



Australian Government
Department of Health

TIS VIC & TAS JURISDICTIONAL WORKSHOP

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UPDATE

Katherine McHugh

Assistant Director

Preventive Health and Communicable Disease Section
Child, Family and Preventive Health Branch
Indigenous Health Division



Who we are

Ashley McLachlan-Bent
Director, Preventive Health & Communicable Disease Section
Recently commenced in IHD but has been in the APS for more than 10 years, many of those spent working on policies and programs aimed at improving the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Vikki Bailey
Has recently joined the TIS team and brings extensive experience in managing national health programs and working collaboratively to improve health systems and outcomes.

Katherine McHugh
From Brisbane, but have lived in Canberra for over 20 years. Started with IHD and TIS in April 2021. Has been managing major national health policies and programs for many years.



Clayton Irwin
Ngarluma man, raised in Katherine/Darwin NT and has worked in the TIS program since 2018.

Araj Haider
Currently participating in Health's Graduate Program. Recently commenced as a graduate in IHD and currently working in the TIS program.





The emerging priorities & policy context ...

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap

Developed in partnership between Australian governments and the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations

Priority Reform Areas

1. Formal partnerships and shared decision making
2. Building the community controlled sector
3. Transforming Government Organisations
4. Shared access to data and information at a regional level

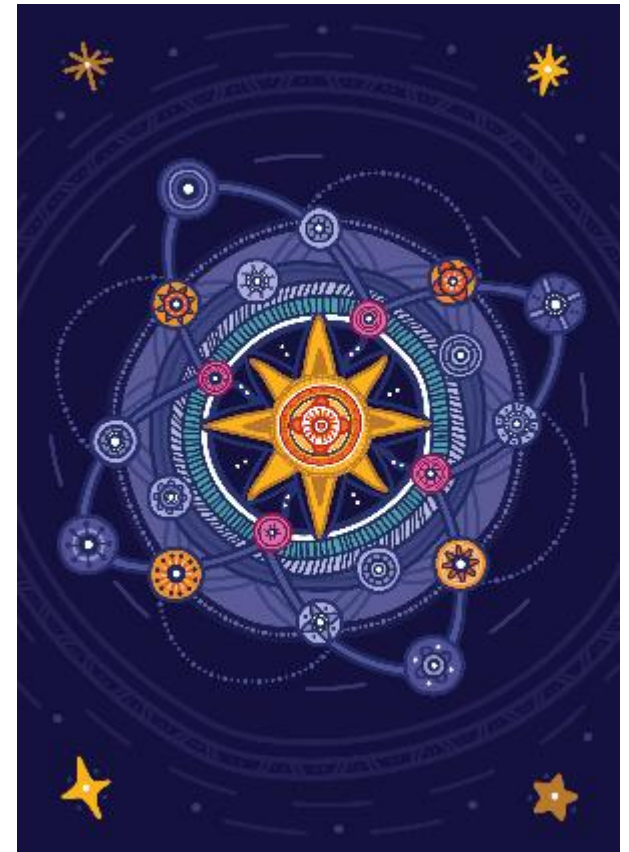
Website: <https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/>



The emerging priorities & policy context ...

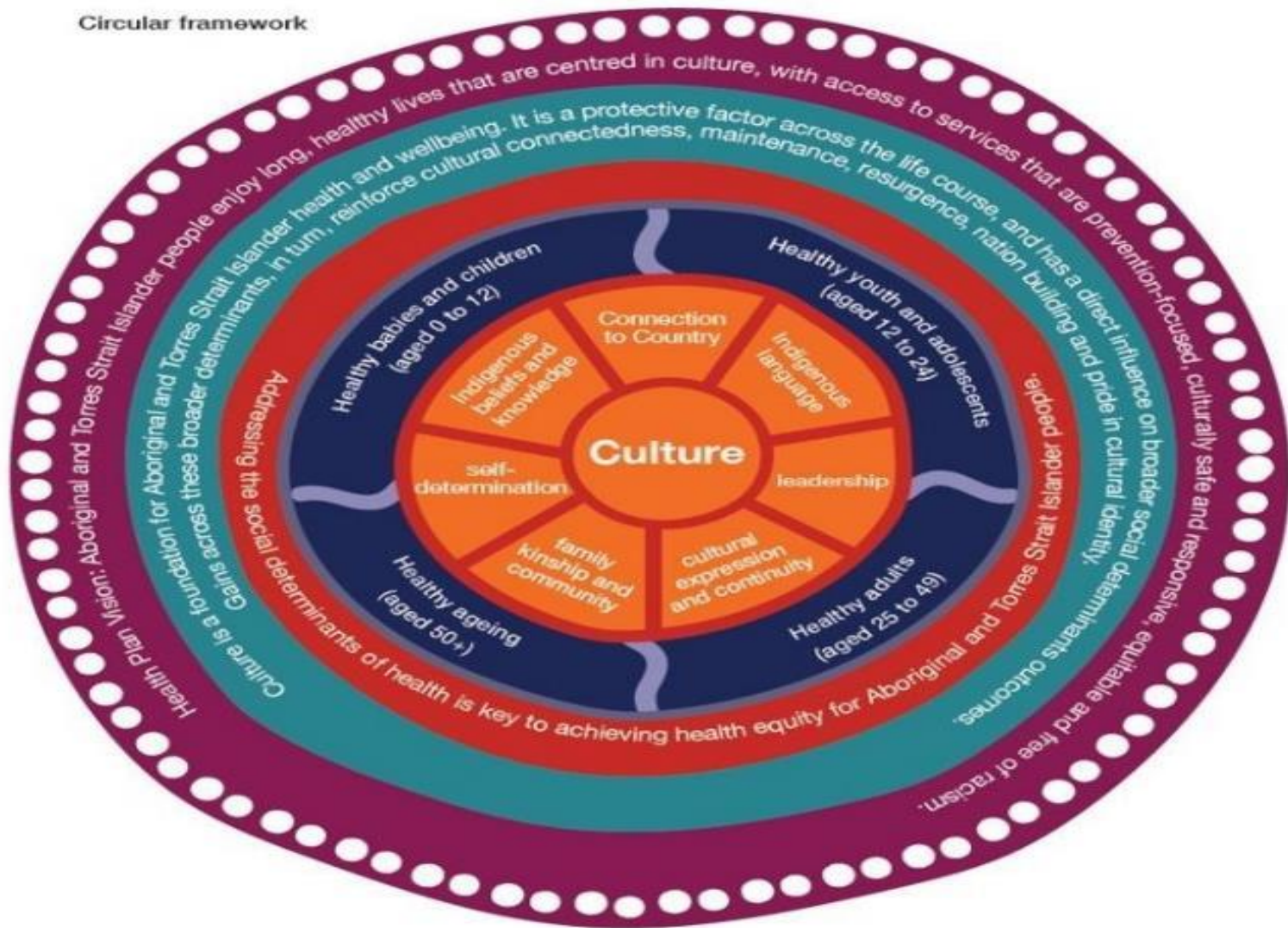
DRAFT National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2021-2031

- Developed in partnership
- Provides overarching policy framework
- Aligns with key policies and priorities
- Simplified goals and actions
- Strong focus on addressing racism
- Embeds stronger accountability



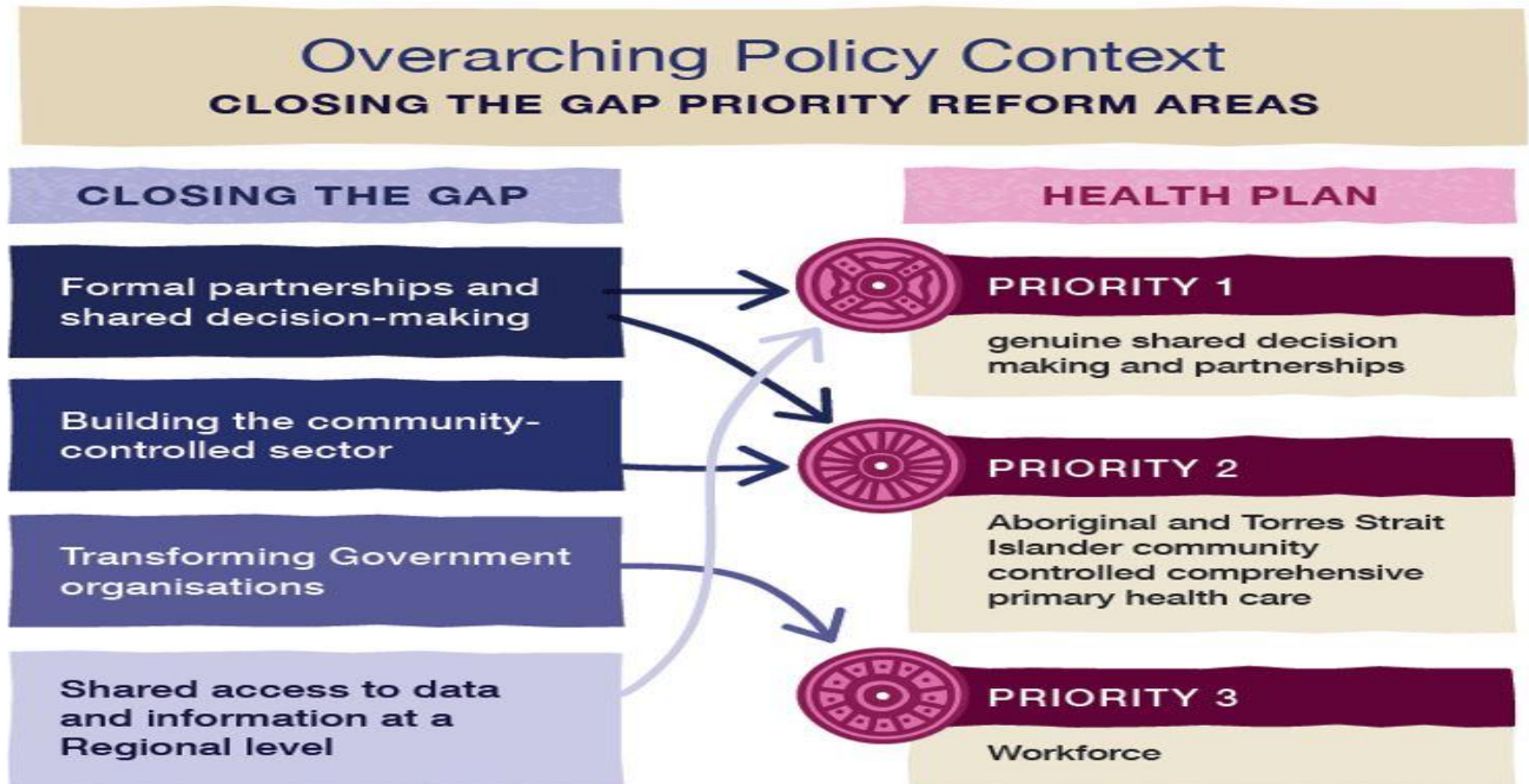


Circular framework





The emerging priorities & policy context ...



Links between the National Agreement Priority Reforms and Health Plan enablers for change.



The emerging priorities & policy context ...

Enablers for change

- Priority 1** Genuine shared decision making and partnerships
- Priority 2** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled comprehensive primary health care
- Priority 3** Workforce

Improving the health system

- Priority 8** Identify and eliminate racism
- Priority 9** Access to person-centred and family-centred care
- Priority 10** Mental health and suicide prevention

Focussing on prevention

- Priority 4** Health promotion
- Priority 5** Early intervention
- Priority 6** Social and emotional wellbeing and trauma-aware, healing-informed approaches
- Priority 7** Healthy environments, sustainability and preparedness

Culturally informed evidence base

- Priority 11** Culturally informed and evidence-based evaluation, research and practice
- Priority 12** Shared access to data and information at a regional level



The emerging priorities & policy context ...

Priorities ...

- Enhance health literacy to support integrated health promotion
- Deliver activities to support healthy babies and healthy children
- Implement culturally safe and responsive solutions to prevent the uptake of tobacco use
- Target early intervention to support cessation of tobacco use

Focussing on prevention

	Priority 4	Health promotion
	Priority 5	Early intervention
	Priority 6	Social and emotional wellbeing and trauma-aware, healing-informed approaches
	Priority 7	Healthy environments, sustainability and preparedness



The emerging priorities & policy context ...

Draft National Preventive Health Strategy

Boosting Action: Reducing Tobacco Use & Nicotine Addiction

By 2030, reduce tobacco use among:

- higher prevalence populations
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including during pregnancy, through expansion of efforts and community partnerships
- regional and remote Australians through targeted support





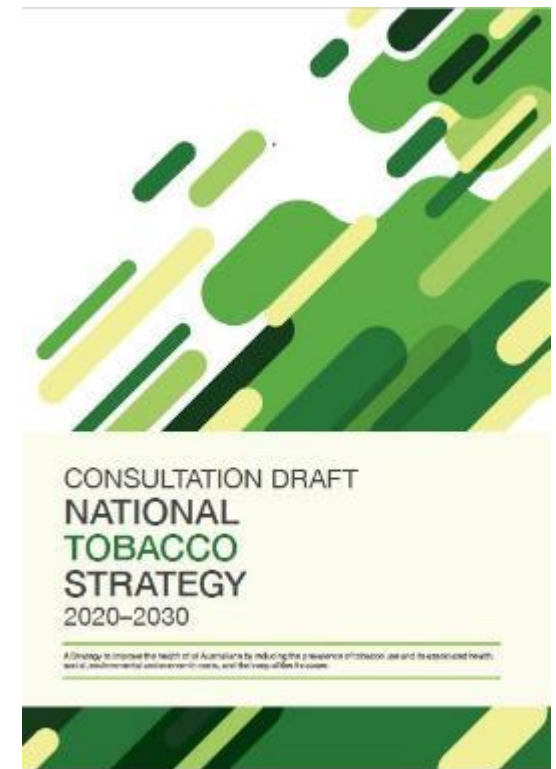
The emerging priorities & policy context ...

National Tobacco Strategy 2020-2030 (in development)

Sets a new policy framework for tobacco control in Australia

Objectives include prevent & reduce tobacco use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Priority areas include continue to expand efforts & partnerships to reduce tobacco use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

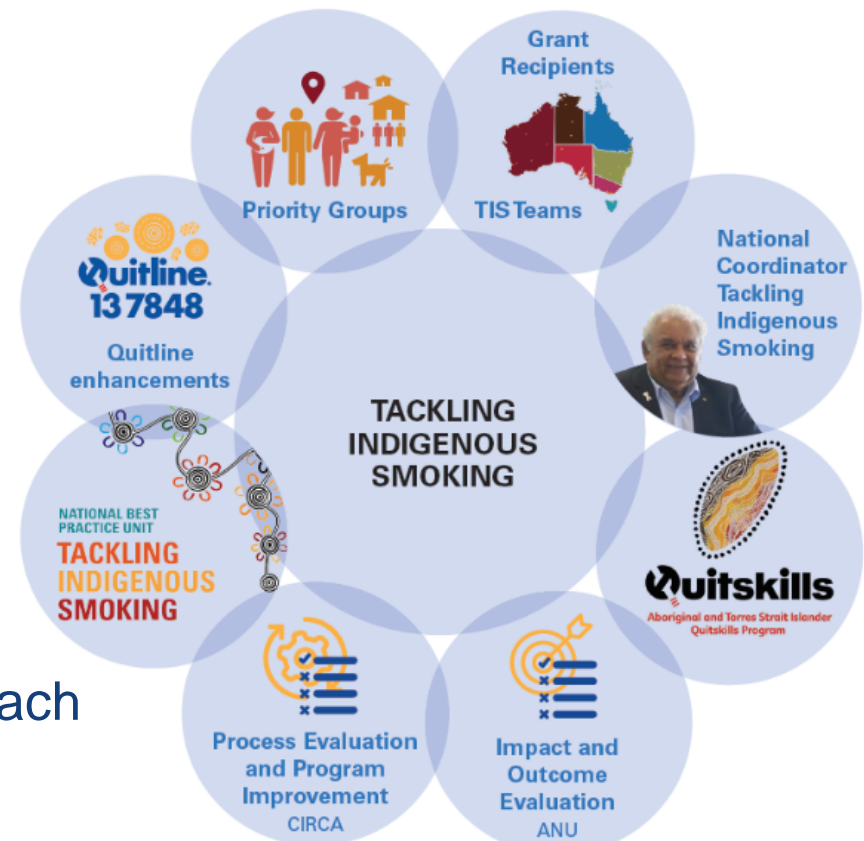




TIS Program impact and opportunities ...

Key Priorities for TIS

- **Demonstrating impact**
 - National evaluation
 - Data collection
 - Performance reporting
- **Maximising impact**
 - RTCG funding & service areas
 - Targeting strategic priorities
 - Smoking during pregnancy
 - Remote communities & outreach
 - Continuous Quality Improvement
 - Strengthening partnerships





Question & Answer

Thank you

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