gap Update

The department is working with the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Coalition (QATSIC) to develop the 2023 Closing the Gap Implementation Plan. Doomadgee is Queensland's first place-based partnership under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. Gunawuna Jungai, a company limited by guarantee, has been established to engage in a partnership with the Queensland Government on progressing a Closing the Gap approach in the community. A bespoke Cooperation Agreement has been developed which incorporates the principles of the National Agreement and a partnership approach with Gunawuna Jungai.

Attendance – 17 May 2023

Members	
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 Joann Schmider	Community representative
Ms Susan Sewter	Community representative
Ms Nicole Huxley	Community representative
Mr Laurie Nona	Community representative
Mayor Patricia Yusia	Mayor, Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council
Councillor Jayden Marrott	Councillor, Aurukun Shire Council
Mr Drew Ellem	Head of Policy and Performance, Queensland Treasury
Mr Phillip Brooks	Deputy Director-General, First Nations Strategy and Partnerships, Department of Education
Ms Brigita Cunnington	A/Deputy Director-General, Justice Services, Department of Justice and Attorney-General
Ms Sarah Vandersee	Deputy Director General, Corporate Services, Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport
Ms Mary-Anne Curtis	Associate Director-General, Housing and Homelessness Services, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
Andrea Kelly	Group Manager, Operations & Delivery, Eastern Group, National Indigenous Australians Agency
Apologies	
Mr Joseph Wallace	Community representative
Mayor Janita Motton	Mayor, Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council
Mayor Mislam Sam	Mayor, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council
Mayor Joshua Weazel	Mayor, Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council
Mr Mark Wheeler	A/Deputy Commissioner, Queensland Police Service
Ms Rebecca McGarrity	Deputy Director-General, Policy, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Ms Kate Connors	Deputy Director-General, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs
Ms Jae Lancaster	A/Deputy Director-General, Local Government Division, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
Ms Haylene Grogan	Chief First Nations Health Officer, Queensland Health
Proxies	
Ms Emma Ogilvie	A/Executive Director, Social Policy, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Ms Courtney De Kever	A/Senior Director, Engagement and Monitoring, First Nations Health Office, Queensland Health
Mr Jeff Jimmieson	Regional Director, Strategy and Service Delivery, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

Ms Letitia Creevy	Director, Indigenous Strategy and Partnerships, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs
Other Attendees	
Mr Robert Willmet	Deputy Director-General, First Nations Strategy Unit, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
Ms Kathy Parton	Deputy Director-General, Strategic Policy and Legislation, DSDSATSIP
Mr Tim Fell	Executive Director, Local Thriving Communities (LTC), DSDSATSIP
Mr Bruce Visser	Director, Strategic Policy and Legislation, DSDSATSIP
Ms Michelle Hoffman	A/Director, Whole of Government Reform, LTC, DSDSATSIP
Ms Lucie Kelly	A/Manager, Policy and Governance, LTC, DSDSATSIP