



MEDIA RELEASE

**PAUL LYNCH MP
MINISTER FOR AGEING
MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS**

16 June 2009

Aboriginal Affairs 2009-10 Budget

The 2009-10 Budget includes Aboriginal-specific funding of more than \$290 million. Highlights include:

Aboriginal Housing

- \$13 million to commence 43 new dwellings and complete 35 homes for people in need
- \$24.2 million for repairs and maintenance works to AHO-owned dwellings
- \$5.5 million for repairs and maintenance works to community-owned dwellings
- \$5.1 million to resource Aboriginal community organisations and to provide support and training for Aboriginal people
- \$10 million under the ACDP to build and repair housing in Bourke, Brewarrina, Engonia, Lightning Ridge, Moree, Weilmoringle, Muli Muli, Tabulam, Dareton, Menindee, Wilcannia, Condobolin, Toomelah-Boggabilla and Kempsey
- \$1 million to complete works in progress for dwelling construction and acquisitions for community-owned dwellings

Mr Lynch said the \$10 million allocation for the ACDP would complete the 10-year, \$240 million initiative.

With the completion of the ACDP, Mr Lynch said the focus would now shift to a 25-year, \$200 million NSW Government partnership with the New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council to build and upgrade water and sewerage projects in remote communities.

New South Wales will also play a key role in partnership with the Commonwealth in delivering the Remote Indigenous Housing National Partnership Agreement.

The \$5.5 billion, 10-year national project was outlined in the Federal Budget last month.

Community Services

- \$4.3 million to tackle child sexual assault through Keep Them Safe, Safe Families program and intensive measures to develop local responses

Languages and culture

- \$687,000 to promote and protect Aboriginal languages, develop Job Compacts and support cultural events

Circle sentencing

- \$882,000 for circle sentencing in Walgett, Brewarrina, Bourke, Mt Druitt, Dubbo, Lismore, Armidale, Kempsey and Nowra
- \$1.21 million for community patrols in Armidale, Ballina, Bourke, Brewarrina, Dareton, Dubbo, Kempsey, La Perouse, Mungindi, Nambucca Heads, Newcastle, Nowra, Taree and Wilcannia

Home Care

- \$18.8 million for Aboriginal Home Care

Education

- \$16 million for Norta Norta Program – more than 600 schools to receive tutorial assistance for senior Aboriginal students, independent learning hubs for students from kindergarten to Year 12

Health

- \$93 million for Aboriginal-specific health initiatives

Water and sewerage

- \$8.47 million in partnership with the New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council as part of a 25-year \$200 million program

Police

- \$817,000 to establish five extra focus communities to tackle sexual assault in Orana Far West

Mr Lynch said \$2.4 million would be made available in 2009-10 for 40 Partnership Community Project Officers to work with Aboriginal communities to improve service delivery.

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