

**Natasha Fyles**  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

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Minister for Equality and Inclusion



Media Release

## 10 Year Strategy to keep our Families and Kids Safe

3 March 2023

A key step has been taken in tackling issues to improve outcomes for the Northern Territory's children and young people.

*Kids Safe, Family Together, Community Strong: 10-Year Generational Strategy for Children and Families in the Northern Territory* was developed under the auspices of the NT Children and Families Tripartite Forum (Tripartite Forum).

This week, the Tripartite Forum met for the first time in 2023, where they discussed the next steps for the implementation of the strategy, early childhood and education, and Closing the Gap actions. They also heard from the NT Children's Commissioner and Northern Territory and Australian Government Ministers.

Spanning 2023-2033, this new model and blueprint recognises collaboration between governments, service providers and local communities and builds on the work of the Tripartite Forum. Both the Generational Strategy and the Tripartite Forum were key recommendations of the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory.

The release of the Generational Strategy is a significant milestone for the Tripartite Forum supported by both the Northern Territory and Australian Governments. The Forum is developing the first of three action plans to deliver the Strategy and has committed to annual reporting of their progress. The first action plan will be released in the coming weeks.

The new Coordinated Investment Framework has also been released. The framework, which complements the Generational Strategy, is an agreement between the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments and outlines their commitment to coordinate the planning, funding and delivery of services aimed at improving outcomes for children in the Northern Territory.

For more information on the Generational Strategy visit <https://rmo.nt.gov.au/tripartite-forum>

**Quotes from Federal Minister for Social Services Amanda Rishworth:**

“The Generational Strategy will give communities more say about the type and mix of services available and how they should be delivered, through genuine collaboration and targeted and coordinated government investment.

“This strategy will be vital to improve services for the wellbeing and safety of all children, young people and families in the Northern Territory. By putting families at the centre of what we do, we will improve the services and support they receive and empower their communities.

“We are shifting the power to communities to use their strengths to develop their own solutions to problems and design the types of services they need for the wellbeing and safety of all children in the Northern Territory.

“I offer my sincere thanks to the Forum, and the Generational Strategy Steering and Implementation Groups for their hard work on the Strategy and the action plans underpinning it.”

**Quotes from Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney:**

“Generational change requires input from everyone – individuals, communities and organisations.

“Many diverse voices make up the Territory and only by listening to what they have to say about the services that affect them, can we create positive and lasting change.

“This Strategy shows working in partnership in practice, bringing together community perspectives with a better coordinated government investment to achieve a shared vision of stronger life outcomes for children, young people and families in the Territory.

“I would like to thank the Chair of the Tripartite Forum and the members for their dedication and expertise in developing this Strategy and I look forward to the launch of the First Action Plan to guide the path forward.”

**Quotes from the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory Natasha Fyles:**

“On behalf of the Northern Territory Government, our deepest thanks and congratulations to the Tripartite Forum on the development of this key Strategy.

“The amount of effort, discussion and consultation in the development of the 10-Year Generational Strategy and the Coordinated Investment Framework cannot be underestimated. And it was because of the strong support and drive of the Tripartite Forum members that we have a solid blueprint to improve the outcomes of children, young people and families in the Northern Territory.

“The Territory Government is proud to be a member of the Tripartite Forum and I look forward to the next phase towards implementing the Strategy – the development of the action plans.”

**Quotes from the NT Minister for Equality and Inclusion Lauren Moss:**

“This is an important step in improving service systems that would benefit Territorians in urban, regional and remote areas.

“The wellbeing and safety of all children, young people, and families is a key priority of the Territory Labor Government.

“This Strategy and the Coordinated Investment Framework are valuable guides that empower and enable government, service providers and communities to work collaboratively towards improved service delivery and better outcomes.

“It signals our commitment to working collaboratively to ensure our children and young people are cared for and supported to achieve their full potential. It's critical we maintain a collaborative approach to ensure sustained generational change is realised.”

#### **Quotes from the Chair of the Children and Families Tripartite Forum Donna Ah Chee**

“I’m excited to release the strategy on behalf of the Children and Families Tripartite Forum.

“The Generational Strategy builds on more than four years of work led by the Children and Families Tripartite Forum to improve coordination and collaboration between the community sector, Australian Government and Northern Territory Government.

“It represents a shared commitment to the new way of working together. It outlines how we can focus our collective resources to improve support for Territorian children and families.

“Our focus on Aboriginal Territorians in this strategy is deliberate. We recognise that we must do better for Aboriginal families and children. But equally, we hope all Territory children and families will benefit from its implementation.

“The Strategy is the centrepiece of our efforts and has the full support of all Tripartite Forum members. We are invested in its acceptance and success. We all know we need to do better and achieve better for our children, young people and families – we see the Strategy as one of the keys to that.”