

UNCLASSIFIED

1. ***Could you expand on your Department's strategy with regard to place-based approaches to addressing entrenched disadvantage, in particular both the people and place aspects.***

The Department's Regional Network works in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and other stakeholders to develop and implement tailored and innovative local solutions that drive social and economic empowerment.

The Department is committed to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to understand their needs and aspirations and tailor the way services are delivered at the local level to ensure the community is the beneficiary of the service(s) being delivered in a place and services are delivered in a joined-up way.

2. ***With regard to community-led approaches to addressing entrenched disadvantage, do you have experience in measures to build the capacity of communities and/or in strengthening local governance arrangements?***

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The Department has a several community-led approaches that build the capacity of communities and/or that strength local governance. These include:

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Cape York

The Cape York Welfare Reform initiative has been in place in four communities since 2008.

In Cape York, leaders have developed a new approach, Pama Futures, to empower local Aboriginal people and give them greater authority over key decisions. This would include the transition of the Cape York Welfare Reform Initiative and Empowered Communities into the new model.

Further information is at <https://capeyorkpartnership.org.au/cogs-of-change/welfare-reform/>

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*Empowered Communities*

Empowered Communities is an Indigenous designed and led model and aims to increase Indigenous ownership and give Indigenous people a greater say over decisions that affect them.

The regions are:

- Cape York
- Central Coast
- East and West Kimberley
- Goulburn-Murray
- Inner Sydney
- North-East Arnhem Land
- NPY Lands

Further information is at <https://empoweredcommunities.org.au/>

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*Stronger Communities for Children*

Stronger Communities for Children (SCfC) is a community-led place-based initiative operating in 10 remote sites in the Northern Territory. The first five sites commenced in 2013 and the second tranche of five sites commenced in 2015.

The strong focus of the program to date has been on community capacity building and jobs. There has also been an increasing focus on integrated early childhood development activities.

Further information is at <https://www.pmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/education/stronger-communities-children>

PM&C is happy to respond to further questions if required.

Regards

Peter

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The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

