



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Water and Environmental Regulation**

Your ref: Nick Duff
Our ref: DWERDG533/18
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Mr Darren Foster
Director General
Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005



By email: AboriginalPolicy@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Foster *Darren*

A PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY IN ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

Thank you for your letter dated 2 July 2018 providing the discussion paper entitled *An office for advocacy and accountability in Aboriginal affairs in Western Australia*.

The paper proposes establishing an office of accountability and advocacy for Aboriginal people. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) supports the recommendations and principles outlined in the discussion paper, including that government should be accountable for the way it works with Aboriginal people. DWER also supports an auditing process for the many different Aboriginal focused programs across the public sector.

Much of the work that DWER undertakes requires engagement with Aboriginal people. DWER is establishing a Water and Environment Aboriginal Advisory Committee to ensure that policies and decisions relevant or of interest to Aboriginal people are developed with adequate consultation. I consider that funding for a dedicated contact point for Aboriginal issues in agencies could assist in the overall aim of improving outcomes for Aboriginal people.

If you require further information, please contact Dr Daniel Nevin, Director Strategic Policy, on 6364 6826.

Yours sincerely

Mike Rowe
DIRECTOR GENERAL

4 September 2018