

Aboriginal housing and embedding self-determination

National Housing Conference, March 2022.

Matthew Duggan

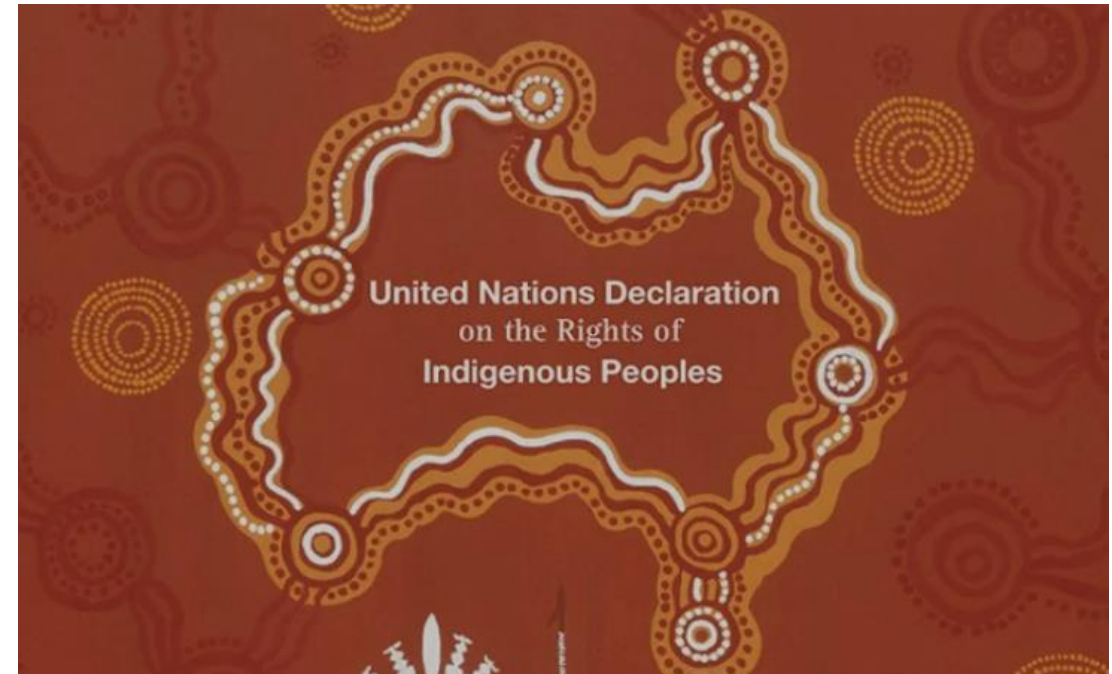
Director, Aboriginal Housing



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Aboriginal Elders of other communities who may be here today. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Aboriginal Elders of other communities who may be here today.

What is Aboriginal Self-determination?

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) described self-determination as the ability for Indigenous people to freely determine their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development. It also describes self-determination as a right that relates to groups of people, not individuals.



How does Government operate within an environment of Aboriginal self-determination?

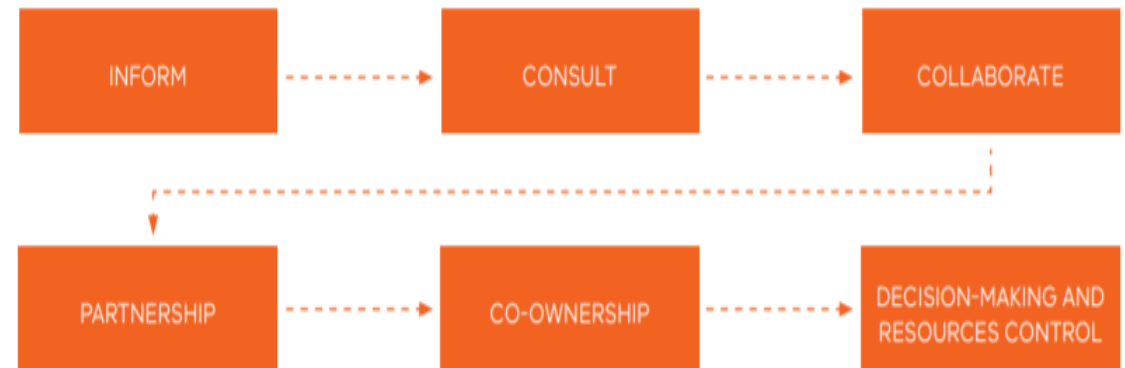
- Government has heard from community that Aboriginal self-determination encompasses a spectrum of rights that are necessary for Aboriginal Victorians to achieve economic, social and cultural equity, based on their own values and way of life.



The paradigm shift 'Governments transfer of power'

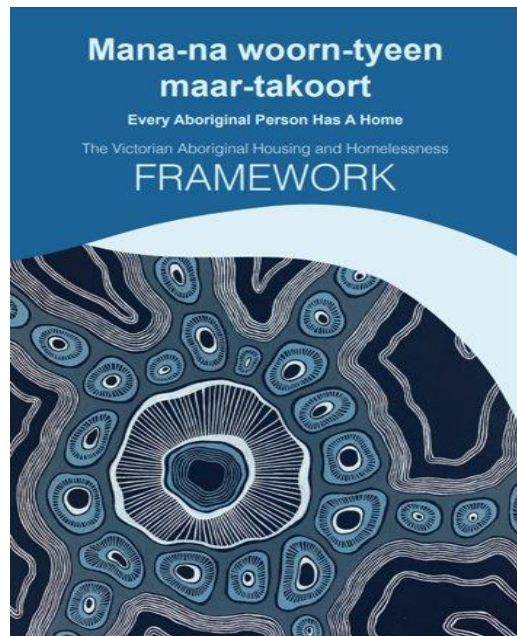
- Self-determination is the key approach that has produced effective and sustainable improvement in outcomes for First-Nations people.
- The Victorian Government acknowledges that to enable self-determination, Aboriginal Victorians hold the knowledge and expertise about what is best for themselves, their families and their communities.

Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Framework,
continuum towards Aboriginal Self-determination



Victorian Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Framework

Homes Victoria is the lead government agency for *Mana-na woorntyeen maar-takoort*, known as Victoria's Aboriginal housing and homelessness Framework (VAHMF). The VAHMF guides policy development to improve housing and homelessness outcomes for Aboriginal Victorians through a set of strategic priorities overseen by Homes Victoria and Aboriginal community representatives.

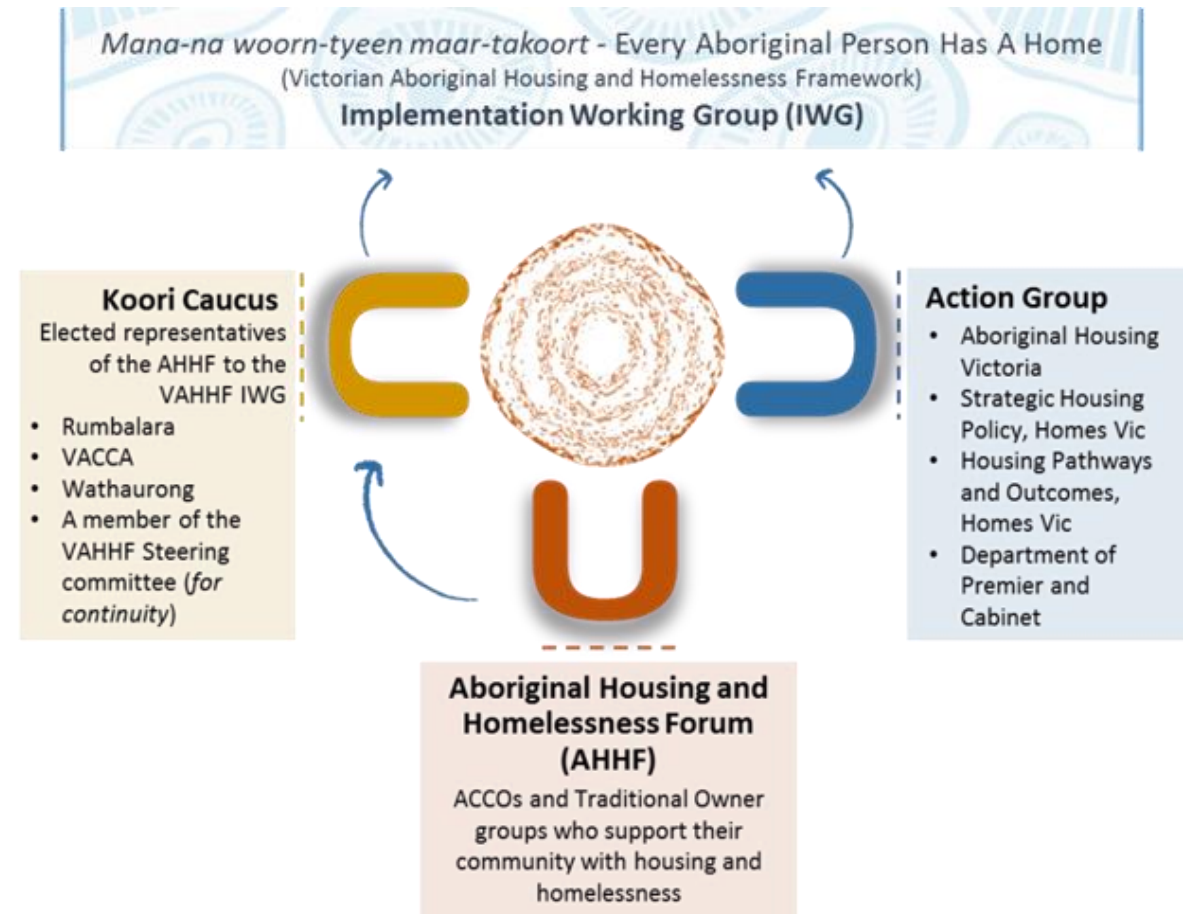


Overview of the VAHMF:

- **VISION:** Every Aboriginal person has a home
 - **PUPOSE:** Aboriginal Victorians achieve quality housing outcomes in a generation.
 - **CHALLENGE:** To meet demand for 27,000 additional Aboriginal households by 2036.
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Mana-na woorn-tyeen maar-takoort (Victorian Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Framework Governance structure

Governance mechanisms has been established for implementation of the VAHHF. This supports Aboriginal communities to determine the approach for delivering improved housing outcomes and enables a collaborative working approach for the Aboriginal housing and homelessness sector.



Approach to housing for Aboriginal Victorians

- Homes Victoria and Aboriginal governance structures are informing a commissioning approach to Big Housing Build (BHB) targets.
- The BHB 10% Aboriginal stimulus target (820 dwellings) will be delivered through four streams.
- The growth in housing for Aboriginal Victorians will be delivered by a combination of Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and mainstream housing providers.

10% of all net new social dwellings will support **Aboriginal housing needs**



BHB 820 Dwelling target



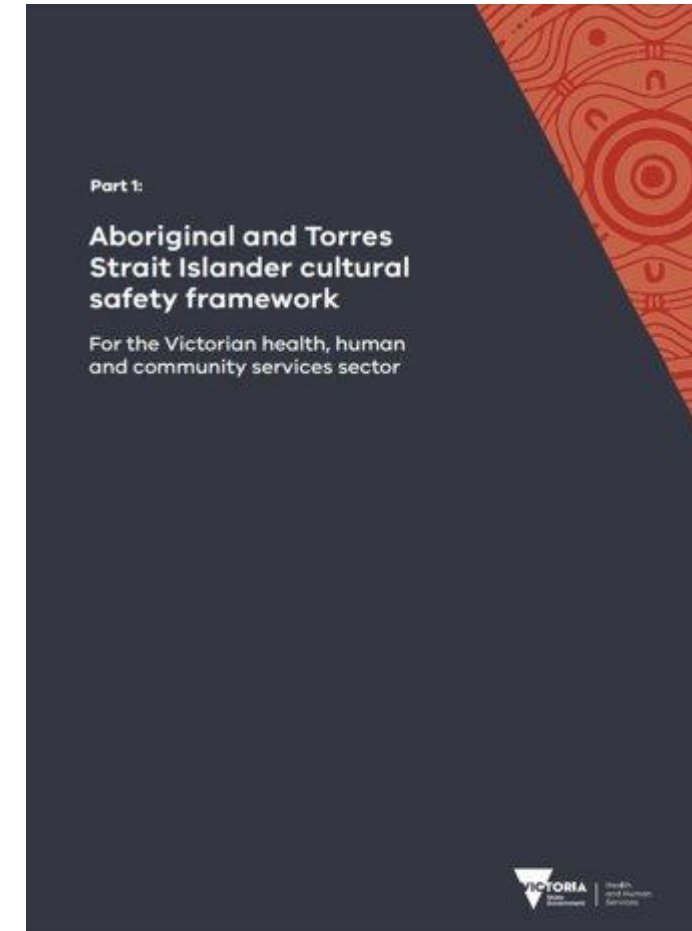
Aboriginal System Enablers to support housing for Aboriginal Victorians

To enable greater participation of Aboriginal organisations through the Big Housing Build and to support sector growth and capacity to meet future housing demand, a suite of system enablers have been developed:

- **Big Housing Build, Partnership Development Officer role** will actively broker partnerships with Aboriginal organisations and registered mainstream community housing organisations to support Aboriginal BHB partnership proposals.
 - **Big Housing Build, Aboriginal Organisation Feasibility study** will assess and evaluate existing Aboriginal organisations assets and land to be directly utilised for the BHB Aboriginal development.
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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Safety Framework

- Cultural safety is everyone's business and Homes Victoria is committed to creating culturally safe and inclusive workplace.
- Cultural safety is a critical barrier to Aboriginal staff retention and is the key to creating culturally safe and inclusive workplace for Aboriginal employees.
- Aboriginal lead design process in developing 18 specific activities that forms the implementation plan, which aims to:
 - create culturally safe environments, services and workplace for Aboriginal Victorian's
 - address underlying causes of unconscious biases
 - prioritises the advancement of Aboriginal Self Determination and prioritises Aboriginal voices



Aboriginal Housing Team

For more Information

- › Please contact aht@homes.vic.gov.au
 - › Empowering Aboriginal communities to self-determine their housing needs will be the key to ensuring more homes are built for more Aboriginal people.
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Thank you.

Questions and Answers.

