

Response PAC Inquiry into LDM

ORIGINAL PAPER

No. 966
Sheralibo
 Laid on the Table *SELENA UISO*
 19 / 10 / 23 19/10/2023

Recommendation	Minister's Response	Actions
<p>Recommendation 1</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Government publish the findings of the joint review of the Local Decision Making Framework to be conducted by the Government and the Aboriginal Peak Organisations of the Northern Territory (APO NT).</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Include in the joint review Terms of Reference to publish any findings.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2</p> <p>The Committee recommends that, as part of the review of the Local Decision Making Framework, the Government update the Local Decision Making resources so that they better assist public stakeholders understanding of the Framework.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>The joint review will look into engagement. Including the communications strategy of the framework and available web and other resources.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Government improve engagement with the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory and regional councils, and define the role of regional councils within Local Decision Making and explore the viability of community councils within the local government structure, to build a stronger collaborative approach in the development and implementation of Local Decision Making agreements.</p>	<p>Support improved engagement with LGANT and local councils on LDM</p> <p>Support in principle exploring the role of local government in LDM as part of the joint review.</p>	<p>Include in the joint review Terms of Reference exploring the role of local government in the LDM process.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 4 The Committee recommends that the Government review Commonwealth and Northern Territory Aboriginal Affairs policies and programs to identify and reduce duplication in responsibilities and service delivery.</p>	<p>Support in principle</p>	<p>The NT Government will continue to work in partnership with the Commonwealth Government to assess policies and program delivery to reduce duplication in responsibilities and service delivery.</p>
<p>Recommendation 5 The Committee recommends that the Government develop a more inclusive governance approach across all levels of government and peak body stakeholders that supports collaborative planning, improved coordination and integration, effective engagement and reduces duplication of effort and community participation fatigue.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>This recommendation will be considered with recommendations 2 and 8 as part of the joint review that will include engagement. All engagement as part of the joint review will be conducted in line with the Remote Engagement and Coordination Strategy.</p>
<p>Recommendation 6 The Committee recommends that the Government allocate adequate funding to agencies and non-government organisations to more effectively engage with communities to negotiate and implement Local Decision Making agreements.</p>	<p>Support in principle</p>	<p>The NT government will review funding arrangements for LDM as part of the joint review. This includes examining the capacity of NT Government agencies to negotiate LDMs. The capacity and capability of communities to be in a position to manage the transition of services, will also be considered in funding settings.</p>
<p>Recommendation 7 The Committee recommends that the Government invest in change management across the whole of government to ensure that the principles underpinning Local Decision Making are embedded in the policies, programs and service delivery of every agency.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>The NT government following the joint review will work with agencies to embed LDM including its underpinning principles. This will complement and be parallel to the current work of government in regard to LDM and embedding the Closing the Gap priority reforms.</p>

<p>Recommendation 8 The Committee recommends that the Government publish an annual update detailing the status and progress of Local Decision Making negotiations and implementation of agreements including information on the work being undertaken by all NT government agencies.</p>	<p>Support in principle</p>	<p>The Office of Aboriginal Affairs, in partnership with APONT to explore a process for public reporting on the progress of all LDM agreements. This is to include whether an LDM annual update could be included within existing reporting arrangements or a new standalone update should be developed. This recommendation will be considered with recommendations 2 and 5 as part of the joint review that will include engagement.</p>
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