



State Budget 2005/06 Information Sheet

Groups Facing Particular Disadvantage – Indigenous & Multicultural Issues

Initiatives relating to Indigenous policy were limited in this Budget. Development of a cultural leave and sensitivity framework for DCD to address cultural issues for Indigenous staff is planned and also, the implementation of recommendations from service mapping and gap analysis project reports will continue. Initiatives relating to multicultural issues emerge throughout different areas and can also be found in our other information sheets.

WACOSS' Recommendation	Government's Pre-election Commitment ¹	Budget Outcome
Encourage development of services with appropriate capacity to effectively assist Indigenous peoples . Includes implementing best practice models in the delivery of services to Indigenous peoples.	Consultation planned with Indigenous communities to discuss new representative structures, concluding June 2005.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop framework to engage Indigenous fathers and young men, portraying positive messages of Indigenous parenting and fatherhood. • Establish partnerships with local government authorities in regional areas to enhance service provision and undertake joint projects with Indigenous community. • Undertake consultation in partnership with Commonwealth to determine Indigenous community views regarding representation.
State Government, in consultation with the wider community, commit to the development of legislation to address racial and religious vilification in Western Australia as part of an anti-racism strategy.	The Criminal Code (Racial Vilification) Bill 2004 dealing with racist harassment and incitement to racial hatred was passed in November 2004. Analysis of submissions in response to public consultation paper on racial and religious vilification will be completed in December 2004.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of advice in respect to, and drafting of, civil laws making racial vilification unlawful in a number of areas of public life.
Development of a range of other programs to be used in conjunction with the proposed racial and religious vilification provisions.	Existing policies and initiatives address these issues. No commitment for the Budget.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific budget allocation.
Establish an independent State Interpreting and Translation Unit .	Review of the Language Services Policy, is currently being progressed. Requirements for a state based interpreting service will be reassessed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific budget allocation.

¹ This is an abridged version of the Government's response to WACOSS' Pre-Budget Submission, for full details please refer to WACOSS' *The Social Issues Scorecard 2005*