



FIRST NATIONS HEALTH FUNDING TRANSITION ADVISORY GROUP Communique

17 December 2025

The First Nations Health Funding Transition Advisory Group met virtually on 17 December 2025. The meeting was chaired by Dr Dawn Casey PSM, Deputy CEO, NACCHO.

Program Transition updates

The department continues its transition of programs to First Nations-led organisations, offering support and practical assistance to build culturally responsive services. The department is reviewing the transition roadmap to consider adjusting indicative transition timeframes and strengthen program redesign approaches.

Integrated Team Care (ITC)

The department held a public ITC webinar in October to share the proposed transition approach and timelines. The ITC data project has concluded which provides early insights into ITC's impact on life expectancy and other Closing the Gap targets. An ITC advisory group (including NACCHO and other key partners) will be established in early 2026 to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices are central to the new ITC model's design and implementation. The ITC advisory group will also address funding and service delivery complexities.

Indigenous Primary Health Care

The department has extended funding for six state operated health services to maintain primary health care in region a without an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHS), while progressing the transition to community control. The funded entities are:

- Eastern Health
- Yorke and Northern Local Health Network (LHN)
- Barossa Hills Fleurieu LHN
- Riverland Mallee Coorong LHN
- Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service (HHS)
- WA Country Health Service

All Grant Agreements include provisions allowing the department to adjust funding terms during the agreement period to enable service transition to Aboriginal community control as opportunities arise.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander – Quality Assurance (QAAMS)

The QAAMS Program delivers culturally appropriate, clinically effective point-of-care testing to support timely diabetes diagnosis and management for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The department, in partnership with NACCHO and Flinders University, is transitioning QAAMS to the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector under the guidance of a joint Steering Committee, co-chaired by NACCHO and Flinders International Centre for Point of Care Testing (ICPOCT), which oversees best practice in cultural, clinical, and scientific governance. QAAMS transition planning incorporates governance recommendations, training, program onboarding, funding and stewardship. The final transition plan is due early 2026.

Engagement and Further Information

Organisations and individuals seeking to engage with the review should feel comfortable to reach out to Advisory Group members. Further information on the review is available by emailing: funding.transition@health.gov.au.