

CLOSING THE GAP IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Council of
Australian
Governments

An agreement between

- n the Commonwealth of Australia and
- n the Northern Territory

This National Partnership Agreement ('the Agreement') covering the period 2009-10 to 2011-12, commits the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments to working together towards the Closing the Gap targets and to resetting the relationship with the Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory.

Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

PRELIMINARIES

- 1 This Agreement between the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory is created subject to the provisions of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement and its subsidiary Schedules, in particular those which deal with payment arrangements and accountability and performance reporting.
- 2 This Agreement constitutes a new National Partnership Agreement under the National Indigenous Reform Agreement (NIRA) and should be read in conjunction with the NIRA's overarching objectives and reform directions for Closing the Gap in Indigenous disadvantage.
- 3 The Agreement will be implemented consistently with the objectives and outcomes of all National Agreements and National Partnerships entered into by the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Governments, with particular reference to the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery (RSD NP) which focuses on the coordination of government services in 15 priority communities in the Northern Territory and to the 'Smarter Schools National Partnership Agreements' and Implementation Plans for the Northern Territory.

- 4 The Agreement provides for the continuation until 30 June 2012 of a number of measures commenced in 2007 under the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) and relevant legislation. It is intended that this Agreement strengthen investment made under the NTER to support the specified outcomes.
- 5 This Agreement transitions the NTER to a three year development phase to build on and enhance existing measures. This Agreement maintains and strengthens core NTER measures while placing a greater emphasis on community engagement and partnerships, and building capability and leadership within Indigenous communities.
- 6 This Agreement will provide funding for three years. The Commonwealth and Northern Territory Government will jointly evaluate the programs and services under this Agreement in 2011-12 and this will inform any further commitments by either government beyond the term of this agreement.

PART 1 – FORMALITIES

Parties to this Agreement

- 7 This Agreement is between:
 - (a) the Commonwealth of Australia (the Commonwealth); and
 - (b) the Northern Territory.
- 8 In entering this Agreement, the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Government recognise that they have a mutual interest in working towards the Closing the Gap targets as agreed in the NIRA, building on the outcomes originally sought through the NTER.

Term of the Agreement

- 9 This Agreement will commence as soon as the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Government sign the Agreement, and will expire on 30 June 2012, or earlier termination as agreed in writing by the Parties.

Delegations

- 10 The Secretary of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (in respect of schedule A, C, D, H and part of B); the Secretary of the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations (in respect of Schedule I); the Secretary of the Department of Health and Ageing (in respect of Schedules E, F and G); and the Secretary of the Attorney General's Department (part of, in respect of Schedule B) are authorised to amend the Implementation Plans and/or Schedules on behalf of the Commonwealth and certify that payments may be made to the Northern Territory Government on the achievement of relevant requirements.
- 11 The Northern Territory Chief Executive of the Department of the Chief Minister, the Chief Executive of the Department of Health and Families, the Chief Executive of the

Department of Education and Training, the Chief Executive of the Department of Justice, the Chief Executive of the Department of Local Government and Housing and the Commissioner of Northern Territory Police are authorised to agree the Implementation Plans and/or Schedules on behalf of the Northern Territory.

Interpretation

- 12 Unless otherwise specified, the following terms and definitions are used throughout this Agreement:
- (a) 'Agreement' means this Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement and any attached bilateral implementation plans, schedules or annexures;
 - (b) 'prescribed communities' means Prescribed Areas under section 4 of the *Northern Territory National Emergency Response Act 2007*;
 - (c) 'National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery' refers to an agreement between the Commonwealth and the States and the Northern Territory on improving outcomes in the area of Indigenous remote service delivery; and
 - (d) 'Smarter Schools National Partnership Agreements' refers to the three Smarter Schools National Partnerships (Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership, Improving Teacher Quality National Partnership and Low Socio Economic Status School Communities National Partnership).

PART 2 – OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

Objectives

- 13 The Agreement aims to enhance services in the Northern Territory in relation to the protection of vulnerable children; the provision of law and order; and quality education and health services.
- 14 The objectives set out in this Agreement complement those set out in the overarching NIRA including the six agreed targets of:
- (a) closing the life expectancy gap within a generation;
 - (b) halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade;
 - (c) ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years;
 - (d) halving the gap for Indigenous students in reading, writing and numeracy within a decade;
 - (e) halving the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates by 2020; and
 - (f) halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade.

- 15 Objectives specific to this Agreement are to:
- (a) ensure the protection of women and children;
 - (b) reduce violence and improve family and community safety including through restrictions of alcohol and pornography, enhancing compliance and community education;
 - (c) improve the quality of education, increase school participation and employment outcomes;
 - (d) improve health and wellbeing, particularly that of children;
 - (e) promote positive behaviours among Indigenous youth; and
 - (f) promote personal responsibility.
- 16 Resetting the relationship between Governments and Indigenous people is a further objective of the Agreement and key to the sustainability of progress in Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory.

Outcomes

- 17 The Agreement will contribute to the following outcomes as specified in the Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory Evaluation Strategy and Monitoring Plan. This will be published on the website of the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs once it has been finalised and agreed between the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Government.
- 18 The Outcomes are:
- (a) improved safety, health and wellbeing of Indigenous children;
 - (b) improved school engagement and performance; and
 - (c) sustainable communities to support children and youth including through education and employment pathways.

Outputs

- 19 The objectives and outcomes of this Agreement will be achieved by:
- (a) Income Management and Welfare Reform:
 - (i) maintenance and extension of income management consistent with the *Racial Discrimination Act*, after appropriate consultation has been undertaken, to eligible welfare recipients in prescribed communities;
 - (ii) assessing, licensing and monitoring community stores and ensuring food security in communities without a store; and
 - (iii) additional Language, Literacy and Numeracy training places to enhance the sustainable employment prospects by improving skills, including financial management services to help individuals and families manage their income effectively.
 - (b) Law and Order:
 - (i) provision for 60 Northern Territory Police to replace Australian Federal Police as part of the NTER;

- (ii) the construction of five new police stations and continued operational funding of temporary Themis police stations;
 - (iii) development of alcohol management plans and targeting alcohol related health and social issues, alcohol related offending and anti-social behaviour, and enhancing compliance and community education;
 - (iv) continued provision of legal assistance to Indigenous Australians for matters arising as a result of the NTER;
 - (v) continued support for the Northern Territory Aboriginal Interpreter Service (NTAIS);
 - (vi) continued support for the Welfare Rights Outreach Project; and
 - (vii) the establishment and/or continued operation of 81 night patrol services.
- (c) Family Support:
- (i) support for 22 safe houses that have been established in Darwin, Alice Springs and 15 remote communities;
 - (ii) continuation of the operation of the Mobile Child Protection Team;
 - (iii) continuation of the existing Remote Aboriginal Family and Community Worker program in at least 13 communities; and
 - (iv) youth projects, services, organisations and infrastructure to promote positive behaviours amongst young people in the Northern Territory.
- (d) Early Childhood:
- (i) services to improve the skills of families and to educate young people about pregnancy, birth and parenting including through ongoing funding of playgroups; and
 - (ii) continuation of the operation of the nine crèches established under the NTER and capital funding to finish construction of one crèche and to provide upgrades to two existing crèches.
- (e) Improving Child and Family Health:
- (i) continuation of the expanded primary health care services initiatives;
 - (ii) providing ear and hearing services, in particular, the completion of Ear, Nose and Throat specialist care;
 - (iii) continuing follow up dental care for children; and
 - (iv) substantially strengthening the Mobile Outreach Service to address child abuse related trauma.
- (f) Enhancing Education:
- (i) the construction of at least 22 extra houses for teachers in remote communities during 2009-10;

- (ii) continuation of the School Nutrition program supporting improved school attendance and to help with learning and engagement in education; and
 - (iii) Accelerating Literacy and Numeracy programs and Quality Teaching initiatives.
- (g) Remote Service Delivery:
- (i) continuation of Government Business Managers (GBMs) in prescribed communities;
 - (ii) building capacity of interpreter services to support engagement between Indigenous communities and government and non-government agencies;
 - (iii) outreach visits to remote Indigenous communities by the Commonwealth Ombudsman;
 - (iv) implementation of the RSD NP oversighted by Commonwealth and Northern Territory Coordinators General for Remote Service Delivery; and
 - (v) the RSD NP which involves governments working together to implement a new remote service delivery model initially in 26 priority locations across Australia. Fifteen larger major works communities in the Northern Territory have been agreed as the locations for initial investment under this approach. They are Angurugu, Galiwinku, Gapuwiyak, Gunbalanya, Hermannsburg, Lajamanu, Maningrida, Milingimbi, Nguiu, Ngukurr, Numbulwar, Wadeye, Yirrkala, Yuendumu and Umbakumba.
- (h) Resetting the Relationship:
- (i) leadership development, engagement and community development workshops to build local capacity and support people on the ground; and
 - (ii) employment and training of 15 Indigenous Engagement Officers (IEOs) in priority locations in the Northern Territory, which will be complemented by a further 15 IEOs through the RSD NP.
- (i) Evaluation of the Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory initiatives in 2011-12.

PART 3 – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY

- 20 To realise the objectives and commitments in this Agreement, each Party has specific roles and responsibilities, as outlined below. In addition, each party agrees to work closely together on initiatives to be implemented under this Agreement. In particular, the Commonwealth will consult with relevant Northern Territory Government agencies as required, on the design and implementation of programs and activities for which the Commonwealth has responsibility under this Agreement.

Role of the Commonwealth

- 21 The Commonwealth will be responsible for providing funding to the Northern Territory Government for the purposes and under the conditions specified in this Agreement in Schedules A-I.
- 22 The Commonwealth will be responsible for delivering and funding services as outlined in Schedule J.
- 23 The Commonwealth will be responsible for funding the development and conduct of the monitoring plan and evaluation strategy.
- 24 The Commonwealth will be responsible for providing funding to the Northern Territory Government for the implementation of Quality Teaching and Accelerated Literacy. These elements are bound by the conditions set out in the Smarter Schools National Partnership Agreements and associated Implementation Plans.
- 25 The Commonwealth will invest \$28.4 million over three years for the delivery of a comprehensive youth strategy in the Northern Territory. The Commonwealth will work with the Northern Territory Government to develop the broad directions, service principles, proposed activities and outcomes for this strategy. Management of the services and activities to be funded under this program will be the responsibility of the Commonwealth, in consultation with the Northern Territory Government. Following the first year of operation, the Commonwealth will consult on the option of transferring this responsibility over to the Northern Territory Government for the remaining two years. This would be conditional on final agreement from the Commonwealth Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, and the Northern Territory Minister for Children and Families.

Role of the Northern Territory

- 26 The Northern Territory will have responsibility for delivery of services that fall within the normal responsibility of the Northern Territory Government, but for which the Commonwealth Government has provided additional funding under this Agreement.

- 27 The Northern Territory Government will also have responsibility for:
- (a) delivery of programs and services as set out in the Schedules A to I;
 - (b) providing support and administrative data for the community profiles, the monitoring report for the continued investment in Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory and the 2011-12 evaluation;
 - (c) continuing to fund its own night patrols and legal assistance services and for continuing to promote family and community safety;
 - (d) schooling in the Northern Territory, including teaching and infrastructure resources, is primarily the responsibility of the Northern Territory Government, or non-government education providers where relevant;
 - (e) utilising \$7.0 million of the Northern Territory's Building the Education Revolution (BER) allocation to build additional classrooms in NTER communities; and
 - (f) meeting the performance indicators and milestones in the Northern Territory Bilateral Agreement and Preliminary Implementation Plan for the Smarter Schools National Partnerships related specifically to the:
 - (i) Improving Teacher Quality National Partnership; and
 - (ii) Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership.
- 28 The Commonwealth will direct the Commonwealth Grants Commission to prepare its assessments on the basis that Commonwealth funding to be delivered for the Northern Territory Emergency Response (as set out in Schedule K and C) should not directly influence the per capita relativities.
- 29 The Northern Territory Government agrees to meet the following requirements:
- (a) demonstrating the maintenance of its expenditure in real terms on Indigenous services;
 - (b) continued provision of administrative data for the monitoring plan and evaluation strategy.
 - (c) completing by 31 December 2009 an independent review commissioned by the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments of police resourcing in remote communities to make recommendations on sustainable policing levels and deployments, taking account of regional planning needs;
 - (d) increasing the numbers of Indigenous Police officers and female Police officers in the Northern Territory Police Force;
 - (e) taking further practical steps to reduce alcohol consumption across the Northern Territory, including by reducing alcohol supply in such areas as Alice Springs and Katherine through changes to licensing arrangements;
 - (f) assuming a stronger coordination role in relation to the delivery of youth services and programs in remote areas for Commonwealth funded initiatives where possible;
 - (g) supporting shires to establish local boards, including in the 15 agreed Remote Service Delivery locations to support the on-ground delivery of the RSD NP; and
 - (h) continuing to strengthen child protection services.

Shared roles and responsibilities:

- 30 The Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments will work together to develop and implement the monitoring plan and evaluation strategy for the initiatives funded under this Agreement.

PART 4 – PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS AND REPORTING

Implementation plan

- 31 The Parties agree that the attached Schedules comprise the Implementation Plan for this Agreement, unless otherwise stated. Any additional Implementation Schedules that require further development will be agreed by 31 August 2009.
- 32 Amendments to the Schedules can be requested by either the Commonwealth or the Northern Territory Government at any time, to accommodate emerging issues. Amendments will be by mutual agreement.
- 33 The Schedules will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Performance benchmarks

- 34 The relevant performance benchmarks for payments to the Northern Territory Government are specified in the Schedules to this Agreement and those detailed in the Northern Territory Bilateral Agreement and integrated Implementation Plan for the Smarter Schools National Partnerships. Reporting frequency on performance against the benchmarks is as indicated in each relevant document.

Reporting

- 35 The Northern Territory Government will provide a detailed report as outlined in the integrated Implementation Plan for the Smarter Schools National Partnerships.
- 36 The Northern Territory Government will provide reports on the construction of the additional classrooms in accordance with its requirements under the Bilateral Agreement, as set out in the BER Guidelines and with advice from the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations from time to time.
- 37 The Northern Territory Government will provide a baseline report on its 2008-09 real expenditure on Indigenous services by the end of September 2009; a report on 2009-10 real expenditure on Indigenous services by the end of September 2010; a report on 2010-11 real expenditure on Indigenous services by the end of September 2011; and an estimate of 2011-12 real expenditure on Indigenous services by the end of June 2012.
- 38 Reporting requirements of this Agreement will comply with the requirements of Schedule C of the Intergovernmental Agreement.

Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory Evaluation Strategy and Monitoring Plan

- 39 Reporting against the outcomes in this Agreement will be undertaken through the Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory Evaluation Strategy. The strategy will be reviewed periodically by the Evaluation's Steering Committee (comprising representatives of Commonwealth Government agencies and the Northern Territory Government) to ensure that it addresses emerging needs and issues.
- 40 The Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory Evaluation Strategy and the Monitoring Plan will be published on the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs website when finalised and agreed between the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Governments.
- 41 An Independent outcome evaluation will be conducted in 2011-12. It will be overseen by the Evaluation Steering Committee.

PART 5 – FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Funding

- 42 \$209.8 million will be available to the Northern Territory Government under the Agreement. The total funding to be expended under this Agreement is set out in Schedule K. The notional amount of funding available to the Northern Territory Government in each financial year will be:
 - (a) 2009-10 — \$60.0 million;
 - (b) 2010-11 — \$76.7 million; and
 - (c) 2011-12 — \$73.1 million.
- 43 The distribution of this maximum funding to the Northern Territory Government, along with a summary of the Commonwealth Own Purpose Expenditure, is as set out in Schedules J and K.
- 44 These payments do not include any payments the Commonwealth will make to the Northern Territory Government in fulfilment of the requirements of Schedule C.

Payment schedule

- 45 The Commonwealth will make payments to the Northern Territory Government under the conditions and against the milestones set out in the Schedules listed below:
 - A. Food Security – Community Stores Licensing Regime;
 - B. Remote Policing and Substance Abuse;
 - C. Property and Tenancy Management;

- D. Interpreters;
 - E. Follow Up Care – Ear, Nose, Throat (2009-10);
 - F. Follow Up Care – Dental;
 - G. Mobile Outreach Service;
 - H. Family Support; and
 - I. Enhancing Education.
- 46 The Commonwealth will make payments to the Northern Territory Government under the conditions and milestones set out in the Extra Housing for Teachers funding agreement.
- 47 The Commonwealth will make payments to the Northern Territory Government as set out in the integrated Implementation Plan for the Smarter Schools National Partnerships.
- 48 The Commonwealth will make payments to the Northern Territory Government as set out in the Bilateral Agreement on the National Building and Jobs Plan and the relevant Schedules.

PART 6 – GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Dispute resolution

- 49 Either Party may give notice to the other Party of a dispute under this Agreement.
- 50 The relevant delegates will attempt to resolve any dispute in the first instance.
- 51 If a dispute cannot be resolved between the relevant delegates, it may be escalated to the relevant Ministerial Council or Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Working Group for consideration.
- 52 If a dispute cannot be resolved by the relevant Ministerial Council or COAG Working Group, it may be referred by a Party to COAG for consideration.

Review of the Agreement

- 53 The Agreement will be reviewed in 2011-12 with regard to progress made by the Parties in respect of achieving the agreed outcomes.

Variation of the Agreement

- 54 The agreement may be amended at any time by agreement in writing by both the Parties and under terms and conditions as agreed by both the Parties.

55 A Party to the Agreement may terminate their participation in the Agreement at any time by notifying the other Party in writing.

56 The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this agreement as follows:

**Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth
of Australia by**

The Honourable Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia

2009

**Signed for and on behalf of the Northern
Territory by**

The Honourable Paul Henderson MLA
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory of Australia

2009

Schedules

- A. Food Security – Community Stores Licensing Regime
- B. Remote Policing and Substance Abuse
- C. Property and Tenancy Management
- D. Interpreters
- E. Follow Up Care – Ear, Nose, Throat (2009-10)
- F. Follow Up Care – Dental
- G. Mobile Outreach Service
- H. Family Support
- I. Enhancing Education
- J. Commonwealth Own Purpose Expenditure
- K. National Partnership Breakdown 2009-10 to 2011-12

Food Security - Community Stores Licensing Regime

Outputs

In order to provide food security to communities, it is essential that governments at all levels improve the capacity of store operators and boards in Indigenous communities to soundly manage the business of a store to ensure the continuous supply of a good range of reasonable quality food to communities.

Activities/services that will be undertaken/provided:

- more than 90 community store operators will be individually assessed at least once in every twelve month period to identify whether the store operator can meet the legislative requirements and be issued with a licence and to identify where and how to address any deficiencies that may exist;
- each store operator will be monitored and supported through site visits between assessments, to ensure they are meeting their licence conditions and are continuing to meet the assessable matters in the *Northern Territory National Emergency Response Act 2007* (the Act), and that any issues or risks to food security are identified and acted upon by relevant parties;
- on-site support (if required) and/or phone support to ensure new store operators can meet the requirements of handling funds and monies under the Income Management regime;
- developing training resources and systems (including a compliance program) to improve the capacity of organisations to meet their fiduciary and legislative obligations as managers and board members, and to ensure that high standards of organisational control and management become the standard expectation of communities;
- coordination and funding of activities/services that improve the access to food for income-managed customers, where there is no local community store; and
- coordination and funding of activities that ensure income-managed customers have access to alternative food sources when a community store licence has been revoked.

Roles and responsibilities

Role of the Commonwealth:

The Commonwealth will have responsibility for assessing, licensing and monitoring the operators of community stores under the Act; providing 'case management support' to community store operators to ensure that they continue to meet the assessable matters in the Act; ensuring that food security is in place for communities without a store to support the Income Management regime; and coordinating access to alternative food sources when a community store licence has been revoked, to support the Income Management regime.

Role of the Northern Territory Government:

The Northern Territory Government will have responsibility for:

- developing and implementing a training program (and associated materials) aimed at creating increased capacity for community stores' management and boards to assist them to:
 - become aware of their legislative and legal obligations; and
 - create effective businesses that meet community needs, operate transparently and in a financially viable framework.
- facilitating the transfer of Indigenous owned and controlled stores that are currently incorporated under the *Northern Territory Associations Act* (Associations Act) to registration under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (subject to the outcome of consultations); and
- conducting a 'health check' on the compliance of community stores that are incorporated associations under the Associations Act.

Financial arrangements

The Northern Territory Government will be paid as a facilitation payment each year in August and March:

- \$50,000 for 2009-10 and \$150,000 for 2010-11 to assist stores incorporated under the Associations Act to make the necessary legal and technical changes to translate/transfer to the Commonwealth Indigenous corporations legal framework (subject to the outcome of consultations);
- \$150,000 for 2009-10 to develop new training materials (including translation) and for a train the trainer program aimed at creating a regional network of suitable delivery personnel by July 2010;
- \$130,000 per annum for 2010-11 and 2011-12 to facilitate training delivery by regional network trainers; and
- \$110,000 for 2009-10 and \$90,000 for 2010-11 and \$90,000 per for 2011-12 for program management to oversight the materials development, delivery of training courses and the compliance health check. The payment of funds for this element will be only be made available in 2011-12 if proposed legislative changes are not enacted).

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
Commonwealth	7.960	5.200	4.200	17.360
NT Government	0.310	0.370	0.220	0.900
Total	8.270	5.570	4.420	18.300

Remote Policing and Substance Abuse

Outputs

The Commonwealth will continue to work cooperatively with the Northern Territory Government by providing funding for promoting law and order measures established as part of the Northern Territory Emergency Response. These measures will contribute to the protection of women and children, reduce violence and associated alcohol and substance abuse and promote personal responsibility and community norms.

Remote Policing

To continue its commitment to the protection of vulnerable people in the Northern Territory, the Commonwealth is funding the Northern Territory Government to maintain the increased police presence in prescribed areas.

The Commonwealth will provide funds to the Northern Territory Police (NT Police) for the orderly transition from the Australian Federal Police (AFP) deployment to the Northern Territory Police. The Commonwealth will provide funding for salaries, recruitment, training and allowances for an additional 60 Northern Territory Police officers. Five new permanent police stations will be constructed, including police accommodation, custodial facilities and multi-purpose justice facilities. Operational costs will also be provided for the continuation of temporary police stations established under Taskforce Themis. The Commonwealth will also provide funding to the NT Police for training, uniforms, personal issue and station based equipment and a continuation of funding for increased air capacity to maximise the time police are in the community and minimise risks during prisoner transportations.

The Northern Territory Government has committed to expand opportunities for Indigenous people to enter the police force and to increase the number of police women in the NT Police.

Review of Policing

The Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments will commission an independent review of police resourcing levels in remote communities. The review will make recommendations on sustainable policing levels and deployments, taking into account regional planning needs. The review is to be completed by 31 December 2009.

Northern Territory Child Abuse Taskforce

The Commonwealth will continue to provide interim funding for AFP Investigators to support the Northern Territory Child Abuse Taskforce. The Northern Territory Child Abuse Taskforce is a joint initiative between NT Police, Northern Territory Department of Health and Families and the Australian Federal Police to investigate child abuse and child sexual abuse in the Northern Territory.

Substance Abuse Intelligence Desk and Dog Operations Unit

The Commonwealth will continue to provide funding for the Substance Abuse Intelligence Desks (SAIDs) and related Dog Operation Units in the Northern Territory. Under current arrangements office accommodation for the SAIDs is provided by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

The SAIDs acts as a focal point for collating intelligence and coordinating policing activities, principally in detecting and disrupting trafficking of illicit substances including drugs, petrol, kava and alcohol. The SAIDs also focus on eliminating the trafficking of illicit drugs and substances across interstate borders.

Alcohol and Pornography restrictions

The Commonwealth will continue to provide funding for alcohol restrictions initiatives developed jointly by the Commonwealth, Northern Territory Department of Justice and representatives of local communities. Funding will be used to develop alcohol management plans and to target alcohol related health and social issues, alcohol related offending and anti-social behaviour.

Both governments recognise that alcohol consumption in the Northern Territory needs to be reduced, and the Northern Territory Government has agreed to take further practical steps to reduce alcohol supply in areas such as Alice Springs and Katherine.

The Commonwealth will continue to provide funding for the audit of publicly funded computers to ensure compliance with the prohibited material restrictions related to pornography.

Both governments will continue working together to address community concerns about the current signage used to indicate alcohol and prohibited material restrictions.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Commonwealth will provide funding to the Northern Territory Government for a range of services, including:

- the provision of five permanent police facilities including custodial justice facilities and staff housing;
- the provision of infrastructure to increase the capacity of the police academy facility to meet the needs of additional police in training in 2009-10 and 2010-11;
- 30 additional NT Police in 2009-10 and a further 30 police in 2010-11;
- operational costs of Taskforce Themis; and
- SAIDs and related Dog Operation Unit activities.

The Northern Territory Government will have responsibility for:

- the management and operation of Taskforce Themis;
- the construction and management of five additional permanent police stations;
- the management and operation of the existing Themis police stations;
- the management of the SAIDs and Dog Operation Unit activities;
- the management of the NT Child Abuse Taskforce activities;

- development of a work program by December 2009 for completion of Alcohol Management Plans in the prescribed communities and delivery against the agreed outputs in that work program; and
- develop a plan for achieving alcohol supply reduction in areas such as Alice Springs, Katherine and Tennant Creek by 30 September 2009 (for consideration and agreement by the Commonwealth).

Performance benchmarks

Performance benchmarks

- completion of the joint review of policing resourcing in the prescribed communities by 31 December 2009;
- at a minimum, continuation of existing levels of police presence in remote communities;
- at a minimum, continuation of current staffing levels and support for the SAIDs and Dog Operation Units;
- construction of one new permanent police facility in 2009-10;
- construction of two new permanent police facilities in 2010-11;
- construction of two new permanent police facilities in 2011-12;
- 30 additional permanent NT Police by 30 June 2010;
- an additional 30 permanent NT Police from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011;
- a demonstrated increase each year for three years in female police officers serving in the NT Police; and
- a demonstrated increase each year for three years in Indigenous police officers serving in the NT Police.

Performance Reporting

The Northern Territory Government agrees to provide the following reports in relation to Taskforce Themis:

- every three months, provision of an operational progress report detailing:
 - Taskforce Themis activities;
 - continuation of the increased police presence in remote communities; and
 - expenditure against budget for the year to date by line item.
- provision of a report by 30 June each year indicating progress towards:
 - an increase each year in female police officers serving in the NT Police; and
 - an increase each year in Indigenous police officers serving in the NT Police.

The Northern Territory Government agrees to provide the following performance reports in relation to the construction of additional police infrastructure:

- every six months, provision of a report advising on progress on the construction of police infrastructure.

The Northern Territory Government agrees to provide the following performance reports in relation to the SAIDs:

- SAID will provide FaHCSIA with a monthly report on the following:
 - report on operational activities;
 - statistical data relating to arrests and charges;
 - information on offence categories and seizures of illicit substances; and
 - details of searches conducted by the Dog Operations Units and visits to communities.

The outcome of Remote Policing and Substance Abuse activities will contribute to the protection of women and children, reduce alcohol fuelled violence and promote personal responsibility and community norms.

Financial Arrangements

Remote Policing

Northern Territory Government will be paid monthly for Taskforce Themis operational costs in accordance with the approved annual budget below:

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	13.883	15.341	14.588	43.812

Additional Northern Territory Police

Northern Territory Government will be paid on reaching the agreed milestones by the indicated dates:

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	3.880	10.559	9.640	24.079

The following payment milestones will apply:

In 2009-10

- \$970,000 will be paid in October 2009 for a minimum of 15 additional recruits on evidence that training has commenced for Squad 104, otherwise a pro rata payment will apply;
- \$970,000 will be paid in April 2010 for a minimum of 15 additional recruits on evidence of the completion of training of Squad 104, otherwise a pro rata payment will apply;
- \$970,000 will be paid in March 2010 for a minimum of 15 additional recruits on evidence that training has commenced for Squad 107, otherwise a pro rata payment will apply; and
- \$970,000 will be paid in May 2010 for a minimum of 15 additional recruits on evidence of the completion of training of Squad 107, otherwise a pro rata payment will apply.

Total: \$3,880,000

In 2010-11:

- \$2.5 million will be paid in July 2010 for the operational costs associated with the new recruits from Squads 104 and 107 for a minimum of 30 additional recruits otherwise a pro rata payment will apply;
- \$1,390,000 will be paid in July 2010 for a minimum of 15 additional recruits on evidence that training has commenced for Squad 108, otherwise a pro rata payment will apply;
- \$1,390,000 will be paid in November 2010 on evidence of the completion of training of Squad 108;
- \$1,390,000 will be paid in October 2010 for a minimum of 15 additional recruits on evidence that training has commenced for Squad 110, otherwise a pro rata payment will apply;
- \$1,389,000 will be paid in April 2011 for a minimum of 15 additional recruits on evidence of the completion of training of Squad 110, otherwise a pro rata payment will apply; and
- \$2.5 million will be paid in April 2011 for the operational costs associated with the new recruits from Squads 108 and 110, for a minimum of 30 additional recruits otherwise a pro rata payment will apply.

Total: \$10,559,000

In 2011-12

- \$2,410,000 will be paid in July 2011 for the operational costs associated with the 60 new Northern Territory Police on evidence of the continuation of existing levels of police presence in remote communities;
- \$2,410,000 will be paid in October 2011 for the operational costs associated with the 60 new Northern Territory Police on evidence of the continuation of existing levels of police presence in remote communities;
- \$2,410,000 will be paid in January 2012 for the operational costs associated with the 60 new Northern Territory Police on evidence of the continuation of existing levels of police presence in remote communities; and
- \$2,410,000 will be paid in April 2012 for the operational costs associated with the 60 new Northern Territory Police on evidence of the continuation of existing levels of police presence in remote communities.

Total: \$9,640,000

Northern Territory Child Abuse Taskforce

Northern Territory Government will be paid monthly in accordance with the approved Northern Territory Child Abuse Taskforce annual operational costs budget below:

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	1.401	1.417	1.437	4.255

Substance Abuse Intelligence Desk and Dog Operations Unit

Northern Territory Government will be paid monthly for SAID operational costs in accordance with the approved annual SAID Budget below:

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	2.000	2.080	2.163	6.243

Construction of additional permanent police infrastructure

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	10.240	20.000	20.000	50.240

Northern Territory Government will be paid up to \$10 million for the construction of each of five additional permanent police stations as approved by FaHCSIA:

The following payment milestones will apply to each additional permanent police station:

- 25 per cent of total cost of each additional permanent police station on commencement of planning;
- 25 per cent of total cost of each additional permanent police station on commencement of construction;
- 25 per cent on total cost of each additional permanent police station on construction to 'lockup' stage; and
- 25 per cent of total cost of each additional permanent police station on completion of construction and operational commencement.

The following payment milestones will apply to the Northern Territory Police training facility:

In 2009-10

- \$240,000 on evidence of the completed construction of training facilities to increase the capacity of the Northern Territory police academy training facility.

Summary of Remote Policing and Substance Abuse funding

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
Commonwealth	7.905	9.342	10.701	27.948
NT Government	31.404	49.397	47.828	128.629
Total	39.309	58.739	58.529	156.577

Property and Tenancy Management

Outputs

This provision supports the implementation of public housing arrangements and related reforms to the delivery of repair and maintenance services in the 64 NTER communities where the Commonwealth has five year leases.

The Commonwealth has landlord type responsibilities for community housing in the 64 five-year lease communities. The *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1999* (FMA) requires rent collected on houses where the Commonwealth has a tenancy agreement to be returned to consolidated revenue. The provision will ensure that an equivalent amount of funding is returned to the Northern Territory to offset the reduction in rental revenues otherwise available to support maintenance of this housing.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Commonwealth will be responsible for ensuring that payments are made to the Northern Territory to offset the reduction in rental incomes.

The Northern Territory will have responsibility for ensuring that this funding is used to support the implementation of improved repair and maintenance services for housing in five year lease communities.

Performance Benchmarks and Reporting

This proposal will support the implementation of an enhanced repair and maintenance service for all refurbished housing in five year lease communities, where public housing type tenancy agreements are in place and rent is being collected on the Commonwealth's behalf by Northern Territory Housing.

Performance Indicators, Benchmarks and Targets with respect to this output have been included in the Implementation Plan for the National Partnership on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPRIH), supplemented by an agreed Operational Plan for Property and Tenancy Management, which will detail milestones in implementing improved repair and maintenance services.

Financial Arrangements

Payments to the Northern Territory under this arrangement will be made quarterly, following receipt of related rental monies by FaHCSIA.

Interpreters

Outputs

The Commonwealth will provide funding to the Northern Territory Government so that the Northern Territory can:

- recruit Community Liaison/ mentor officers to coordinate and support the work of Indigenous interpreters providing their services in identified communities/regions;
- recruit and train Indigenous interpreters to provide interpreting services to Indigenous communities and government and non-government agencies; and
- develop and deliver training programs and training materials for Indigenous interpreters.

Roles and responsibilities

The Commonwealth will have responsibility for:

- provision of funding to the Northern Territory Government for further development and strengthening of interpreter services.

The Northern Territory will have responsibility for:

- recruitment and employment of Community Liaison/mentor officers to coordinate and support interpreters;
- development of training programs and implementation of training for interpreters, including professional development and accreditation; and
- recruitment and employment of Indigenous interpreters in identified regions/communities.

The Commonwealth and the Northern Territory will share responsibility for:

- joint oversight of project development and implementation; and
- joint project governance.

Financial arrangements

The Northern Territory Government will be paid on reaching agreed milestones by indicated dates. The first payment will be made in advance but subsequent payments will be contingent on the previous milestones being achieved, having due regard to the full scope of activity delivered.

In 2009-10 \$0.9 million will be paid to the Northern Territory Government in equal quarterly instalments for the following deliverables:

- continued employment of two existing coordinators;
- continued employment of four existing full-time (or equivalent) interpreters;
- interpreting services for the NTER Redesign community engagement; and

- development and delivery of professional training for interpreters, including training on Commonwealth initiatives, as requested (frequency to be negotiated by 31 August 2009), and expected to be completed by 30 June 2010.

In 2010-11 \$2.907m in quarterly instalments for the following deliverables:

- employment of an additional nine coordinators (bringing the total to 11). These should be in place by 30 September 2010;
- employment of an additional 18 additional full-time (or equivalent) interpreters (bringing the total to 22). These should be in place by 30 September 2010; and
- development and delivery of professional training for interpreters, including training on Commonwealth initiatives, as requested (frequency to be negotiated by 31 August 2010), expected to be completed by 30 June 2010; and
- accreditation of interpreters, expected to be completed by 30 March 2011 (target numbers to be negotiated by 1 June 2010).

In 2011-12 \$4.278m in quarterly instalments for the following deliverables:

- employment of 15 additional coordinators (bringing the total to 26). These should be in place by 30 September 2011;
- employment of 30 additional full-time (or equivalent) interpreters (bringing the total to 52). These should be in place by 30 September 2011;
- development and delivery of professional training for interpreters, including training on Commonwealth initiatives, as requested (frequency to be negotiated by 31 August 2010), expected to be completed by 30 June 2012; and
- accreditation of interpreters, expected to be completed by 30 March 2012 (target numbers to be negotiated by 30 March 2011).

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	0.900	2.907	4.278	8.085

Follow Up Care - Ear, Nose, Throat (2009-10)

Outputs

The Commonwealth will work in partnership with the Northern Territory Government to target the completion of all follow up Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) specialist services to children under 16 years of age from prescribed communities and town camps. In this process, both parties will work in cooperation to plan, deliver and collect data on follow up ENT specialist services. This Agreement will facilitate the delivery of the following outputs in 2009-10:

- target all children under 16 years from prescribed communities and town camps who have a valid referral from child health checks for ENT specialist care. A valid referral will include referrals from a child health check between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2009;
- outreach services will be increased to ensure that all communities who have not received an outreach service will have access to at least one ENT visit to provide ENT services to children under 16 years from prescribed communities and town camps who have a valid referral from child health checks;
- ENT surgical teams will be increased to ensure that required surgery can be undertaken in Royal Darwin Hospital, Gove District Hospital, Tennant Creek Hospital, Katherine District Hospital and Alice Springs Hospital; and
- if resources permit, Northern Territory Government will use these funds to reduce the ENT specialist care waiting list in its jurisdiction.

Funding for ongoing hearing and audiological services, including pre and post-operative care, will be supported through expanded primary health care services and the existing Northern Territory Government services.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Commonwealth will provide funding to the Northern Territory Government for targeting the completion of all follow up ENT specialist services. It will provide funds for the expansion of Outreach ENT services. The Commonwealth will also provide funds for surgical teams to increase the volume of services provided to Indigenous children under 16 years from prescribed communities and town camps who have a valid referral from child health checks. It will further provide in-kind support if required which would include participation in consultations regarding the development of an Action Plan and implementation of this Agreement.

To target the completion of all follow up ENT specialist services, the Northern Territory Government will deliver ENT specialist services to Indigenous children under 16 years from prescribed communities and town camps with a valid referral from child health checks.

In this process, the Northern Territory Government will provide an Action Plan for Commonwealth endorsement by 21 July 2009 that outlines:

- the structure of the Outreach and surgical teams;
- communities to be visited;
- number of children to be seen;
- the approximate month and date of the visiting outreach teams and surgery; and
- data collection method and the date that required data will be provided.

The Northern Territory Government will provide a transition plan to the Commonwealth by 31 May 2010 outlining how they will provide a sustainable and high level of ENT specialist service provision taking into account available resources (including working with Australian Hearing) to the target group beyond 2009-10.

Performance Benchmarking

The Northern Territory Government agrees to meet the following performance benchmarks:

- by 30 June 2010, target sufficient follow up ENT specialist consultations and surgical services across 100 per cent of prescribed communities to reach children with a valid referral from child health checks; and
- through these services, target all children with a valid referral to ENT services (including surgery) from a child health check.

Financial Arrangements

Payments made on receipt and acceptance of reports in respect of specific deliverables for this funding.

Expected payment date	Percentage of Annual Total	Instalment	Milestone
			Satisfactory provision and acceptance of the July monthly report of agreed ENT specialist consults and surgical services data as negotiated in the Action Plan.
August 7 2009	40%	\$1,629,200	Receipt and acceptance of a final Action Plan by 21 July 2009.
			Receipt and acceptance of September 2009 quarterly progress report by 15 October 2009.
			Satisfactory provision and acceptance of the August to December 2009 monthly reports of agreed ENT specialist consults and surgical services data.
7 March 2010	40%	\$1,629,200	Receipt and acceptance of December 2009 quarterly progress report by 15 January 2010.
			Receipt and acceptance of March 2010 quarterly progress report by 15 April 2009.
			Satisfactory provision of January to June 2010 monthly reports of agreed ENT specialist consults and surgical services data.

7 September 2010	20%	\$814,600	Receipt and acceptance of Final (June 2009) report and Acquittal by 30 July 2010.
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	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	4.073	0.000	0.000	4.073

Follow Up Care - Dental

Outputs

The Commonwealth will work in partnership with the Northern Territory Government to plan, deliver and collect data on follow-up dental health service delivery from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2012.

This Agreement will facilitate the delivery of the following output:

- target all Indigenous children under 16 years referred for dental follow up through the child health checks and those eligible for child health checks from prescribed communities and town camps with follow up dental health service by 30 June 2012.

Note, this will exclude those prescribed communities that receive follow up dental health service from Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) that have also been provided funding for this purpose. This will be reflected in the Action Plan.

Deliverables will include:

- dental health promotion for young people aged up to 16 years;
- dental examinations;
- treatment; and
- dental surgery.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Commonwealth will provide funding to the Northern territory Government for the delivery of follow up dental health services from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2012. It will provide in-kind support if required which would include participation in consultations regarding the development of an Action Plan and implementation of this Agreement. The Action Plan will be reviewed annually by the Commonwealth in consultation with the Northern Territory Government.

The Northern Territory Government will provide a detailed Action Plan for Commonwealth endorsement by 31 July 2009 for the delivery of dental health follow up services to Indigenous children under 16 years commencing from 1 July 2009 and continuing until 30 June 2012. The Northern Territory Government will amend the Action Plan as a result of the annual review, if required.

In the delivery of dental health follow up services, the Northern Territory Government will, by 30 June 2012:

- use the existing infrastructure, recruit and engage appropriate dental health professionals to deliver the follow-up dental health services to children under the age of 16 in prescribed communities and town camps;
- target treatment for 100 per cent of children referred for dental health follow up services through child health checks in prescribed communities and town camps; and

- assess and treat children who are eligible for child health checks and identified as requiring dental health services.

The Northern Territory Government will continue to maintain or increase the current level of Northern Territory Government funded dental care services during the term of this agreement. The Northern Territory Government will provide a transition plan to the Commonwealth by 31 May 2012 outlining how they will provide a sustainable and high level of dental service provision to the target group beyond 2009-10.

Performance Benchmarks, Performance Indicators and Reporting

The Northern Territory Government agrees to meet the following performance benchmarks:

- target the number of occasions of dental service to be equal to or not less than the number provided in 2008-09; and
- by June 2012, target sufficient follow up dental services across 100 per cent prescribed communities to reach children with a referral from a child health check. Through these services 70 per cent of children with an outstanding referral for dental care from a child health check have received a dental service.

Financial Arrangements

Payments made on receipt and acceptance of reports in respect of specific deliverables for this funding.

Expected payment date	Percentage of Annual Total	Instalment	Milestone
2009-10			
August 7 2009	50%	\$1,048,000	Satisfactory provision and acceptance of July monthly reporting to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) of agreed dental services data. By 21 July 2009, receipt and acceptance of a final Action Plan for the 3 year period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2012.
			Receipt and acceptance of September 2009 quarterly progress report by 15 October 2009.
			Satisfactory provision and acceptance of the August to December 2009 (inc) monthly reports to AIHW of agreed dental services data.
7 March 2010	50%	\$1,048,000	Receipt and acceptance of December 2009 quarterly progress report by 15 January 2010.

			Receipt and acceptance of March 2010 quarterly progress report by 15 April 2010.
			Satisfactory provision of January to June 2010 (inc) monthly reports to AIHW.
2010-11			
September 7 2010	50%	\$1,070,000	Receipt and acceptance of a sufficiently detailed Action Plan following the annual review (if required) by 31 July 2010.
			Receipt and acceptance of September 2010 quarterly progress report by 15 October 2010.
			Satisfactory provision and acceptance of the August to December 2010 (inc) monthly reports to AIHW of agreed dental services data.
7 March 2011	50%	\$1,070,000	Receipt and acceptance of December 2009 quarterly progress report by 15 January 2011.
			Receipt and acceptance of March 2011 quarterly progress report by 15 April 2011.
			Satisfactory provision of January to June 2011 (inc) monthly reports to AIHW.

2011-12			
September 7 2011	40%	\$874,000	Receipt and acceptance of a sufficiently detailed Action Plan following the annual review (if required) by 31 July 2011.
			Receipt and acceptance of September 2009 quarterly progress report by 15 October 2011.
			Satisfactory provision and acceptance of the August to December 2010 (inc) monthly reports to AIHW of agreed dental services data.

7 March 2012	40%	\$874,000	Receipt and acceptance of December 2009 quarterly progress report by 15 January 2012.
			Receipt and acceptance of March 2012 quarterly progress report by 15 April 2012.
			Satisfactory provision of January to June 2012 (inc) monthly reports to AIHW.
End 2011-12	20%	\$437,000	Receipt and acceptance of Final (June 2012) report and Acquittal.

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	2.096	2.140	2.185	6.421

Mobile Outreach Service

The funds covered by this Agreement (known as *MOS Plus*) will augment and alter the services provided under the existing multi-year Funding Agreement (\$5.744 million over four years from 2008-09 to 2011-12) for implementation of the Commonwealth Government election commitment for sexual assault counselling in remote areas – known as the NT Sexual Assault Mobile Outreach Service (MOS). This commitment was part of the *\$20 million Boost to NT Health Services* announced on 5 November 2007. It now forms part of the larger *Better Outcomes for Hospitals and Community Health* measure. Payments under this Agreement are currently paid through to the Northern Territory Government Treasury under the developing omnibus National Partnership Agreement for Health Services.

The existing MOS Model will be augmented to include the following components, so that *MOS Plus*:

- expands the original MOS in size and scope to provide therapeutic counselling for any form of child abuse and related trauma, in addition to those currently provided;
- provides sexual assault forensic medical examinations to children in or near their local community; and
- provides the specialist clinical support and training for best practice *MOS Plus* services.

Maximum administrative and policy effectiveness of the Commonwealth Government funds under both Agreements requires development of an integrated Implementation Plan to cover all outputs delivered from the combined funds – both *MOS* and *MOS Plus*. This Implementation Plan will be built on the platform of the existing program.

The current Agreement with the NT will transition into a single Implementation Plan under the Health Services National Partnership Agreement, and will reflect the combined funds and expanded service platform. This will become the *Mobile Outreach Service (MOS) Plus* Implementation Plan. The *MOS Plus* Implementation Plan will be completed by 31 August 2009.

Implementation Plan. The total new funds available for *MOS Plus* are \$8.261 million over the three years, as per the following table:

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NT Government	2.779	2.718	2.764	8.261

For further information, please refer to the developing Health Services National Partnership Agreement.

Family Support

Outputs

In order to protect the safety and wellbeing of Indigenous women and children, it is essential the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments work cooperatively to ensure that women and children fleeing violence have safe places to go. The operational target is:

- Full operation of 22 safe places in Darwin, Alice Springs and 15 remote communities;
- Fully operational Mobile Child Protection Team; and
- Fully trained and supported Remote Aboriginal Family and Community Workers in at least 13 communities.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Commonwealth will provide funding to the Northern Territory for a range of services, including the provision of safe houses, mobile child protection teams and Remote Aboriginal Family and Community Workers.

The Northern Territory Government will have responsibility for the management, operation and coordination of the safe houses, mobile teams and remote workers; the recruitment, training and support of the mobile teams and remote workers.

Financial Arrangements

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
Commonwealth	5.5	5.7	5.9	17.1
NT Government	5.1	5.3	5.5	15.9
Total	10.5	10.9	11.4	32.9

Implementation Plan

An implementation plan further detailing the respective roles and responsibilities, governance, performance benchmarks and reporting will be developed and agreed to by the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments by 31 August 2009.

Enhancing Education

Outputs

Enhancing Education measures include:

- the construction of houses for teachers in remote communities during 2009-10;
- continuation of the School Nutrition program supporting improved school attendance and to help with learning and engagement in education;
- enhancing Literacy programs and Quality Teaching initiatives; and
- construction of additional classrooms through \$7 million of the Northern Territory Government's Building the Education Revolution (BER) Funding allocations.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Commonwealth will provide funding to the Northern Territory for:

- the Quality Teaching and Enhancing Literacy initiatives bound by the conditions set out in the Smarter Schools National Partnerships Agreements and associated Implementation Plan.
- additional classrooms bound by the conditions set out in the Bilateral Agreement on the National building and Job Plans.

The Commonwealth, through the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, will work with the Northern Territory Government, Catholic and Independent education providers to determine the priorities and management arrangements for the additional teacher housing. A joint implementation plan further detailing these arrangements will be developed and agreed to by the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments by 31 August 2009.

The Northern Territory Government will have responsibility for:

- utilising \$7 million of the Northern Territory's BER funding allocation to build additional classrooms in NTER communities;
- meeting the performance indicators and milestones in the Northern Territory Bilateral Agreement and Implementation Plan for the Smarter Schools National Partnerships relating to the quality teaching and enhanced literacy initiatives; and
- on-going repairs and maintenance for its new teacher housing and classroom assets.

Performance Benchmarks, Performance Indicators and Reporting

The Northern Territory will provide reports as outlined in:

- the Smarter Schools National Partnership and the attached Implementation Plan Schedules; and
- the Bilateral Agreement on the National building and Job Plans.

The Northern Territory will provide reports on the construction of the additional classrooms in accordance with its requirements under the Bilateral Agreement, as set out in the BER Guidelines and in advice from Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations from time to time.

Financial Arrangements

Payments to the Northern Territory under this arrangement will be made according to the respective project plans detailed in the:

- Smarter Schools National Partnerships Agreement Implementation Plan;
- the Bilateral Agreement on the National building and Job Plans.

The Commonwealth commits funding to the Enhancing Education measures within this Agreement as follows:

Enhancing Education	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NTER Quality Teaching, Accelerated Literacy and Classrooms				
Commonwealth	2.9	2.9	2.3	8.1
Northern Territory Government	13.4	13.8	10.4	37.6
NTER Teacher Housing				
Commonwealth	11.2	0.0	0.0	11.2
NTER School Nutrition				
Commonwealth	13.6	12.0	11.8	37.5

Commonwealth Own Purpose Expenditure

- (a) Income Management and Welfare Reform
 - (i) Maintenance and extension of income management to eligible welfare recipients in prescribed communities and to provide income managed customers with access to their income managed funds for priority needs through an Income Management Card.
 - (ii) Assessing, licensing and monitoring community stores, providing 'case management support' to community stores, ensuring that food security is in place for communities without a store to support the Income Management regime; and coordinating access to alternative food sources when a community store licence has been revoked.
 - (iii) Additional Language, Literacy and Numeracy training places to enhance the sustainable employment prospects by improving skills for Indigenous Australians under the NTER.
- (b) Law and Order
 - (i) Continuation of existing law and order measures including alcohol management plans and audit of computers, including funding for licensing inspectors and pornography education. An Implementation Plan detailing the respective roles and responsibilities, financial arrangements, performance benchmarks and reporting will be developed and agreed by 31 August 2009.
 - (ii) The establishment and/or continued operation of night patrol services in 81 NT communities, including the 73 NTER communities plus town camps and those communities suffering unintended consequences from the NTER measures, monitoring the compliance of each service provider with the requirements of the Program Funding Agreement including the Night Patrol Services Operational Framework.
 - (iii) Continued provision of legal assistance to Indigenous Australians for matters arising as a result of the NTER.
 - (iv) Continued support for the Northern Territory Aboriginal Interpreter Service to meet the demand in its services resulting from the impact of the NTER.
 - (v) Continued provision of a model of service delivery that will respond to the increased legal need for social security advice and advocacy services arising out of the NTER.

- (c) Family support
 - (i) Support 22 established safe houses in Darwin, Alice Springs and 15 remote communities; to continue the operation of the Mobile Child Protection Team and the continuation of the existing Remote Aboriginal Family and Community Worker program in at least 13 communities. This program will be partially funded by the Commonwealth and partially under payment to the Northern Territory Government.
 - (ii) Support for youth projects, services, organisations and infrastructure to promote positive behaviours amongst young people in the Northern Territory.
- (d) Early Childhood
 - (i) Support for a range of early childhood services to improve the skills of families and to train young people about pregnancy, birth and parenting.
 - (ii) The extension of playgroups for Indigenous families.
 - (iii) Continuation of the operation of nine crèches established under the NTER and capital funding to finish construction of one crèche and to provide upgrades to two existing crèches.
- (e) Enhancing Education
 - (i) The construction of at least 22 extra houses for teachers in remote communities during 2009-10.
 - (ii) Continuation of the School Nutrition Program directed at improving school attendance by delivering a breakfast and lunch program to school aged children in schools in communities covered by the NTER.
- (f) Remote Service Delivery: The Commonwealth's responsibilities with respect to the following remote service delivery initiatives need to be read in connection with the Reference to Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement.
 - (i) Field Operations – this involves continued placement of Government Business Managers in communities.
 - (ii) Local Priorities Fund – this is designed to provide streamlined access to flexible funding to address immediate community needs identified in local planning.
- (g) Policy, Program Management, Implementation and Evaluation Monitoring and ongoing leadership and co-ordination of the Strategy. The Commonwealth will also conduct in partnership with the Northern Territory Government, an independent evaluation of the measures in 2011-12.

- (i) Provision of spatial information and data services to support the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and associated Commonwealth Agencies is contained in the Memorandum of Understanding between Commonwealth of Australia and the Northern Territory Government for the Provision of Spatial Information and Data Services, which will be extended to its 30 June 2012, as agreed by the Parties.

- (h) Resetting the Relationship – involving employment and training of Indigenous Engagement Officers in Remote Service Delivery priority locations in the Northern Territory.

- (i) Commonwealth Ombudsman’s Indigenous Unit to continue to conduct outreach visits to remote Indigenous communities.

- (j) Improving Child and Family Health – A Continuation of the Expanding Health Service Delivery Initiative that seeks to reform the primary health care services in remote Northern Territory and includes capital and infrastructure and workforce support through the Remote Area Health Corps. This measure will also continue the dental services and enable the completion of ENT specialist services. It will also provide improved access to training for primary health care service providers in responding to child abuse and related trauma. It will also continue the provision of enhanced Alcohol and Other Drug services commenced under the NTER.

SCHEDULE (K)

National Partnership breakdown 2009-10 to 2011-12

Note: there will be additional costs associated with the development of the Basics Card which are not included in this table. All figures are Underlying Cash and vary slightly from those published in the Commonwealth Budget papers which are in Fiscal Balance.

	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)	2011-12 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
Income Management and Welfare Reform				
NTER Income Management				
Commonwealth	88.4	0.0	0.0	88.4
NTER Income Management - financial management				
Commonwealth	4.9	0.0	0.0	4.9
NTER Food Security				
Commonwealth	7.9	5.3	4.2	17.4
Northern Territory Government (Schedule A)	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.9
NTER Language, Literacy and Numeracy				
Commonwealth	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
Law and Order				
NTER Remote Policing and Substance Abuse				
Commonwealth	7.9	9.3	10.7	27.9
Northern Territory Government (Schedule B)	31.4	49.4	47.8	128.6
NTER Law and Order Measures				
Commonwealth	26.5	26.7	27.0	80.2
Family Support				
NTER Community Safety – family support				
Commonwealth	5.5	5.7	5.9	17.0
Northern Territory Government (Schedule H)	5.1	5.3	5.5	15.8
NTER Community Safety - Youth				
Commonwealth	9.3	9.5	9.7	28.5

Early Childhood				
NTER Early Childhood				
Commonwealth	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
NTER Additional Playgroups				
Commonwealth	0.3	1.2	1.2	2.8
NTER Crèches				
Commonwealth	4.4	2.3	2.3	9.1
Enhancing Education				
NTER Quality Teaching, Accelerated Literacy				
Commonwealth	2.9	2.9	2.3	8.1
Northern Territory Government (Schedule I)	13.4	13.8	10.4	37.6
NTER Teacher Housing				
Commonwealth	11.2	0.0	0.0	11.2
NTER School Nutrition				
Commonwealth	13.6	12.0	11.8	37.5
Remote Service Delivery				
NTER Field Operations				
Commonwealth	25.1	25.3	25.6	76.0
Northern Territory Government (Schedule D – Interpreters)	0.9	2.9	4.3	8.1
NTER Local Priorities Fund				
Commonwealth	10.0	0.0	0.0	10.0
NTER Policy, Program Management, Implementation and Evaluation				
Commonwealth	3.9	3.8	3.3	11.0
NTER Resetting The Relationship				
Commonwealth	9.6	12.4	12.6	34.6
NTER Commonwealth Ombudsman Services				
Commonwealth	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.5
Health				
NTER Indigenous Health and Related Services				
Commonwealth	6.5	52.5	54.1	112.4
Northern Territory Government (Schedules E, F and G)	8.9	4.9	4.9	18.7
Total				
Commonwealth	239.3	171.2	173.0	583.5
Northern Territory Government	60.0	76.7	73.1	209.8