



Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

Tanya McGregor
Sept 2023



We would like to acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional lands of the Awabakal people that I pay my respect and acknowledge their spiritual relationship with their country.

I also acknowledge the Awabakal people as the custodians of this area and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Awabakal people today.

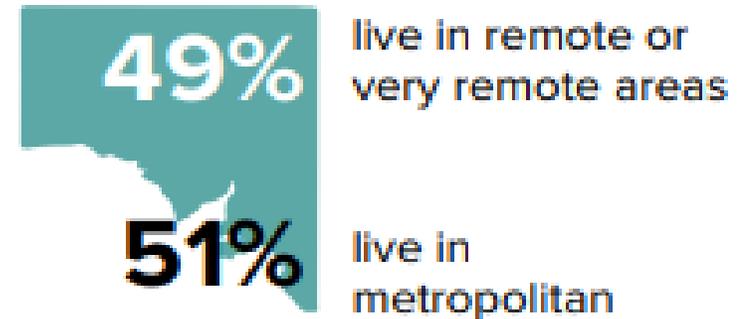
Presenter

Tanya McGregor
Chief Aboriginal Health
Officer



Aboriginal Context

- > Population: 42,330
- > 2.5% of the total population in SA
- > Average age 25 years compared to 41 year
- > Higher rate of immunisation under 5 years, compared to the non-Aboriginal population.



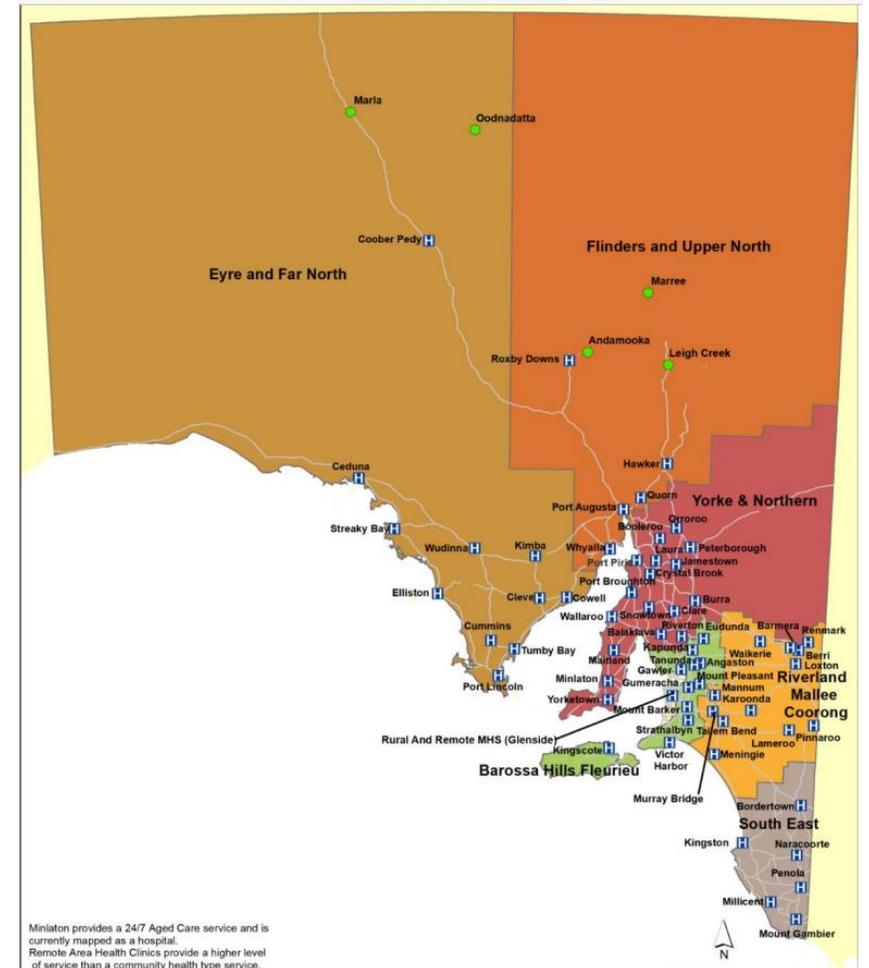
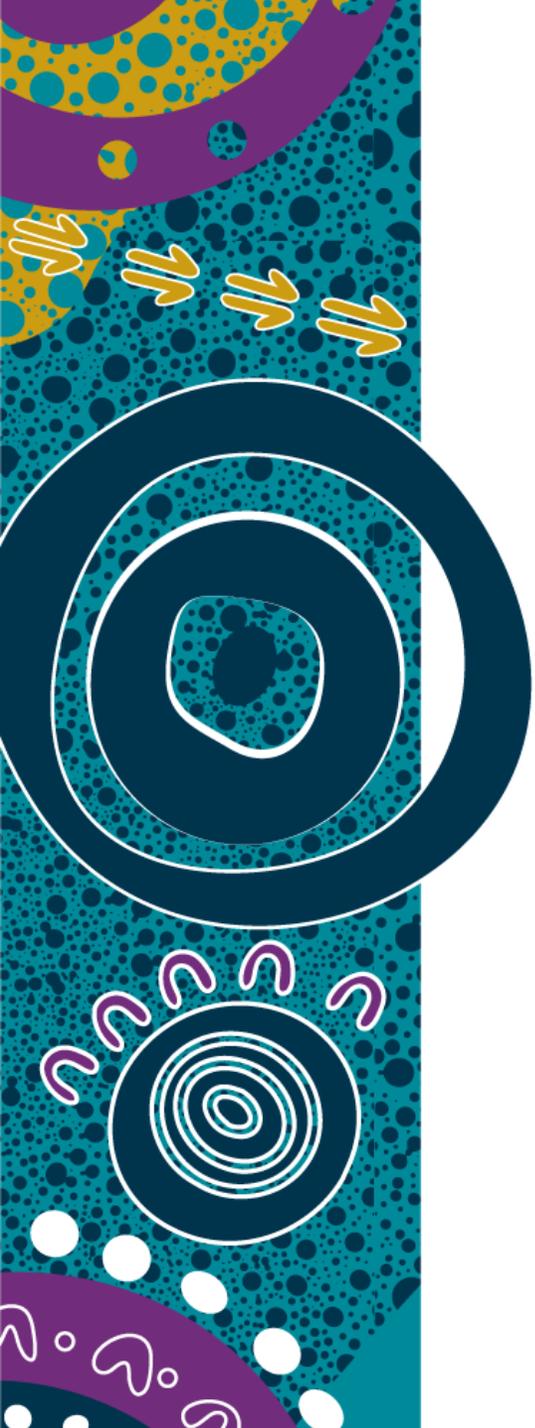
Aboriginal Health Partners



- > Aboriginal Health Council of SA
- > 11 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service
- > 1 Aboriginal Community Controlled substance misuse service



SA Health





Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

- > 2019 embarked on a journey of Commissioning for better Health outcomes for Aboriginal Children 0 – 5 years.



Identify and measure a **blend** of needs, inputs, activities, outputs and outcomes





Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

- > Commissioning knowledge in ACCHS & Aboriginal health sector was limited,
- > 2 day commissioning masterclass for ACCHS & Aboriginal Health leaders,

“Aboriginal health means not just the physical well-being of an individual but refers to the social, emotional and cultural wellbeing of the whole Community in which each individual is able to achieve their full potential as a human being thereby bringing about the total well-being of their Community.

It is a whole of life view and includes the cyclical concept of life-death-life.”

Commonwealth Government definition





Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

What is commissioning? (2/2)

Commissioning vision

“Driving sustainable change in our health systems to improve outcomes for people...”

Commissioning approach

“Understanding health needs, setting strategic direction, co-designing responses, procuring and enhancing services and monitoring”

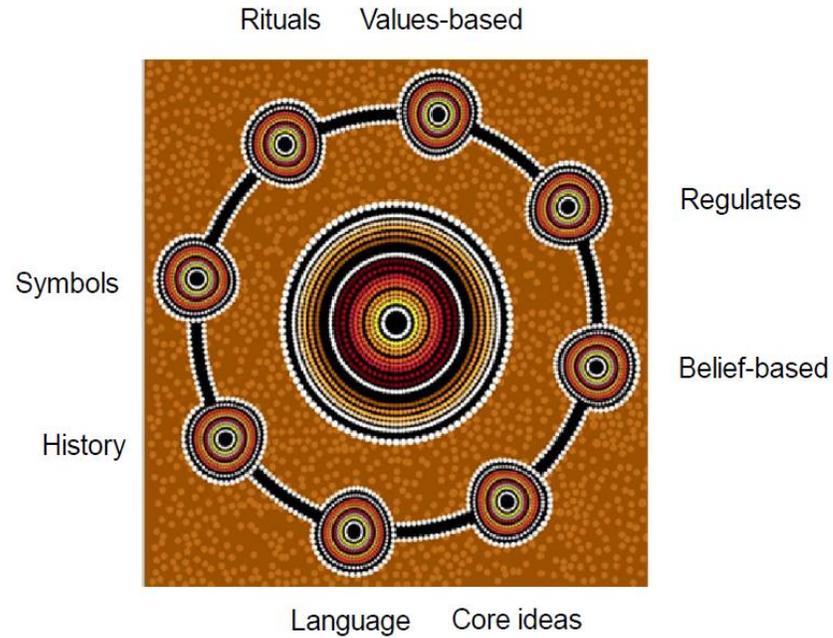
Rebbeck Consulting commissioning cycle





Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

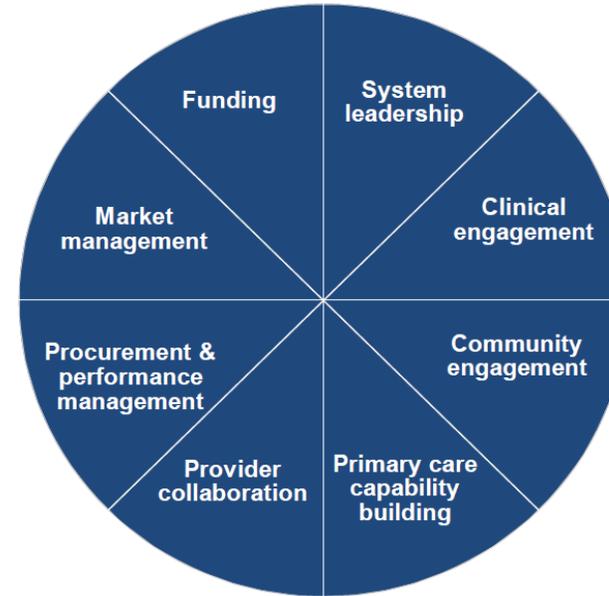
Commissioning is a cultural construct





Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

We need to consider the broad range of commissioning change levers available to the ACCHO sector and its strategic partners





Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

- > Tender weighting to Organisations whom;
 - demonstrated experience in service delivery to Aboriginal peoples,
 - Aboriginal leadership,
 - Aboriginal employment,
 - Localised experience/ foot print in region





Commissioning for Aboriginal Health

- > Failed tender lessons learnt;
 - Maturity of service providers to collaborate was not where we need it to be,
 - Commissioning for outcomes was not a commonly known,
 - Services and Health Professionals did not have sound approaches to conflicts of interest,

- > Cultural corridors.



COVID Lesson's learnt from Commissioning

- > Balance of technical expertise & Community Leadership,
- > Co-design of all designated Aboriginal Communities,
- > Build brand trust in SA Health to respond to the Aboriginal Community needs as per their plan,
- > Co-design of 2 x Isolation facilities (Port Augusta and Ceduna)
- > Partnership

Closing the Gap

- > In March 2019, the National Partnership agreement (NPA) was endorsed.
- > Partnership between Commonwealth Governments, State and Territory Governments, the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations (Coalition of Peaks) and the Australian Local Government Association.
- > Signals a new approach to doing business with Aboriginal Communities not to Aboriginal Communities.

Closing the Gap

- > Four (4) priority reform areas
- > 17 national socio-economic targets that impact on the life outcomes for Aboriginal people.
- > Monitoring and Progress via the [Productivity Commission dashboard](#)

Closing the Gap

- > Four (4) priority reform areas;
 - Formal Partnerships and Shared Decisions Making
 - Building the Community-Controlled Sector
 - Transforming Government Organisations
 - Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional Level

A decorative vertical bar on the left side of the slide, featuring various Aboriginal art patterns. At the top, there are purple and yellow curved shapes with blue dots. Below that, a teal background with white and yellow dots contains several yellow double-headed arrows pointing left and right. A large, dark blue circle with a white outline and a smaller dark blue circle inside is prominent. Further down, there are purple and white curved shapes with white dots, and a smaller dark blue circle with a white outline and a smaller dark blue circle inside. At the bottom, there are purple and white curved shapes with white dots.

Take aways

- > What's the evidence base of your commissioning, what's the Aboriginal component within that?
- > Invest in authentic relationships with Aboriginal Communities and leaders,
- > Co-design and partnerships do take time – moving at the pace of trust,
- > Aboriginal leadership is critical to success,
- > Outcomes and impacts, that are important to Aboriginal communities and not just your corporate needs,
- > Australia's asset, the longest living Culture in the world.



**Government
of South Australia**

SA Health