

Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment 2024-25 - Aboriginal Interpreter Services

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – AFFORDABLE HOUSING,
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND OTHER

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule	
Parties	Commonwealth Northern Territory Government
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2025.
Purpose	<p>Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment 2024-25</p> <p>This schedule forms part of the continued investment in Northern Territory remote communities for the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment 2024-25. The aim of the investment is to ensure First Nations people living in remote communities have equitable access to mainstream services in a way that is relevant to their context.</p> <p>The parties recognise the importance of continued investment in service delivery that benefits Aboriginal people in remote areas of the Northern Territory is essential to achieving the socio-economic targets under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.</p> <p>This Schedule will build on investments made under the National Partnership on Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment and replaces that Agreement.</p> <p>The reporting milestones and activities under this Schedule will inform an evaluation approach to identify agreed priorities. The evaluation will be governed by the Joint Steering Committee. The evaluation framework will be aligned with principles of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.</p> <p>Key data to be included in the evaluation includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employment data • client and community experience • data to support achievement of Closing the Gap Priority Reforms and targets • data to support related social outcomes framework(s). <p>Aboriginal Interpreter Services</p> <p>This Schedule will support the delivery of Aboriginal Interpreter Services in the Northern Territory by continuing to provide supplementary funding to increase access to interpreter services, and job opportunities for</p>

	<p>adults. The objective of the activity is for improved access to quality and timely interpreter services for Aboriginal people across the Northern Territory and the cross border region in Western Australia and South Australia that is delivered by appropriately qualified interpreters.</p> <p>This Schedule supports an Aboriginal employment target of over 95 per cent of staff in Aboriginal interpreter services and strengthened accessibility, availability and capability of Aboriginal language interpreting services in the majority of Aboriginal languages in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>This Schedule also supports legal-specific interpreter training, the active promotion of Aboriginal interpreting services among government and non-government legal and justice agencies and improved access and utilisation of Aboriginal interpreters and Aboriginal language services by government, service providers and Aboriginal people in Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara and Ngaanyatjarra Lands.</p>												
<p>Estimated financial contributions</p>	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the Northern Territory of \$5,711,350 in respect of this Schedule.</p> <hr/> <p>Table 1</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>(\$ million)</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated total budget</td> <td>\$5.71135</td> <td>\$5.71135</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i></td> <td><i>\$5.71135</i></td> <td><i>\$5.71135</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <hr/>	(\$ million)	2024-25	Total	Estimated total budget	\$5.71135	\$5.71135	<i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i>	<i>\$5.71135</i>	<i>\$5.71135</i>	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0.0	0.0
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Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0.0	0.0											
<p>Additional terms</p>	<p>Role of the Northern Territory</p> <p>In addition to Clause 20 of the Federation Funding Agreement (Role of the States and Territories), the Northern Territory will be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maximising opportunities for local businesses and employees to be involved in the delivery of the projects ensuring that First Nations Australians realise employment and business opportunities by incorporating appropriate First Nations employment and, where relevant, First Nations supplier-requirements. <p>Additionally, the Northern Territory agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> liaise with the Joint Steering Committee prior to the release of any media statements relating to the Schedule. 												

Shared Roles and Responsibilities

The Commonwealth, the Northern Territory and the Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory will form a Joint Steering Committee that will guide the implementation of this Schedule and related Schedules under the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment 2024-25, ensuring shared-decision making, transparency and collaboration with Parties to the agreements.

With regards to the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment 2024-25, The Joint Steering committee will:

- oversee and monitor remote service delivery under this and related Schedules
- meet at a minimum bi-annually
- support the development of Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to deliver services
- agree key priorities in remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory for future investments
- develop and maintain an evaluation framework to measure the impact and outcomes of priorities delivered under future investments
- establish an appropriate partnership or tripartite agreement to inform future investments, that implements the Priority Reforms under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

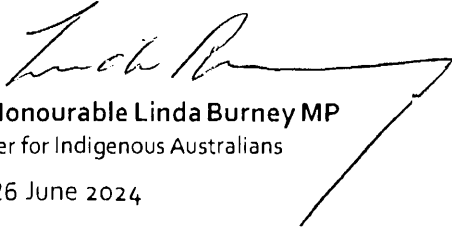
Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary

Output	Performance milestones Reporting period: 1 January – 31 December 2024	Report due	Payment
Provision of services and programs for interpreter services.	<p>The Northern Territory provides evidence of services via Annual Report for the reporting period to the Commonwealth.</p> <p>At a minimum, the Report should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total hours of training undertaken by interpreters. • The number of interpreters with a Diploma of Interpreting and/or National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) certification; or be deemed by the Northern Territory Government to have achieved the Aboriginal Interpreter Level 3 standard. • The number and percentage of the interpreter workforce who are Aboriginal. • The demographic information on the age and gender of the interpreter workforce. • The number of languages interpreting can be provided in, including the number of interpreters per language and number of qualified interpreters per language. • The total hours and number of interpreting jobs by region, sector, client type. • The total hours of interpreting by language. • Evidence of pathways and support for certification training which lead to interpreters' career progression. • The number of individuals undertaking NAATI certification. 	1 March 2025	\$1,427,838
Increase in interpreting hours provided by accredited/qualified interpreters.*	<p>Percentage of interpreting hours provided by accredited/qualified interpreters over the reporting period:</p> <p>2024 – 71 per cent</p>	1 March 2025	\$4,283,512

*Accredited by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI); Certified Translator standard or completed the Diploma of Interpreting; or be deemed by the Northern Territory Government to have achieved the Aboriginal Interpreter Level 3 standard

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

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



The Honourable Linda Burney MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
26 June 2024

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



The Honourable Eva Lawler MLA
Chief Minister
27 June 2024