

STATE BUDGET

2023-24

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TREASURER

Thursday 15 June 2023

A STATE BUDGET FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

The 2023-24 State Budget is making important investments for the long-term benefit of South Australia's Aboriginal communities.

The Malinauskas Labor Government's nation-leading First Nations Voice to Parliament is closer to being implemented with key measures for the policy funded in today's Budget.

The State Government is investing \$6.1 million over four years to establish and support the ongoing operations of the First Nations Voice to Parliament.

An additional \$2.9 million in 2023-24 and \$1.3 million in 2025-26 will be invested to conduct the first two elections for Members of the First Nations Voice.

The initial First Nations Voice election funding will provide for:

- an online portal for candidates, processing postal vote applications,
- remote mobile polling,
- early voting centres and polling booths on polling day,
- centralised declaration vote counting, and
- supporting information, engagement and participation campaigns.

Funding for the First Nations Voice is in addition to the Malinauskas Labor Government's \$4.7 million investment over four years into South Australia meeting its partnership commitments under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

The initiative includes resourcing to the South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network (SAACCON), as the state's peak body, and to Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation within the Attorney-General's Department to help deliver partnership commitments.

The National Agreement encompasses four priority reform areas which cover 17 targets focused on life expectancy, health and wellbeing, education, employment, justice, safety, housing, land and waters, and languages.

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The State Government will also provide \$1.5 million over four years to support the reburial, exhumation and reinterment of Aboriginal ancestral remains where they have not been buried in a culturally appropriate manner.

Quotes attributable to Kyam Maher

The outcomes we see for Aboriginal people in every facet of life lag shamefully behind those of non-Aboriginal Australians.

That is why we are providing a significant boost towards efforts to close the gap and we are making sure Aboriginal people have a say in the decisions that affect their lives through a Voice to Parliament.

Quotes attributable to Stephen Mullighan

The Voice will be a connected, direct and independent line of communication for First Nations people to South Australia's Parliament and the Government.

We are proud to be part of a Government implementing this important, historic policy – and we are putting our full support behind this policy to ensure its success.

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