



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Attorney-General

Reference: Justice and Community Safety Directorate

Hearing: 22/07/2026

In relation to: Closing the Gap

Question received: 28/07/2026

Answer Due: 06/08/2026

The City and Environment Directorate budget statements (Budget Statements E) clearly acknowledge their commitments to Closing the Gap (Strategic Indicator 7.2: embedding cultural integrity in 100% of senior executive performance agreements) but strategic indicators like these haven't been established in other directorates. Why hasn't the Justice and Community Safety Directorate established strategic indicators related to the Closing the Gap commitments, and what is your directorate doing to address these commitments?

Ms Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- Strategic Indicators and Accountability Indicators are reviewed annually. The JACS indicators will be reviewed in the 2026-27 year.
- The *Public Sector Management Act 1994* requires that from 1 July 2026 all SES executives perform their job in accordance with the Closing the Gap principle.
- JACS will report on its implementation of Closing the Gap commitments through the mechanisms established under the *Public Sector (Closing the Gap) Legislation Amendment Act 2025*, including reporting in the Directorate Annual Report on measures taken to implement the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.
- JACS is already undertaking a range of whole-of-directorate initiatives that support implementation of the new legislative requirements, including but not limited to:
 - requiring all JACS executives to have Closing the Gap commitments embedded in their performance agreements.
 - delivering the Mulanggari – Keeping Culture Alive cultural learning program to strengthen cultural capability across the directorate.

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- continuing the rollout and use of JACS cultural artwork across the directorate to strengthen recognition of and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and
- introducing a JACS Cultural Safety Self-Assessment tool for use by individuals and teams to embed high quality, meaningful approaches to cultural safety.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026–2027

Signature: 
By the Attorney-General, Ms Tara Cheyne MLA

Date: 7/1/26