

6 **Cabinet Notes for Discussion**

Not relevant



604 **INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
AGREEMENT (Jay Weatherill) - NOTED**

Not relevant



604

Walked-in

**CABINET NOTE**

**TO: THE PREMIER FOR CABINET TO NOTE**

**RE: INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE AGREEMENT**

**1. PROPOSAL**

It is proposed that Cabinet:

- 1.1 notes the funding contribution sought from the Australian Government under a new Indigenous Community Housing and Infrastructure Agreement .
- 1.2 notes that South Australia will commence negotiations with the Australian Government with a request for \$230M under a new bi-lateral Indigenous Community Housing and Infrastructure Agreement.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Australian Government has initiated negotiations for a new bilateral agreement on Indigenous Housing and Community Infrastructure, due to expire on 30 June 2008.
- 2.2 In May 2007 the Australian Government announced a \$1.3B national funding package over the next four years for the reform of Indigenous Community Housing. An additional \$293.6M in new funds was added to this funding package for communities in the Torres Strait and Cape York.
- 2.3 The Australian Government will implement the new funding agreement through the new Australian Remote Indigenous Accommodation (ARIA) Programme. This will replace the national Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP) on 30 June 2008.
- 2.4 There is a large gap between Indigenous housing need nationally and the ARIA funding announced by the Australian Government. Evidence was provided to the Housing Minister's Council in March 2005 quantifying Indigenous Community Housing need nationally at \$3B.

- 2.5 The ARIA program funding reflects a \$1.7B shortfall. Within South Australia, evidenced based Indigenous housing need is estimated at \$350M.
- 2.6 *Aboriginal Housing – South Australia - A Plan for Housing and Employment in Remote Areas 2008 -2011* requires a contribution from the Australian Government of \$230M (17.7% of \$1.3B) over four years.
- 2.7 The funding sought by South Australia will not meet the quantum of Indigenous housing need in this state, however it will make a significant contribution towards addressing it.
- 2.8 An Australian Government investment of \$230M will deliver new construction and house replacement and an asset management strategy which will make savings of up to \$110M over ten years. It will also deliver new governance arrangements, housing management standards and employment and training.
- 2.9 The \$25M for the APY Lands on offer from the Australian Government, has been excluded from the funds sought in South Australia's funding request. These monies are unspent 2006/07 Australian Government funds and negotiations are ongoing.

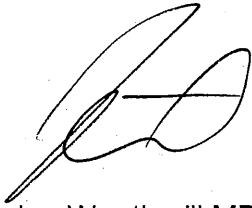
### **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 It is imperative that a new bi lateral agreement is reached if South Australia is to access ARIA Programme funding, available nationally. If agreement is not reached with the Australian Government, the South Australian government will be unable to maintain and expand housing services for people located on Aboriginal community lands.
- 3.2 Under ARIA, specific policy imperatives must be met, including the provision of matching funding from each jurisdiction. Under current arrangements the Government of South Australia provides administrative support to the Community Housing Program which is administered by the Office for Aboriginal Housing, through the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement.
- 3.3 It is imperative that this funding source continue to support the delivery of ARIA funded programs, if the South Australian Government is to be seen as providing matching funds to this agreement.

4. **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 4.1 notes the funding contribution sought from the Australian Government under a new Indigenous Community Housing and Infrastructure Agreement .
- 4.2 notes that South Australia will commence negotiations with the Australian Government with a request for \$230M under a new bi-lateral Indigenous Community Housing and Infrastructure Agreement.

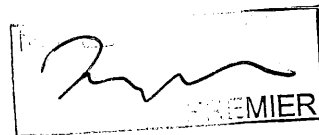


Hon Jay Weatherill MP  
**MINISTER FOR HOUSING**

16/9/2007

**In Cabinet**

17 SEP 2007



PREMIER