



FIRST NATIONS HEALTH FUNDING TRANSITION ADVISORY GROUP

Communique

23 March 2026

The First Nations Health Funding Transition Advisory Group met virtually on 23 March 2026. The meeting was chaired by David Hicks, First Assistant Secretary, Financial Management and Assurance Division.

Transition roadmap

The department presented a transition roadmap update to members. The department continues to implement culturally responsive transition through co-developing transition plans and early communication to existing and new grant recipients. Advisory Group members emphasised the importance of working in genuine partnership, as outlined in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Disability and Carers programs review

The department tabled the Disability and Carers programs review update. Of those programs, the Early Childhood Outreach Initiative is the only program that specifically focuses on First Nations outcomes. The program is delivered exclusively by First Nations-led organisations. Engagement with Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services highlighted key challenges of delivering culturally responsive disability and support services in remote areas. Members supported the review findings noting the importance of disability and carers programs informed by lived experience, funding transparency and the realities of rural and remote contexts.

Program transition updates

The department shared program-level transition updates with members, seeking their input to guide transition planning for:

- Quality Use of Diagnostics, Therapeutics and Pathology
- Integrated Team Care
- Indigenous Primary Health Care (where not delivered by a community-controlled health service).

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