



AIDR acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the various lands on which you all join us from today and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people participating in this event.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters across Australia.







Welcome

Dr Margaret Moreton

Executive Director, Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR)







National Indigenous Disaster Resilience Gathering 24-26 September 2024, Lismore NSW

The NIDR Gathering is a multi-day, immersive event showcasing Indigenous leadership and excellence in disaster resilience, emergency management, community recovery and Caring for Country. Register now.









AJEM Indigenous Edition

The Australian Journal of Emergency Management (AJEM) is developing a special edition for publication in early 2025. We are calling for expressions of interest from Indigenous authors, or Indigenous-led research, community or government initiatives, programs or projects, who wish to contribute.









Australian Disaster Resilience Conference

4-5 September 2024, Sydney

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference brings together a diverse and passionate crowd from a range of sectors to share knowledge and build connections for a disaster resilient Australia. Register now.









House Keeping

- You will remain muted and your camera will not be activated for the duration of today's event.
- Today's event will be recorded and made available after the event.
- Please enter questions for our speakers in the Q&A function, not the chat box.
- Please use the chat box to share any thoughts or reflections during the presentation

 remember to select 'everyone' to ensure everyone can read your message.
- Please be respectful to each other when posting your comments or questions.







Introduction

Bhiamie Williamson

Program Lead, National Indigenous Disaster Resilience Project, Fire to Flourish







Panellist Introductions

Georgina Bruinsma

Senior Manager Aboriginal Leadership and Engagement, Social Futures

Patrick Rosser

Program Manager, First Nations Health Equity-Integrated Care, Gold Coast Health

Kristy Crooks

Aboriginal Program Manager, Public Health Aboriginal Team, Health Protection-Hunter New England Population Health







Panellist

Georgina Bruinsma

Senior Manager Aboriginal Leadership and Engagement, Social Futures









Indigenous Lead Disaster Response

By Georgina Bruinsma



Who we are....











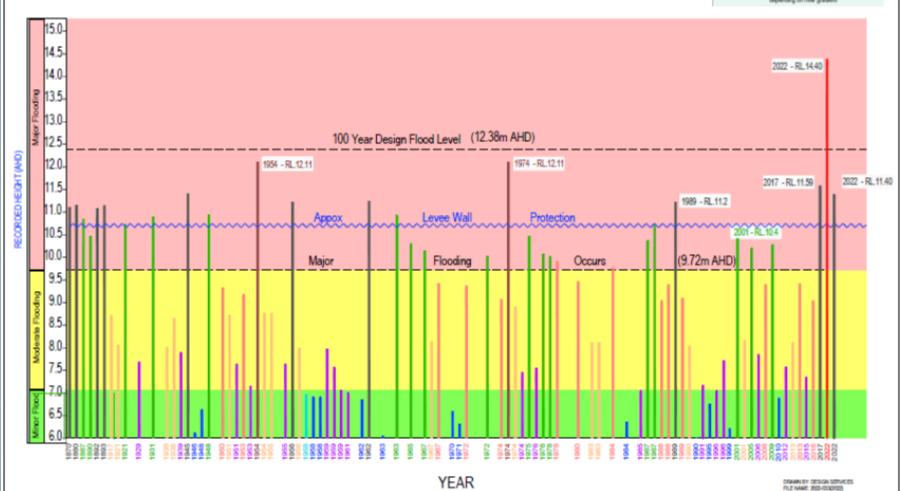
lismore around

HISTORY OF LISMORE FLOOD EVENTS

1870-2022

FOR EVENTS HIGHER THAN 6.0m AHD



















FLOOD RELIEF SUPPLIES

─ ТОДАҮ 10АМ-2РМ ─

@REKINDLING THE SPIRIT 25 URALBA STREET

VARIOUS NECESSITIES

CLOTHING - KIDS & ADULTS
PERSONAL CARE ITEMS
BEDDING
MOBILITY SUPPORT ITEMS
CLEANING & FOOD SUPPLIES

COME & CLAIM THE DISASTER PAYMENT AS WELL

ENQUIRES CALL ON 0426 114 162











A weaving circle at the Lismore healing hub Credit: SBS / Kingsley Haxton













Georgina Bruinsma

Senior Manager Aboriginal Leadership and Engagement **Social Futures**

georgina.bruinsma@socialfutures.org.au 0439 690 171

Panellist

Patrick Rosser

Program Manager, First Nations Health Equity-Integrated Care, Gold Coast Health







AIDR NAIDOC Panel - Floods, Fires, Pandemics: Exploring Indigenous leadership in disaster responses



Patrick Rosser

E Patrick.Rosser@health.gld.gov.au

Program Manager First Nations Health Equity – Integrated Care

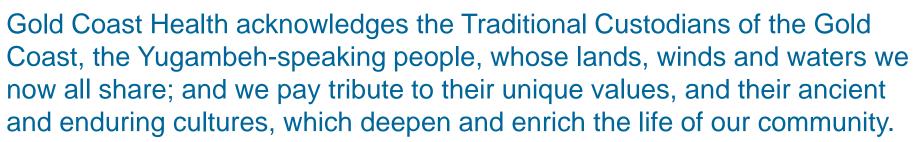
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Service I Corporate Affairs

goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au

Health Liaison Officer / Human Social Recovery Lead Mental Health and Specialist Services

Co-Chair - Queensland Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Clinical Network Clinical Excellence Queensland





We pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and recognise those whose ongoing efforts to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures will leave a lasting legacy for future Elders and leaders.

We acknowledge and value the perspectives of the consumers, carers and families of our service and all people with lived experience.





Exploring Leadership Journey – Disaster Resilience















Snapshot – Disaster Response / Recovery



COVID-19 Response – Hotel Quarantine Program 2020 (Pandemic)



Darling Downs > November 2023 (Fire)



Cairns HHS > December 2023 (Flood)

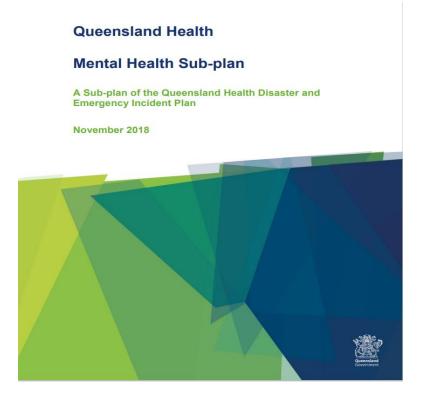


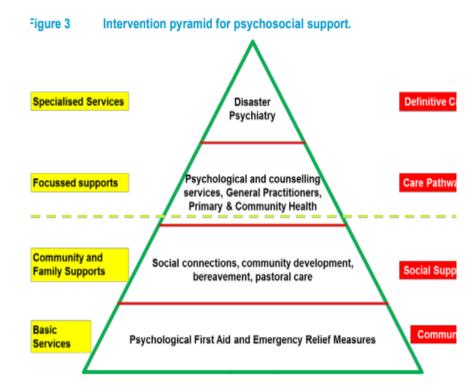
GC District HS Recovery Group > January 2024 (Storms)





Frameworks to Operationalise







GC Storm Event - Response & Activation

Preparedness

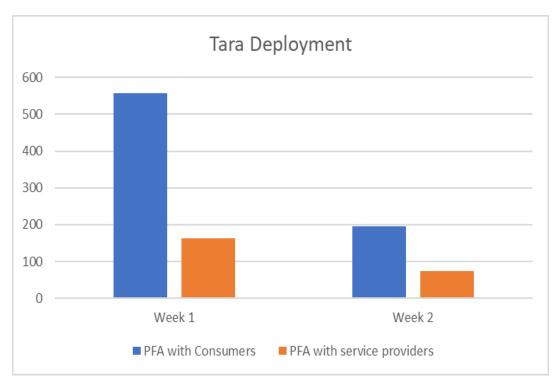
- HS Registry (credentialing, training, contact details, line manager support)
- Resource Availability (festive season)

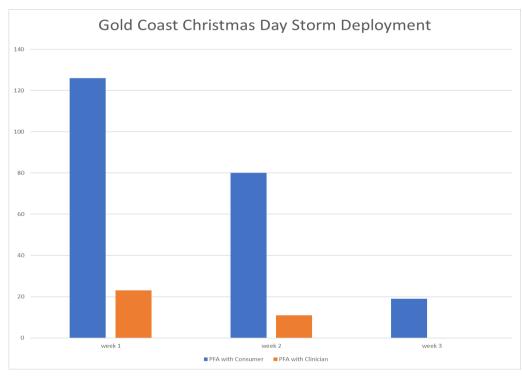
Rapid Activation

- Embedded in GCH HEOC / multi-agency D + LRG meetings
- Anticipated community recovery needs / capability / timeframes



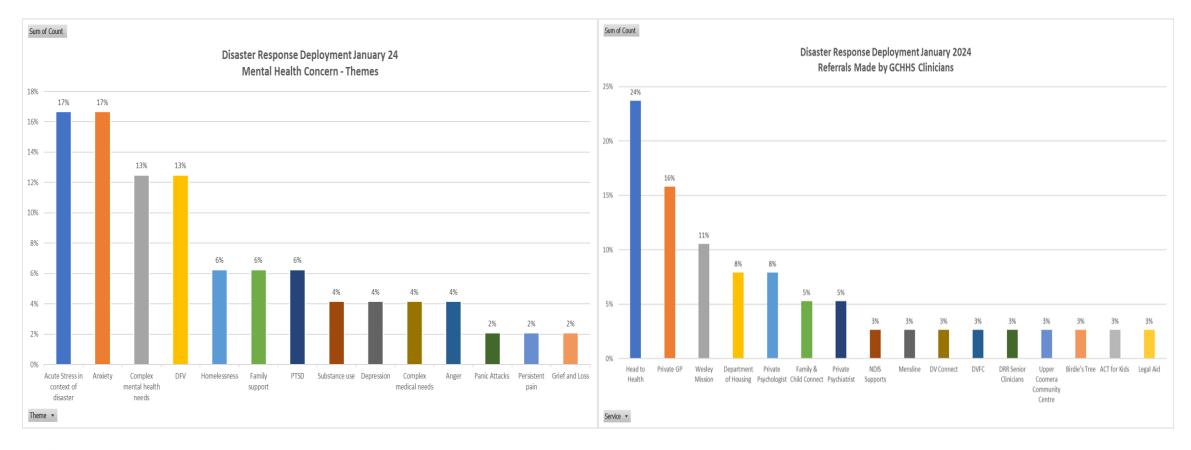
Activity Snapshop







Activity Snapshop Cont'd





Strengths



Resources



Capability



Preparedness



Partnerships



(All hazard, All agency)



Targeted Support & Building Capacity



Natural disasters can impact your health for months or even years after the event.

If you, or someone you love, are experiencing two or more of the below symptoms, reach out to the Gold Coast Health Disaster Recovery and Resillence Program.







Challenges + Learnings

Geographical proximity – local deployment presented unique challenges (re: releasing staff, increase demand etc)

Cross jurisdictional HS / Mental Health deployments

Collaboration + Coordination of CR Hub set up / access / services & scope of practice

CR models of service that adequately & safely meet needs of vulnerable / disadvantaged population groups

Develop + sustain multi-agency relationships due to high demand, complexity & volume of rotating CR teams



Social and Emotional Wellbeing

"[Health] means not just the physical well-being of an individual but refers to the social, emotional and cultural well-being of the whole community in which each individual is able to achieve their full potential as a human being thereby bringing about the total wellbeing of their Community. It is a whole of life view and includes the cyclical concept of life-death-life (Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, 1989)."





Panellist

Kristy Crooks

Aboriginal Program Manager, Public Health Aboriginal Team, Health Protection-Hunter New England Population Health









Acknowledgement of Country











Hunter New England Local Health District





First Nations health and wellbeing

"For Aboriginal people, health is "not just the physical well being of the individual, but the social, emotional and cultural well being of the whole community ... [and] a matter of determining all aspects of their life, including control over their physical environment, of dignity, of community self esteem and of justice. It is not merely a matter of the provision of doctors, hospitals, medicines or the absence of disease and incapacity"

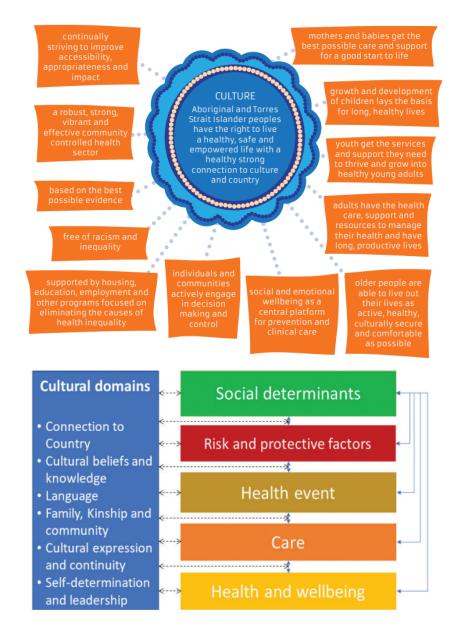


Figure 1: Mayi Kuwayu Study conceptual model

[•]Bond, C.J. (2005), A culture of ill health: public health or Aboriginality?. Medical Journal of Australia, 183: 39-41. https://doi-org.virtual.anu.edu.au/10.5694/j.1326-5377.2005.tb06891.x

[•] National Aboriginal Health Strategy Working Party. A national Aboriginal health strategy. Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service, 1989.

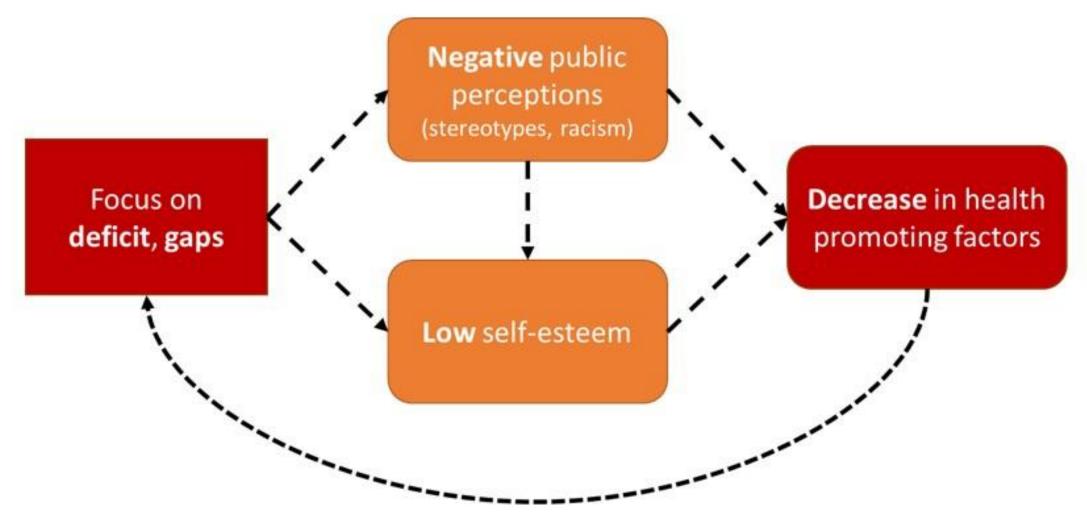
Who does public health think we are?

"Epidemiology has long been the conjoint of how Australians have come to "know" Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This "knowing" has painted Indigenous people into a bleak corner of humanity where they are reduced to a continuum of just four possibilities: at risk of sickness, sick, dying, or dead."

by Chelsea Watego,Lisa J. Whop,David Singh,Bryan Mukandi,Alissa Macoun,George Newhouse, Ali Drummond,Amy McQuire,Janet Stajic, Helena Kajlich and Mark Brough

⁻ Black to the Future: Making the Case for Indigenist Health Humanities

Model A: Deficit discourse



Thank you to Katherine Thurber, Roxanne Jones, Emily Banks, Ray Lovett. Closing the Gap in child mortality: Ten years on. https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/2018/02/13/closing-gap-child-mortality-ten-years

Race is a social construct. Race is not biological.

Our understanding of 'race' has changed over time. People have historically been grouped together based on skin colour, geographical location, culture or some other factor. However we now understand that there is no biological basis in which these groups are innately different from one another (Zack, 2018)

What is racism?

Racism is a pervasive social system of oppression, that assigns value and opportunity based on a person's 'race'. Racism persists as a cause of power imbalance throughout societies and manifests in ways in which perpetrate a racial hierarchy.

Original text we found in the report

Are Aboriginal people getting infected?

Aboriginal people are considered to be a vulnerable group for serious COVID-19 disease due to their high burden of chronic disease. Additionally, transmission within Aboriginal communities is likely to be high due to factors such as high number of people per household and barriers to accessing health care.

Updated text - noting "mainstream" was changed after further review

Aboriginal people

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are recognised as a priority group due to key drivers of increased risk of transmission and severity of COVID-19 which include mobility, remoteness, barriers to access including institutional racism and mistrust of mainstream health services, crowded and inadequate housing, and burden of disease.

SoNG Appendix

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units

Contents

M	anagement of locally acquired COVID-19	2
Ca	3808	2
1.	Case notification and triage	2
2.	Case interview	2
3.	Management of cases	2
4.	Management of positive RAT and negative PCR results	2
5.	Release from isolation	3
	Release from isolation for patients and staff in NSW Health facilities and RACFs	. 3
	Release from isolation for people with immunocompromise	. 3
	Management of people with RAT registration or de-isolation errors	4
C	ontacts	4
1.	Household contacts	4
2.	Other contacts of people who have COVID-19	4
	Employer and/or educational facility	4
Pr	iority settings	5
1.	Workplace settings	5
2.	Educational settings	5
	Boarding schools	. 5
	 Management of COVID-19 risk in boarding schools is the responsibility of school. Guidance on COVID-19 in boarding schools is provided by the Department of Education. 	. 5
	Early childhood education and care (ECEC)	. 5
3.	Hospitals and inpatient healthcare	5
4.	Healthcare practices in the community	6
5.	Aged care facilities	6
6.	Correctional facilities	6
7.	Aboriginal communities	6
Li	st of abbreviations:	7

Priority settings

- Priority settings include settings with high risk of adverse health impact (due to the presence of vulnerable people) and settings with high risk of social impact (such as critical industry). Settings with high risk of adverse health impact are those where the effects of an outbreak would be more serious due to health vulnerabilities among residents or patrons, or there is an increased risk of transmission due to the presence of people who are not fully vaccinated. A setting with high social impact risk is a setting which may impact essential services.
- In collaboration with LHDs, PHUs should assist in priority settings with vulnerable people to advise on controlling the risk of spread, including:
 - Aged care facilities
 - Disability services
 - Correctional facilities
 - Aboriginal communities
- The guidance documents below have been developed for the risk assessment and management of
 contacts in a range of special settings, these are self-help guides to empower early action and support selfsufficiency of workplaces and venues.
- Guidance has been developed to support special settings, as below.

Contents

Section 1: Case overview
Section 2: Variants in NSW
Section 3: Cases in hospital each day with COVID-19
Section 4: Clinical severity by vaccination status
Section 5: Deaths following recent infection with COVID-19
Section 6: Vaccination coverage in NSW
Section 7: COVID-19 testing in NSW by age group
Section 8: PCR testing and positivity rates
Section 9: Case rates in Local Health Districts
Section 10: Aboriginal people
Section 11: Correctional settings
Section 12: Other respiratory infections in NSW
Appendix A: COVID-19 PCR tests in NSW by Local Government Area
Appendix B: Deaths reported by the Chief Health Officer in the media for 28 January to 3 I
Appendix C: Number of positive PCR test results for influenza and other respiratory viruse 2020 to 30 January 2022
Appendix D: Additional tables and figures
Glossary
Dates used in COVID-19 reporting





Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units

Version 6.7

22 March 2022

High-risk settings

 Residential care facilities

 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities

 Correctional and detention facilities...

COVID-19 CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units

February and March 2022



SoNG Appendix

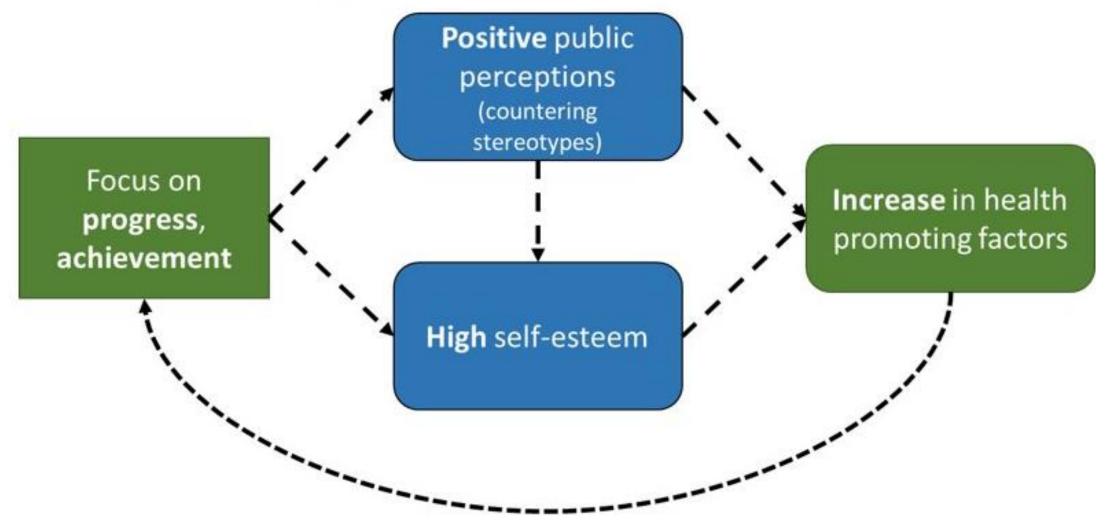
Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units

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Early childhood education and care (ECEC)	5
3. Hospitals and inpatient healthcare	5
4. Healthcare practices in the community	6
5. Aged care facilities	6
6. Correctional facilites	
7. Aboriginal communities	6
List of abbreviations:	7

What is a strengths-based approach?

- Working from strengths, not problems
- Avoiding reproducing deficit discourse
- Does not mean "problem deflating"
- Moves away from focusing on problems perceived by others
- Focus on resources, assets, strengths that promote wellbeing (salutogenesis)
- Focus on "what works", not "what's wrong"
- Culturally-centered approaches
- Decolonising methodologies
- Shifting power to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Model B: Strength-based discourse



Thank you Katherine Thurber, Roxanne Jones, Emily Banks, Ray Lovett. Closing the Gap in child mortality: Ten years on. https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/2018/02/13/closing-gap-child-mortality-ten-years

Governance: Cultural redesign in HNE



Figure 1. An overview of the multistrategic approach adopted by Hunter New England Health to address individual and institutional racism.

Governance: Population Health experience...

'Mainstream' health service

- Health Promotion, Health Protection, Corporate Services
- Approx. 120 staff (Newcastle, Tamworth, Taree), approx. 20 Aboriginal staff

2006

- 3.5 Indigenous staff (3.5%)
- Inconsistent consideration of cultural appropriateness/safety of organisation and services
- Barriers to recruitment/retention of Aboriginal staff
- Leadership by Management Committee (Executive)
- Advice by Aboriginal Advisory Group (PHANG)
- Implementation by Cultural Respect Advisory Committee (CRAG) (Management sub-committee)

From 2017 onwards...

- Leadership by Joint Governance Group (Shared Executive)
- Advice by Population Health Aboriginal Cultural Determinants Committee (PHACDC)
- Networking (Population Health Aboriginal Network Group) (PHANG)

Governance: Population Health

Implementation Cultural Governance Population Health Joint Governance Group Network Chairs: Aboriginal staff member & Director of **Director, Population Health** (Aboriginal staff network group) **Population Health Service Director, Health** Members: Protection, Aboriginal Program Manager, Health Promotion Service Manager, Health Aboriginal Program Manager, Health Protection **Promotion PHACDC Committee Member Aboriginal Cultural** PHACDC Co-Chairs Oversees and responsible for the **Determinants Committee Director of Population Health** implementation of actions from (Provides overarching strategic Service Manager, Health Promotion Population Health Joint cultural advice and guidance to HNE Population Health JGG as it relates Service Director, Health Protection Governance Group to the organisation) Service Support Manager

Working Group

Working Group

Working Group

Working Group

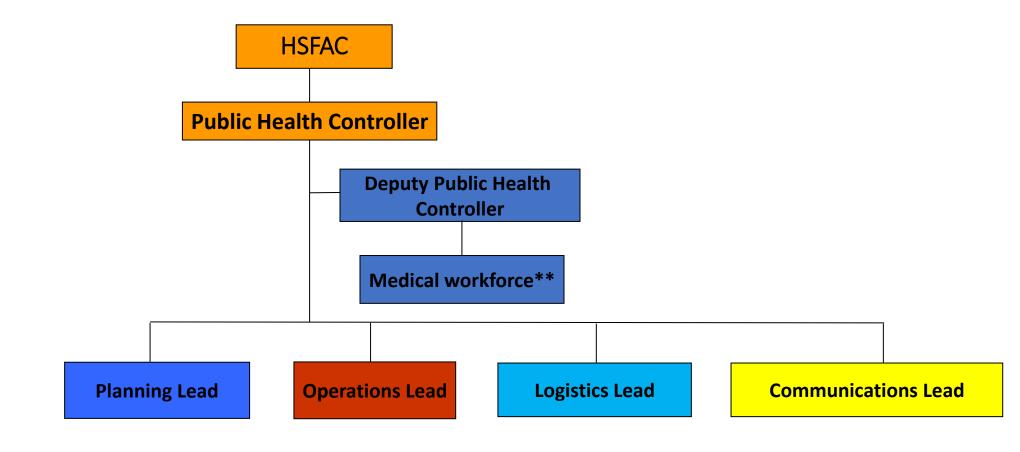
Pandemics and First Nations experiences...



Influenza quarantine camp at Wallangarra, Queensland, 1919

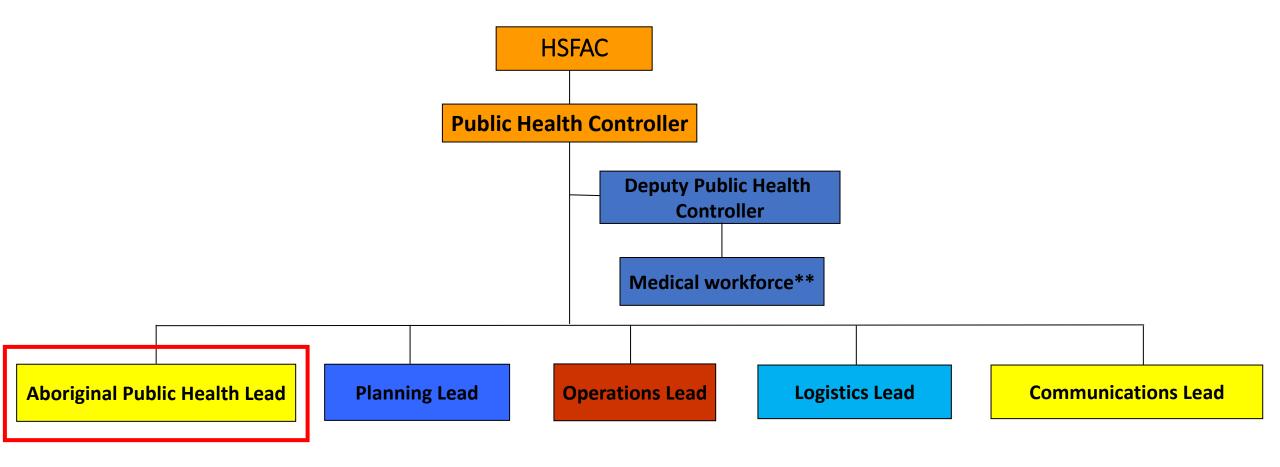


Governance: Incident Command System



^{**} Medical workforce is rostered as required by Public Health Controller to the various teams; after distribution the medical officer is directed by the Team lead

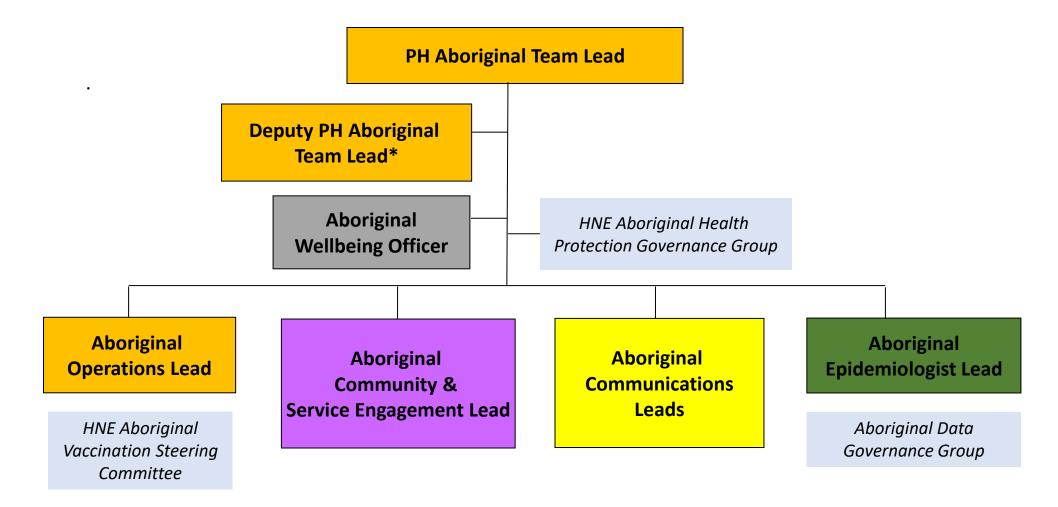
Governance: HNE Incident Command System



^{*}PHU Aboriginal Team provides cultural governance across the entire ICS teams; including planning, operations and logistics.

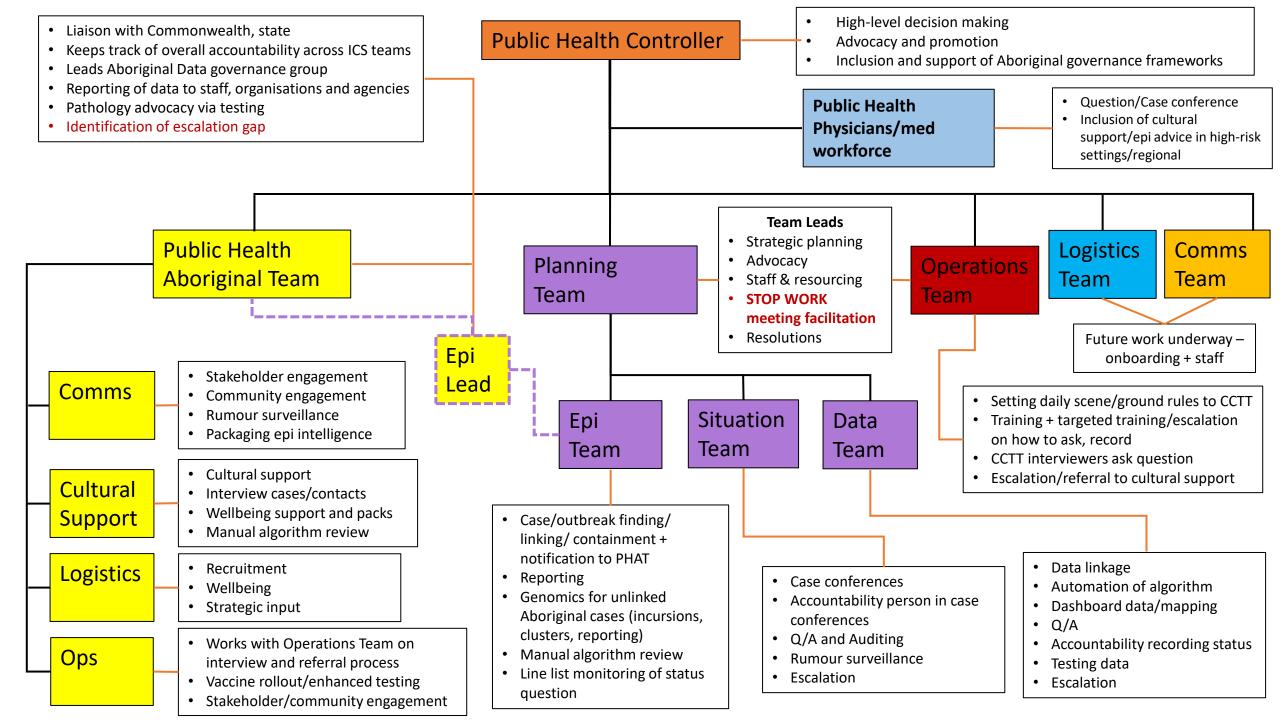
^{**} Medical workforce is rostered as required by Public Health Controller to the various teams; after distribution the medical officer is directed by the Team lead

Governance: HNE Public Health Aboriginal Team



^{*}Deputy PHU Aboriginal Team Lead will have dual roles (Aboriginal Operations Lead role)

During low activity time only the positions of Team Lead, Deputy Team lead & Aboriginal Operations Lead will be active.



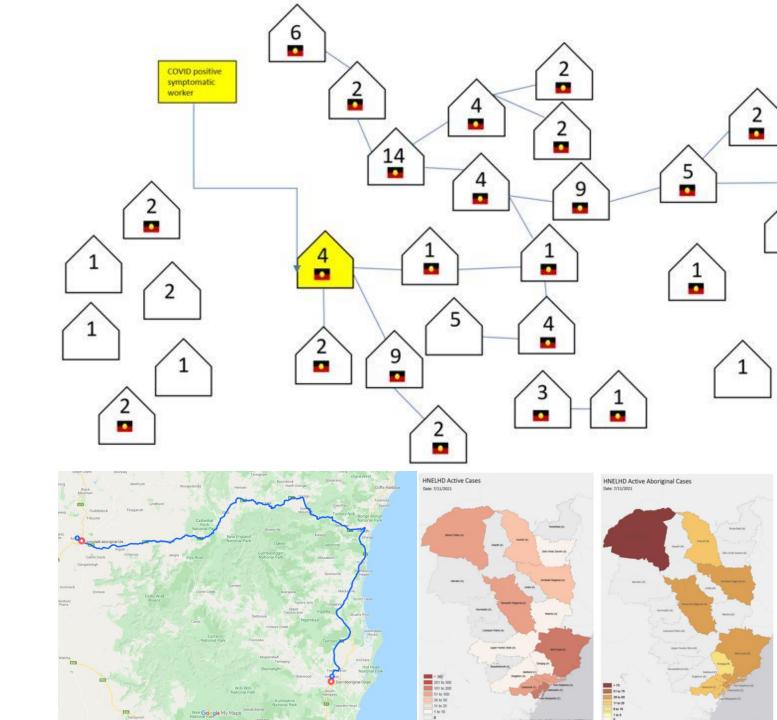
Governance: HNE Cultural Support

- Officially received 7,100 cultural support referrals
- Provided cultural support to more than 3,600 individuals
- Developed suite of resources to support the process
- Local and state directives shifts focus from individual support to supporting families
- Our Cultural Support model has been shared with the NSW MoH and other LHDs
- Featured case study on best practice in NSW MoH Public Health Response Debrief Report



Governance: HNE First Nations-led surveillance

- Household mapping and kinship
- Local and cultural intelligence
- Enabled early activation of support
- Led to 29,751 people to be vaccinated in 5 weeks



Governance: First Nations Community Panels

- Indigenized citizens juries' model
- Tested F2F and virtual with three First Nations communities (NSW/QLD/WA)
- Community governance, experts, contributing to own community governance but to national level
- Appropriate and acceptable way of engaging First Nations people in making important public health decisions
- Sharing knowledge, learning, challenging evidence to make informed decision making

Community Engagement

Pre-panel yarning session

Evidence & deliberation days

Follow-up yarning session

Final Recommendations Report

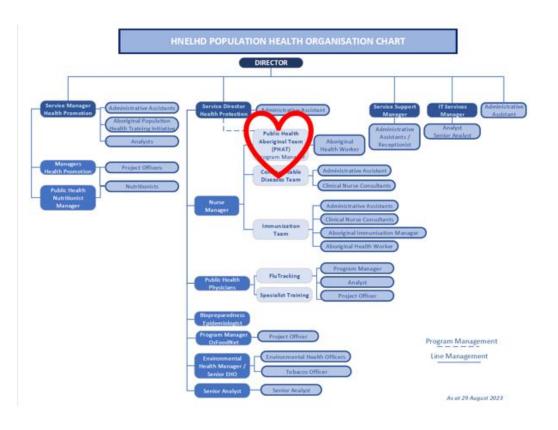
HNE Population Health After-Action Review

- No formalised First Nations leadership within the local ICS
- First Nations leadership recommended cultural inclusion be strengthened in the HNEPH ICS structure, and in Health Protection

Hunter New England Population Health
COVID-19 Intra/After-Action Review

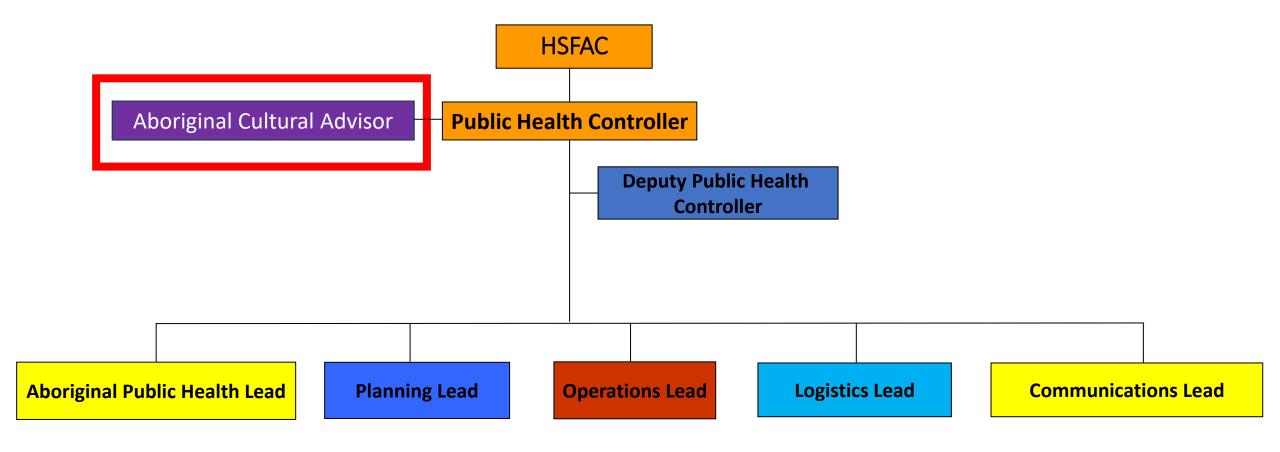
Summary of recommendations and supporting resources
June 2023





Governance: Health Protection

Proposed ICS governance for future responses



^{*}PHU Aboriginal Team provides cultural governance across ICS teams; including planning, operations and logistics.

Charter of Commitment

The Health Protection unit, in partnership with Aboriginal staff and communities, is committed to:

- Providing space and time whereby Aboriginal culture, and knowledge systems thrives in Health Protection
- Privileging Aboriginal voices and leadership
- Improving Aboriginal health outcomes
- Working to a level of cultural excellence
- Increasing and maintaining Aboriginal employment within the unit
- Providing a respectful and culturally responsive, engaging, inclusive, supportive and safe environment

Charter of Commitment to Aboriginal Peoples: Reframing the relationship between Aboriginal Peoples and Health Protection, HNELHD



0.00

Respect

- Respect and recognise Aboriginal knowledge systems as being valid methods of inquiries
- Meaningful and purposeful engagement

Collaboration and Engagement

- Reflects a respectful, meaningful and genuine collaboration and engagement with Aboriginal peoples
- Respectful, meaningful and purposeful engagement

Reciprocity

- Giving back to staff and community. Ensuring programs and services benefit Aboriginal communities

Culture, sovereignty, self-determination and empowerment

- Recognition of Aboriginal peoples as the First Peoples of Australia
- The central value of culture, and knowledge of history in contributing to the well-being of Aboriginal staff, families and communities

Holistic approaches to health

 A holistic approach that addresses spiritual, emotional, physical and intellectual development in relation to oneself, family, community and environment

Commitment to cultural governance and accountability

- Shared commitment, responsibility and accountability through respectful and rightful inclusion at all levels

Cultural respect, safety, integrity and inclusion

 Creating a safe environment for Aboriginal people through; personal commitment to ongoing lifelong learning, unlearning and education and addressing unconscious bias, racism and discrimination.

Human rights, equity and social justice approaches

Respecting Aboriginal worldviews, making space and time for active, free, real and meaningful
participation, for Aboriginal people to exercise autonomy and rights to self-determination

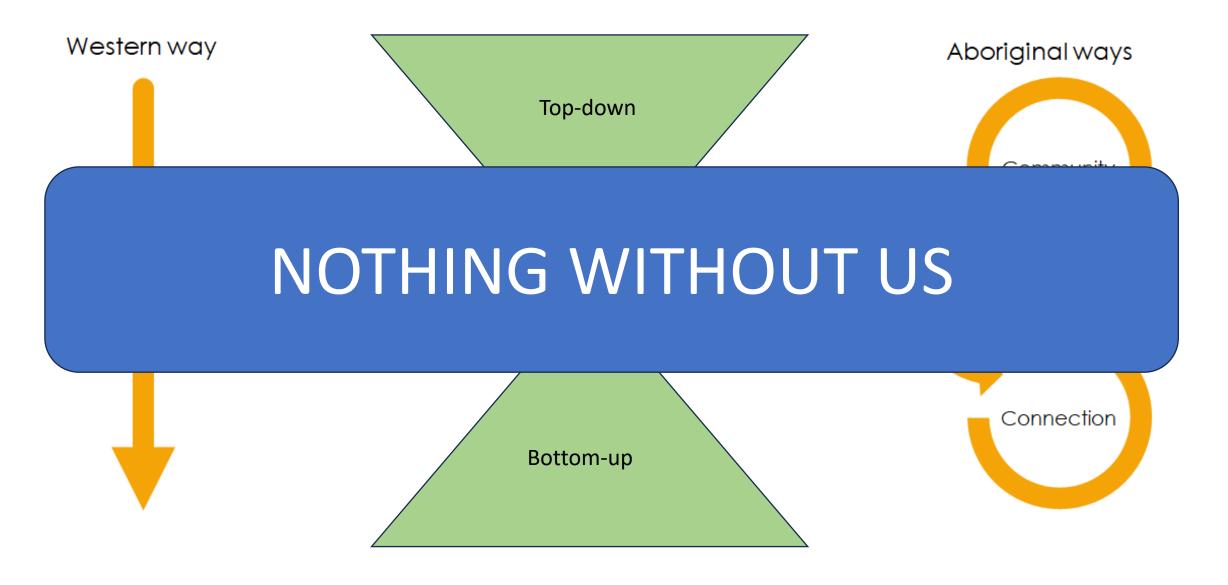
Advocacy to action...

- NSW Public Health Emergency Response Minimum Standards (Minimum Standards)
- AIM: The Public Health Emergency Response Preparedness Minimum Standards aim to support the statewide public health network's ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from major public health events and support an equitable and consistent approach to public health preparedness by identifying a set of minimum standards for all LHDs.

3.1. Governance

- Public health membership on the LHD(s) emergency committee(s) and regular engagement with emergency management committee <u>representatives on</u> preparedness, response and recovery.
- Business continuity plans are in place.
- Cultural governance is embedded within emergency response structures (For guidance, refer to: <u>Pandemic Preparedness and Response with Aboriginal Communities in NSW</u> and <u>Engage, understand, listen and act: evaluation of Community Panels to privilege First Nations voices in pandemic planning and response in Australia and Embedding Aboriginal cultural governance, capacity, perspectives and leadership into a local Public Health Unit Incident Command System during COVID-19 in New South Wales, Australia)</u>
- Working relationships exist between the public health unit and internal and external stakeholders as required and relevant in an emergency response. For example, local disaster managers and media and communications teams, LHD priority population and digital health teams (or equivalent agencies), pathology laboratories, Aboriginal Medical Services, Primary Health Networks and local councils.

Joint Governance



Thank you

- Family, friends and community
- •Aboriginal Cultural Support Team Members, past and present
- Members of the Governance Groups:
- Aboriginal Governance Group on COVID-19
- Aboriginal COVID-19 Vaccination Steering Committee
- Aboriginal Data Governance Group
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations
- Aboriginal communities across Hunter New England
- HNELHD Integrated Chronic Care for Aboriginal Peoples Program
- HNELHD Aboriginal Health Unit
- HNELHD COVID-19 response teams; Operations, Planning, Logistics, Medical Team, Public Health Controller

We thankfully acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past and present who paved the way to enable the work that our team can do in this space



Links to documents and resources

Crooks K, Law C, Taylor K, Brett K, Murray P, Kohlhagen J, Hope K, Durrheim DN. Embedding Aboriginal cultural governance, capacity, perspectives and leadership into a local Public Health Unit Incident Command System during COVID-19 in New South Wales, Australia. BMJ Global Health. 2023 Jul 1;8(7):e012709.

Crooks K, Taylor K, Law C, Campbell S, Miller A. Engage, understand, listen and act: evaluation of Community Panels to privilege First Nations voices in pandemic planning and response in Australia. BMJ Global Health. 2022 Aug 1;7(8):e009114.

Crooks K, Tully B, Allan L, Gillham K, Durrheim D, Wiggers J. Development and implementation of a shared governance model in a mainstream health unit: a case study of embedding Aboriginal voices in organisational decision making. Australian Health Review. 2021 Dec 23;46(2):178-84.

Australian National Disease surveillance plans:

- https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/australian-national-disease-surveillance-plan-for-covid-19
- https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/05/coronavirus-covid-19-in-australia-pandemic-health-intelligence-plan.pdf

Mayi Kuwayu Study: https://mkstudy.com.au/indigenousdatasovereigntyprinciples/

Accuracy of reporting of Aboriginality on administrative health data collections using linked data in NSW, Australia: https://bmcmedresmethodol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12874-020-01152-2#:~:text=Enhanced%20reporting%20of%20Aboriginal%20people,planning%20and%20managing%20health%20services

Accuracy of reporting of Aboriginality on administrative health data collections using linked data in NSW, Australia: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/1753-6405.12114

Improved Reporting of Aboriginality in NSW Population Datasets using Record Linkage: A Feasibility

Study: https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/hsnsw/Pages/atsi-data-linkage-report.aspx

Q&A

Don't forget to enter you questions into the Q&A box.

Make sure you add the speakers name at the beginning of your question, so we know who to address it to.







Reflections

Professor Cheryl Desha

Science and Innovation Director, Natural Hazards Research Australia







Event concludes

Thank you for attending today's webinar.

Happy NAIDOC week!







