



## SHARED RESPONSIBILITY AGREEMENT STATEMENT OF INTENT

### 1 INTRODUCTION

This is an Agreement between the Hope Vale Community, the Queensland Government and the Australian Government.

It is made as partners with shared responsibility for and commitment to working together on agreed local priorities and actions.

This Agreement:

- recognises and respects each of the parties' rights, roles and responsibilities; and
- recognises and respects the community's traditions and aspirations.

The Agreement provides a basis for cooperation between the Community and Governments through:

- harnessing our resources and efforts to achieve measurable and sustainable improvements;
- engaging local people and strengthening capability for action and self-management;
- supporting and strengthening local governance, decision making, problem-solving and accountability;
- recognising families and clan groups as integral to the success of the action plans;
- improving the accessibility of relevant programs and decision-makers;
- facilitating improved relationships between and across relevant agencies and organisations and the community;
- sharing information and learning by identifying and communicating what works, what doesn't, why and apply the lessons in the future;
- negotiating agreed priorities and actions.

### 2 PRIORITIES

In making this Agreement, the Hope Vale Community and the Governments have agreed to work together to create a strong, proud, healthy, inclusive and productive future for the people of Hope Vale. Key issues have been identified and it is agreed that we will prioritise the issues and actions, and develop specific action plans which clearly indicate what action is required from each of the three parties and include the responsible person and timeframes. The key issues are:

- stronger community governance and improved community pride and cohesion;
- reduced alcohol and substance abuse;
- improved housing and water;
- reduced suicide and stress and improved environmental, physical and mental health;
- reduced crime, violence and disputation, and improved observance of the law;
- improved school attendance and educational attainment, and improved skills;
- improved sport, recreation and cultural opportunities, especially for young people;
- enhanced employment and enterprise opportunities and economic participation; and
- resolution of land-related issues.



It is acknowledged that these priorities are inter-related and making a difference will be challenging. It is agreed that they require immediate attention, practical initiatives, a staged approach, creativity and collaboration, and sustained commitment.

### **3 OUTCOMES & ACTIONS**

Action Plans will build on current activities, information and planning in the priority areas for agreed outcomes. These are to be jointly developed by all parties and endorsed by the Community and the Governments during the Negotiation Table process. This brings together the work done for the Hope Vale Community Plan and toward alcohol management. Such Action Plans will contain information about how the Community and the Governments agree to meet their respective responsibilities, including who is responsible, what will happen, and by when.

The Action Plans will evolve as milestones are met, and further negotiations occur.

### **4 MEASUREMENT AND REVIEW OF PROGRESS**

The Community and Governments agree to monitor and evaluate progress against the timeframes and activities set out in the attachments. Progress will be reviewed at regular intervals, and the first formal review will be on Tuesday 18 May 2004.

The Community and Governments also agree to participate in the evaluation being conducted of *Meeting Challenges: Making Choices*. The Community and Governments agree that Hope Vale will be a case study for this evaluation and that evaluators may visit Hope Vale to gather information. It is also agreed that the people of Hope Vale will be offered opportunities to participate in the case study, to gather information and to analyse information.

### **5 ACCESS TO DATA**

Data collected during an activity carried out under this agreement will be made available to both Community and Governments.

Records of the data and analysis for the evaluation case study of *Meeting Challenges: Making Choices* will be provided to the Community for the benefit of the community.

### **6 RESOLVING DIFFERENCES**

The Community and Governments agree that any differences or misunderstandings that may arise in relation to this Agreement or the attachments will be discussed and resolved in a spirit of partnership in the best interests of the people of Hopevale.

### **7 DURATION AND VARIATION OF AGREEMENT**

This Agreement will come into effect from the date of signing by all parties and will continue until the parties agree to terminate the Agreement or prepare a replacement.

The Community and the Governments may agree in writing at any time to change the contents of this Agreement and the details in the attachments.



# SHARED RESPONSIBILITY AGREEMENT Statement of Intent

Between

Hope Vale Aboriginal Community,

The

Australian Government

through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

and the

Queensland Government

through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet

December 2003

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Signed for and on behalf the Hope Vale Community by

JUNE PEARSON  
CHAIR  
HOPE VALE ABORIGINAL COUNCIL

Signed for and on behalf of  
the Australian Government by

Mina Podbereski  
PRINCIPAL ADVISOR, INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT  
AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

Signed for and on behalf of  
The Queensland Government by

MICHAEL HOGAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
on behalf of  
DR LEO KELIHER, DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

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