



# A place-based partnership in the East Kimberley

## Outline for introduction meeting

### What is a place-based partnership?

A place-based partnership is a way for governments and Aboriginal communities to work better together.

Community organisations and government agencies get together and reach a common understanding about what the community needs, and what decisions should be made about programs, policies and services.

The main idea of place-based partnerships is that people who live in a community know their community best, and should have a place at the table.

Some of the main elements of a place-based partnership are:

- A agreement setting out the key principles and expectations
- Decision-making processes
- Committees to focus on particular issues, working together on how to do things differently
- Data and information about services and outcomes
- Resourcing to support the process

While there is currently no new funding for programs, services or infrastructure, the partnership is an opportunity to:

- get better outcomes from existing funding; and
- set out community priorities about any future funding.

### What issues will it cover?

The partnership could start by focusing on social issues and community services, with any specific focus areas (eg language or education) to be decided through the partnership.

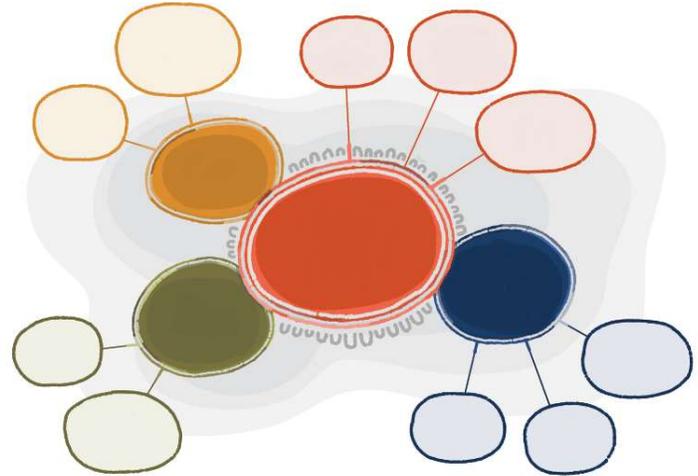
Once the partnership is established and working well, the parties can discuss whether to expand its focus to include other areas.

### Which places will be involved?

The Government wants to hear your views about this. There are different ways of doing it.

The partnership could start by focusing on only one town or community, and then grow to include more places over time.

Right now, these introduction meetings are being held in Kununurra, Halls Creek and Wyndham. We are not able to get out to the remote communities this time.



## Who will be involved? What will the partnership governance be?

If there is support for a place-based partnership, setting up the partnership structure would be the first priority.

The details do not need to be worked out now – this can come later.

The partnership will be strongest if all levels of government are involved – this will result in better coordination between services and programs. If Aboriginal organisations support the idea of a place-based partnership, the WA Government will talk to the Federal Government and local Shires next.

The proper representation of Aboriginal people, communities and organisations in the partnership will be essential. There is a role for both cultural authority (such as native title corporations) and community service organisations.

The Government is committed to working with Aboriginal organisations to get the partnership structure right.

## What about existing initiatives? How would this fit?

The partnership will work with and build on the existing governance structures and Aboriginal-led initiatives. These can be even more effective through greater coordination with other activities and greater visibility.

If East Kimberley Aboriginal organisations support the general idea of a place-based partnership, one of the next steps would be to work out how all of the existing initiatives should best fit together.

## What would the next steps be?

The WA Government needs to tell the national Closing the Gap meeting about where it will establish a place-based partnership. The deadline for this is 11 March 2022.

If East Kimberley Aboriginal organisations support the idea, we will recommend that the East Kimberley be nominated.

After that, we will set up more meetings to do more work on the governance structure.

## Key Questions for the introduction meeting

1. Is a place-based partnership in the East Kimberley a good idea?
2. Which place(s) should the partnership cover?

## Contact details

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