



Australian Government

National Indigenous Australians Agency

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Commissioner Romlie Mokak
Productivity Commission
Indigenous Evaluation Strategy

10 August 2020

Dear Commissioner Mokak

The National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) is pleased to provide the Productivity Commission with a response to information requests to support finalisation of the Indigenous Evaluation Strategy (the Strategy).

We commend the Commission on developing a Strategy that complements and builds on Australian Government agencies' existing evaluation processes and frameworks.

We are pleased to see synergies between the Draft Strategy and NIAA Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) Evaluation Framework principles and core values. The NIAA supports the statement by the Commission in the Strategy that in order 'to achieve better policy outcomes, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people need to be at the centre. What they value, their expertise and lived experience should be reflected in what is evaluated, how evaluation is undertaken and the outcomes policies seek to achieve'.

Importantly, we note the Strategy acknowledges how critical it is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, their knowledge, perspectives and priorities be carefully considered throughout this process.

We acknowledge the Commission's efforts to capture some of the complexities that need to be considered in regards to Indigenous evaluation co-design approaches. The Strategy highlights the need to ensure adequate resources and realistic timeframes are allocated for evaluations in order to achieve meaningful and effective engagement with Indigenous Australians throughout the evaluation process.

Yours sincerely

Blair Exell
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
National Indigenous Australians Agency

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