



ALGA
Closing the Gap
2022 Annual Report

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Purpose of this Annual Report

This document is the first Annual Report on the progress of the **Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) Closing the Gap Implementation Plan**.

In September 2021, the (ALGA) published its implementation Plan in line with the commitment of all signatories to the National Agreement Closing the Gap. The Commonwealth, states and territories are required to prepare their Implementation Plan and Annual Report using an agreed format. However, ALGA and the Coalition of Peaks, because of their different roles, responsibilities and circumstances are not required to adopt that agreed format.

ALGA is a federated organisation comprised of state and territory local government associations. It is governed by a Board with representatives from each state and territory association and a President elected by the Board. To inform this Annual Report, the ALGA Secretariat has involved a network of state and territory policy officers with responsibility for the provision of policy advice related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities, including in some jurisdictions supporting Aboriginal Shire Councils. The network is designed to facilitate the progress of the ALGA Implementation Plan, assist in monitoring, and reporting and share information and strategies to progress Closing the Gap within each jurisdiction.

Under the National Agreement, all state and territory governments' Implementation Plans are to be whole-of-government plans, covering government agencies and statutory bodies (local governments are sta



participation in, and engagement on, Indigenous issues at all levels. Delegates at the NGA also heard from Indigenous local government councillors during panel discussions and debate on motions designed to inform **ALGA's** national policy development.



Priority Reforms

There are four priority reform areas identified in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, each of which has been





	<i>communities or provide community health services.</i>
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Case Studies

The following case studies reflect the diversity and scope of actions taken by Local Governments to progress Closing the Gap objectives across Australia. Local Government Case studies are not comprehensive or systematically collected due to resource constraints.

Case Study 1 - Reconciliation Action Plans:

Reconciliation Action Plans reflect councils and First Nations People's commitment to work together. As of June 2020, there were 86 local governments with an endorsed RAP and actively engaged in the program. Many of the stakeholders interviewed by Reconciliation Australia highlighted the role of local government in truth-telling and historical acceptance and there are numerous case studies of local government initiating name changes and other ways of honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories. (Source: 2021 State of Reconciliation in Australia Report).

Case Study 1: The City of Stirling, (Western Australia): **The need to acknowledge Australia's history of colonisation, dispossession and racist policies is integral to a successful process of reconciliation. It can help build stronger relations between First Peoples and the broader community. A partnership between the City of Stirling local government and the Wadjak Nhe o } vrred** ity. 9057(ri)-1(n)-3.00518(g)ce4(e)337(s39(ti)23.98261425(h)6.99026-4.9959057(i5)-4.999.9642-3.



