



Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Recommendation

324. Integrated service delivery for housing needs

That the model which Tangentyere Council offers for integrating the various service delivery and administrative needs associated with Aboriginal housing be studied in other regions.¹

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Background ²	The Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC) emphasised the need for Aboriginal communities to be actively involved in the allocation and design of infrastructure contracts for public housing. Involvement with local tenders held the potential to provide educational skills and development for the community while also creating valuable employment opportunities, especially in remote areas where economic challenges significantly affect the living conditions of Aboriginal communities. The RCIADIC highlighted Tangentyere Council in Alice Springs as a successful example of how housing strategies could be implemented while providing educational programs to children in town camps and other essential services, such as integrated rent collection. Aboriginal-controlled, multifunctional housing organisations were considered pivotal in shaping the social fabric of towns and communities, promoting the significance of community ownership and management of land, housing, and administrative needs.	
Intent	Consider the Tangentyere Council model for integrating service delivery and administrative needs associated with Aboriginal housing.	
Responsibility	The Commonwealth and all state and territory governments.	
Key contact	Homes Victoria, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH); Department of Transport and Planning (DTP); Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV).	
Key Action Taken		
2005 Review ³	The Victorian Government considered Recommendation 324 was not relevant to Victoria. It was not assessed by government agencies. Review Team The Aboriginal-led Review Team disagreed that models for integrating service delivery and administrative needs were irrelevant to Victoria and highlighted their potential for use at Lake Tyers and Framlingham.	

¹ Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (Final Report, 1991) vol 4, 473 ('RCIADIC').

² Ibid vol 4, 468-473 [35.2.18].

³ Aboriginal Justice Forum (Vic), Department of Justice (Vic), *Victorian Implementation Review of the Recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody* (Review Report, October 2005) vol 1, 191-192 ('2005 Review').

324. Integrated service delivery for housing needs		
2018 Review⁴	Deloitte concluded that the Victorian Government had not implemented Recommendation 324.	
Since then	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing ⁵ In their response to this recommendation, Homes Victoria confirmed that no further action had been taken in response to Recommendation 324.	

Evidence of impact

Authorising Document	None identified.
Outputs	None identified.
Outcomes	None identified.
Community Views	None identified.

Related recommendations

2005 Review ⁶	Recommendation 11
	That the Department of Human Services (Office of Housing) in partnership with the
	Commonwealth Government and Indigenous Housing Groups:
	(a) continue to support the collaborative planning approach for Aboriginal housing in Victoria and, in particular, the strategies developed to this end in 2003,
	(b) implement and monitor Recommendation 324 relating to integrating service delivery and administrative needs particularly in respect of Lake Tyers and Framlingham,
	(d) report to the Victorian Indigenous Housing Joint Planning Committee on (a)-(b), and
	That the Victorian Government continue to implement and monitor Recommendation 324
	through any monitoring process established as a consequence of this Review.

Assessment Summary

Recommendation 324 intended for governments to consider the Tangentyere Council model for integrating service delivery and administrative needs associated with Aboriginal housing.

⁴ Deloitte Access Economics, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, *Review of the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody* (Report, August 2018) 667-668 ('2018 Review').

⁵ Department of Families Fairness and Housing, 'DFFH (Homes Vic) Review of Housing Recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aborignal Deaths in Custody' (Response to AJC Request (UNPUBLISHED), Tranche One).

⁶ 2005 Review.

324. Integrated service delivery for housing needs

In the 2005 Review, Recommendation 324 was not assessed as it was deemed not relevant to Victoria by the Victorian Government. However, the Aboriginal-led Review Team disagreed, suggesting that models for integrating service delivery and administrative needs were relevant to Victoria.

In 2024, Homes Victoria confirmed that they had not taken any further action on Recommendation 324, suggesting that no specific action has occurred in response to this recommendation in Victoria.

The Aboriginal Justice Caucus considered Recommendation 324 was not relevant to Victoria.

Bibliography

- Aboriginal Justice Forum (Vic), Department of Justice (Vic), Victorian Implementation Review of the Recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (Review Report, October 2005)
- Deloitte Access Economics, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Review of the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (Report, August 2018)
- Department of Families Fairness and Housing, Fairness and Housing Department of Families 'DFFH (Homes Vic) Review of Housing Recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aborignal Deaths in Custody' (Response to AJC Request (UNPUBLISHED) Tranche One 2024)

Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (Final Report, 1991)