

# A Statement of Commitment

As Tasmanian government health leaders, we are committed to making our health system culturally respectful for Aboriginal people. This means ensuring all Aboriginal people are treated respectfully at all points of interaction with Tasmania's health system. We will achieve and maintain a culturally respectful health system by implementing this plan.

This means:

- having high-level leadership and whole-of-organisation approach and commitment to cultural respect
- having genuine partnerships with Aboriginal community-controlled organisations
- acknowledging the importance of culture to health and wellbeing; recognising the cultural identity and practices of Aboriginal people; and ensuring Aboriginal cultural visibility in our health services
- ensuring Aboriginal people are empowered to be active participants in their own health and healthcare
- supporting our workforce to improve its cultural competency, to embrace the knowledge, skills and values of Tasmanian Aboriginal people, and to understand that the relatively poor health status of Tasmanian Aboriginal people is the direct result of colonisation, racism and inter-generational trauma
- supporting and encouraging Aboriginal people to work in our health system
- having a rigorous approach to data collection, aligning with the *National best practice guidelines for collecting Indigenous status in health data sets* (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2010)
- involving Aboriginal people in evaluating implementation of this plan
- reporting on our progress.



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Secretary, Department of Health



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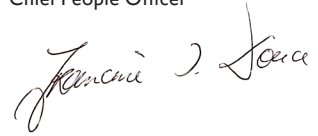
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Improving Aboriginal  
Cultural Respect  
Across Tasmania's  
Health System

ACTION PLAN  
2020 – 2026