

# Communique

## MEETING 11 DECEMBER 2023

The Kimberley Aboriginal Health Planning Forum (KAHPF) met on 11 December 2023 via MS Teams.

The KAHPF held a second **strategic planning** workshop on 30 November 2023 in Broome which involved participation from KAHPF, Sub-committee and Working Group members. Their input towards the review has been invaluable, and the KAHPF looks forward to launching a revised strategic plan in the new year that will better align efforts to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

At the strategic planning workshop, the current **governance structure** was reviewed, and it was agreed that three Sub-committees could be disbanded with other arrangements in place:

1. The Data Sub-committee will be disbanded, and instead, the KAHPF will receive regular updates from the Kimberley Health Evidence Data Platform Project Steering Group.
2. The Health Promotion Sub-committee will be disbanded, and instead, the KAHPF will receive updates as relevant from the Kimberley Health Promotion Network that is being coordinated by the Kimberley Population Health Unit, WA Country Health Service.
3. The Health Workforce Alliance will be disbanded, noting that workforce planning and development is a cross-cutting priority which spans all Sub-committees.

The KAHPF received an application from **Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre** to join the KAHPF as Associate Members. The application was endorsed unanimously and the important role of Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre in supporting Fitzroy Valley women and communities was recognised.

KAHPF members noted an update from the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries on the Liquor Control Amendment (Banned Drinkers Register) Bill 2023. Members agreed that advocacy is required for the development of a **Kimberley-specific alcohol and other drugs strategy** which is informed by the needs of Kimberley Aboriginal people and communities. The KAHPF Drug and Alcohol and Mental Health Sub-committee are well positioned to lead a comprehensive planning process, that identifies current service gaps and service expansion needs to meet both existing and future demand.

The KAHPF endorsed a new procedure manual for developing **Kimberley Clinical Guidelines** and noted the annual progress report on these. There are now 43 guidelines that have been developed and are regularly reviewed by KAHPF Sub-committees – and the KAHPF acknowledges the significant work done by Head Writers, Writing Groups and Sub-committees on these. The guidelines are well utilised and provide important guidance to clinicians in the local management of conditions, which can differ from standard management due to the extreme remoteness of the area.

At the meeting, members endorsed documents that can now be located on the [KAHPF website](#):

### Kimberley Clinical Guidelines

- Heart Failure
- Hypertension
- Sick Kids
- Perinatal Depression and Anxiety

### Documents

- Asymptomatic STI testing guide
- STI lesion testing guide
- Syphilis management quick guide

Members agreed to hold their next meeting in February in Broome.

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## Organisations in attendance at the 11 December 2023 meeting

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### Core Members

- Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
- Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Services
- Derby Aboriginal Health Service
- Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service
- Boab Health Services
- Nirrumbuk Environmental Health Services
- WA Country Health Service, Kimberley
- Milliya Rumurra Aboriginal Corporation
- Lions Outback Vision

### Associate Members:

- Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia
- Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
- Department of Communities
- Mens Outreach Service Aboriginal Corporation
- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Rural Health West
- St John WA

