

National Best Practice Unit – Tackling Indigenous Smoking
Advisory Group Meeting #9
9 May 2019
Communiqué



The Advisory Group for the National Best Practice Unit for Tackling Indigenous Smoking (NBPU TIS) met face-to-face in Adelaide on 9 May 2019.

This was the first meeting of the Advisory Group in the new TIS program funding period (2018-19 to 2021-22). Accordingly, the Advisory Group received an update on progress with establishing the new program from the Department of Health. Of particular significance:

- the final CIRCA evaluation of the TIS program from 2015-2018 was endorsed by the Minister and released in March 2019;
- contracts are now in place for all components of the TIS program;
- CIRCA's monitoring and evaluation framework for the new funding period is being finalised; and
- the new administrative arrangements, with the Department of Social Services Community Grant Hubs now being responsible for grant management for Regional Tobacco Control Grant (RTCG) recipients, are being implemented.

The Advisory Group further discussed the new administrative arrangements and particularly how to support a harmonized Continuous Quality Improvement approach for RTCG recipients' work where responsibilities are distributed across the NBPU TIS, the Department of Health and the Department of Social Services. The role of the NBPU TIS in continuing to support grant recipients was noted, along with the fact that it does not play a compliance role.

Members also discussed the past and future role of the Advisory Group itself. It was agreed that from its establishment in 2016, the Advisory Group had made a significant contribution to the NBPU TIS in particular and to the TIS program in general.

However, while acknowledging this contribution, it was discussed whether in the new funding period a broader strategic approach which encompassed the TIS program as a whole would be more appropriate. This would require reviewing the Advisory Group's terms of reference and membership, noting that the NBPU TIS is willing to continue to provide secretariat services. It was noted that any changes to the role and membership of the Advisory Group would need to be approved by the Department of Health.

The date of the next Advisory Group meeting is yet to be agreed.