

Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment 2024-25 – Alcohol Services

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT - AFFORDABLE HOUSING,
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND OTHER

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| Parties | Commonwealth Northern Territory of Australia |
| 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 Aboriginal 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 include:</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>Alcohol Services</p> <p>This Schedule will support the delivery of alcohol treatment and harm reduction services in the Northern Territory by continuing to provide supplementary funding for the Northern Territory Government’s commitments for reducing alcohol-related harm.</p> <p>The activities delivered under this Schedule are listed below and further information is at Attachment A. The overall objective of the activities is to improve the health and safety of remote Aboriginal communities in the NT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol Action Initiatives • Alcohol Action Initiatives Workforce • Individual Support Program • Continuing Care (previously Aftercare treatment services) • Remote Alcohol and Other Drugs Workforce (RAODW) • Liquor Licence Compliance <p>The Commonwealth and Northern Territory recognise the importance of evidence-based policy development with the Northern Territory agreeing to continue the Northern Territory Alcohol Data Monitoring Group.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|--|--|---------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|----------|----------|---|-----|-----|
| <p>Estimated financial contributions</p> | <p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the Northern Territory of \$11,404,160 in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="438 1254 1098 1556"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Table 1</th> </tr> <tr> <th>(\$ million)</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated total budget</td> <td>11.40416</td> <td>11.40416</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i></td> <td>11.40416</td> <td>11.40416</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Table 1 | | | (\$ million) | 2024-25 | Total | Estimated total budget | 11.40416 | 11.40416 | <i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i> | 11.40416 | 11.40416 | Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Table 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (\$ million) | 2024-25 | Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated total budget | 11.40416 | 11.40416 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i> | 11.40416 | 11.40416 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 Aboriginal Australians realise employment and business opportunities by incorporating appropriate First Nations employment and, where relevant, First Nations supplier | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

requirements.

Additionally, the Northern Territory agrees to:

- liaise with the JSC 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.

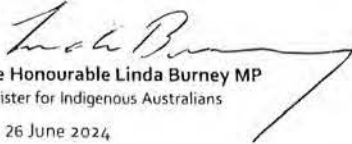
Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary

| Output | Performance milestones | Report due | Payment |
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| Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAIs) | Annual report on the activities delivered from 1 January – 31 December 2024 under the Schedule including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence that the activities are aligned with Strategic Guidance at Attachment B. • A monitoring and evaluation plan/strategy for AAIs. • Evidence of at least 80 per cent of AAIs in the annual plan have completed or have a signed service agreement. • The number and percentage of workforce who identify as Aboriginal. | 01 March 2025 | \$1,102,100 |
| Alcohol Action Initiatives – Workforce | Annual report on the activities delivered from 1 January – 31 December 2024 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of 30 communities supported to develop, implement and monitor AAIs. • The number and percentage of workforce who identify as Aboriginal. | 01 March 2025 | \$1,852,970 |
| Individual Support Program | Annual report on the activities delivered from 1 January – 31 December 2024 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of the program delivered in two regional centres. • The number of clients supported. • The number and percentage of workforce who identify as Aboriginal. | 01 March 2025 | \$669,500 |
| Continuing Care services (previously referred to as Aftercare treatment services) | Annual report on the activities delivered from 1 January – 31 December 2024 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of services offered to all people exiting a rehabilitation program. • Evidence of services delivered to clients who consent (client engagement for at least three months after discharge from rehabilitation). • The number of clients who consent to treatment; percentage of clients exiting rehabilitation that consent to treatment. • The number and percentage of workforce who identify as Aboriginal. | 01 March 2025 | \$1,442,000 |
| Remote Alcohol and Other Drug Workforce (RAODW) | Annual report on the activities delivered from 1 January – 31 December 2024 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of RAODW operating where it has been identified as a priority, in a minimum of 18 communities. • For the purposes of this Schedule, a RAODW can be delivered through an alcohol and other drug treatment pathway, or a social and emotional wellbeing pathway with suitably qualified providers. • The number and percentage of workforce with minimum levels of qualifications in relevant fields. • The number and percentage of workforce who identify as Aboriginal. | 01 March 2025 | \$4,594,830 |

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| Liquor licence compliance | Annual report on the activities delivered from 1 January – 31 December 2024 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of 90 per cent of licensed premises servicing remote areas compliant at the time of inspection or following intervention. ▪ Examples of the types of corrective action taken, where relevant. ▪ Number of venues required to take corrective action by region. ▪ The number and percentage of workforce who identify as Aboriginal. | 01 March 2025 | \$1,742,760 |
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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
28 June 2024

Attachment B

| Activity | Description | Outcome |
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| Alcohol Actions Initiatives (AAIs) | <p>Practical, locally supported AAIs to reduce alcohol related harm implemented in identified communities building on the current evidence base and community consultation and consistent with the key issues and priority areas for action to address supply, demand and harm reduction as outlined in the National Drug Strategy 2017-2026 and National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Drug Strategy 2014-19 and in accordance with the priorities of the individual community.</p> <p>An annual program of works which details the community driven AAIs.</p> <p>A coordinated approach across the Northern Territory to reduce alcohol related harms, focusing on enabling identified communities to address alcohol related harms by implementing practical locally supported actions on the ground more quickly and working with the Commonwealth to align and target complementary programs.</p> <p>Locally agreed and available place-based alcohol indicators to measure reductions in levels of alcohol related harms in communities (such as assaults, family violence, incidents of antisocial behaviour, health presentations and injuries etc).</p> | <p>The health, safety and wellbeing of remote Aboriginal communities are improved through the prevention of alcohol related harms and an increase in remote communities' capacity, local governance and leadership in managing alcohol harms.</p> |
| Alcohol Action Initiatives Workforce | <p>A workforce which facilitates identified communities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop, implement, manage, monitor and review AAIs aimed at reducing alcohol related harm in their communities • build capacity and develop skills in managing alcohol harms, through the provision of tools, information and resources to help communities generate and own AAIs • access funding for AAIs <p>A stable, supported and skilled local workforce through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • best-practice recruitment with a focus on Aboriginal employment • ongoing and targeted workforce training and professional development • support for all front-line, client-based employees to obtain a minimum qualification of Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs or other relevant discipline | <p>The health, safety and wellbeing of remote Aboriginal communities are improved through the prevention of alcohol related harms and an increase in remote communities' capacity, local governance and leadership in managing alcohol harms.</p> |
| Individual Support Program | <p>The implementation of a support program for individuals in two regional centres for people living rough and for visitors from remote communities who are vulnerable to harmful alcohol use.</p> <p>Outreach, direct support and case management to targeted individuals to assist them to manage their</p> | <p>The health, safety and wellbeing of remote Aboriginal communities are increased through a sustained behavior change away from harmful use of alcohol.</p> |

Attachment B

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| | <p>own alcohol use and to minimise harms through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outreach and coordinated referral and support services, including early intervention • encouragement into employment and training • assisting with return to country | |
| Continuing Care (formerly Aftercare Treatment Services) | <p>An aftercare service in remote communities to support residents when they exit from treatment for harmful substance use.</p> <p>Support in community for up to six months after discharge from treatment for the primary purpose of relapse prevention, and to enable clients to change their drinking behaviour and achieve pathways to recovery.</p> <p>Services will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brokering and coordinating a mix of therapeutic, social and cultural support • monitoring need and follow up of planned interventions • providing crisis intervention and ongoing care coordination | The health, safety and wellbeing of remote Aboriginal communities are increased through a sustained behavior change away from harmful use of alcohol. |
| Remote Alcohol and Other Drugs Workforce (RAODW) | <p>A local RAODW operating in regional and remote communities to provide clinical, culturally safe, culturally relevant and trauma informed intervention and management of harmful alcohol and other drugs use in communities.</p> <p>The provision of health related services to reduce AOD related harm including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting treatment, and rehabilitation • community education • supporting AOD community interventions • collection and reporting at the community level of alcohol health related information • work with the AAI Workforce and Liquor Compliance Officers to provide on the ground support to the Alcohol Reference Group and other alcohol management roles as relevant to the work of RAODW <p>A stable supported and skilled local RAODW through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • best-practice recruitment of the RAODW with a focus on Aboriginal employment • ongoing and targeted workforce training and professional development • support for frontline, client-based employees to obtain a minimum qualification of Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs or other relevant discipline • the integration of services with the AAI program of works | The health, safety and wellbeing of remote Aboriginal communities are increased through the treatment and rehabilitation for harmful use of alcohol for individuals from remote communities; and a workforce with increased capacity to deliver support services to address harmful AOD use and dependence. |

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| <p>Liquor Licence Compliance</p> | <p>License inspectors will continue to be employed to boost proactive education, advice and engagement with liquor licensees.</p> <p>Continued support for a program of liquor license compliance in accordance with a risk based regulatory licensing and compliance approach.</p> <p>The risk based approach will take into account a range of factors including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• wholesale consumption data from that area• data relating to alcohol related assaults in that area• data in respect of alcohol related hospital admissions in that area | <p>The health, safety and wellbeing of remote Aboriginal communities are increased through licensed establishments in regional and remote locations complying with their license conditions.</p> |
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Attachment B

Strategic guidance for funding of Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAIs)

AAIs will be agreed in line with the following criteria:

1. An AAI builds on the current evidence base and community consultation and supports the harm minimisation approach outlined in the [National Drug Strategy 2017 - 2026](#) targeting a direct reduction in one or more of the following:
 - a. Supply – whether measures reduce alcohol consumption by controlling, managing and/or regulating the availability and accessibility of alcohol. Examples of actions that fall within scope are: dry community declarations; restrictions on alcohol sales or product-type; restrictions on trading hours and liquor outlet density.
 - b. Demand – whether measures prevent the uptake and/or delay the onset of alcohol use, reduce the harmful use of alcohol in the community, and support people to recover from dependence and reintegrate with the community. Examples of actions that fall within scope are: screening and brief interventions; early intervention (to reduce the prevalence of AOD use during pregnancy, to facilitate the social and emotional development of children, and youth diversionary programs); alternatives to AOD use, education and persuasion; community and residential treatments; aftercare support.
 - c. Harm – whether measures reduce the adverse health, social and economic consequences of alcohol consumption. Examples of actions that fall within scope are: increased venue safety; risk based licensing; Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) practice; and education around the risks of drinking while pregnant.
2. Preference for AAI funding in communities will be prioritised according to need, community and proposal readiness and capacity for the initiative to be effectively delivered.
3. In deciding which AAIs will be supported, weight will be given to the following, in addition to paragraphs 1.a-c:
 - a. initiatives that improve community safety and wellbeing of individuals, children, families and communities
 - b. community-led initiatives
 - c. leadership and administration of an initiative by the community
 - d. initiatives that address prevention, early intervention, and social determinants of harmful alcohol use, such as community capacity and strength, personal and community wellbeing, alternative and meaningful activities for men and young people, regional impacts from community visitors, school attendance, community amenity, economic engagement, and employment participation
 - e. initiatives that have demonstrated success, including the effective implementation of previously agreed initiatives
 - f. the promotion of initiatives tailored to a local context.
4. A program of AAIs recommended for funding by the Northern Territory will be developed annually by the Northern Territory and agreed with senior Commonwealth Government officials by 30 November each year, for implementation the following year. It will be known as a "program of works". For the purposes of this Schedule, the 2024 program of works is considered to be that which was agreed in November 2023 under the Community Safety Implementation Plan of the National Partnership on Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment Extension 2022-24.
5. The Northern Territory may amend its annual program of works throughout the year through agreement with senior Commonwealth Government officials.
6. AAIs that run for longer than one year will be agreed to once between the Northern Territory and senior Commonwealth Government officials, even though implementation will continue over more than one year.
7. Any initiatives involving capital works, such as renovation, building and construction, with a total expenditure over \$80,000 will require additional endorsement by the Commonwealth Minister for Indigenous Australians.

The Commonwealth may at any time propose initiatives to the Northern Territory, which the Northern Territory will consider including in the program of works.