



Newsletter Edition 33

In this edition of the TEI program reform newsletter we will be looking at the release of the Draft Aboriginal TEI Strategy, and the TEI Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

Draft Aboriginal Targeted Earlier Intervention Strategy

A key priority for FACS is to support Aboriginal people, families and communities achieve better outcomes and to create opportunities and practical actions to help break the cycle of disadvantage. It is important that TEI reforms reflect the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal people and their communities, as well as FACS's commitment to engage and build meaningful partnerships with Aboriginal people

The Aboriginal TEI Strategy will underpin all elements of the reform to ensure there are more opportunities for Aboriginal people to be engaged in the design of a system that better meets their needs, ensures growth in the capacity of Aboriginal organisations, and that Aboriginal people and organisations are at the centre of delivering TEI programs.

The Strategy will acknowledge the impact of history, including the experiences of the Stolen Generation, and the legacy of intergenerational trauma. It will recognise that Aboriginal people are best positioned to identify their needs and will ensure that each element of the TEI reform promotes Aboriginal models of practice, delivers culturally appropriate services and builds the capacity of local Aboriginal services to identify and deliver appropriate earlier intervention services.

The vision of the Aboriginal TEI Strategy is:

- improved outcomes for Aboriginal families, young people, children and communities
- Aboriginal families, children and young people's needs are met earlier to prevent the escalation of need
- Aboriginal families are able to access support earlier in the lives of their children and young people, and are empowered to live independent meaningful lives
- risk factors that lead to child abuse and neglect, and domestic and family violence are addressed earlier through access to culturally safe and effective supports and services.

The Strategy is based on the views of Aboriginal people. An underlying principle of the TEI reform is that Aboriginal communities lead the design and delivery of services for Aboriginal communities, and supporting the evaluation of these models, and practices, will build the evidence-base, and ensure the lessons learnt are integrated into the TEI program, and broader early intervention service system.

Consultations with Aboriginal stakeholders in 2016 identified a number of issues in earlier intervention services. Additional to the general consultations on the TEI reform, 11 Aboriginal specific consultation forums were held with Aboriginal stakeholders, with 162 participants identifying as Aboriginal. Feedback from these forums the foundation of the Strategy.

Key priorities of the Strategy include:

- targeting resources to Aboriginal people and communities with greatest need
- Aboriginal Early Intervention service systems grounded in evidence informed-practice
- Aboriginal self-determination facilitated through Aboriginal community control of service design and delivery
- increased flexibility so that Aboriginal clients are the centre of Targeted Earlier Intervention outcomes.

Consultation Face to face consultations on the draft Aboriginal Targeted Earlier Intervention Strategy will be occurring across NSW in the coming month - further information will be provided shortly.

Action The draft [Aboriginal Targeted Earlier Intervention Strategy](#) is available for comment – please email feedback to TEIReform@facs.nsw.gov.au by Tuesday 31st October 2017

Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The purpose of framework is to provide a performance, monitoring and evaluation framework for the FACS Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI) Program

The PMEF:

- has been discussed with stakeholders during TEI Information Sessions held across NSW.
- will replace existing monitoring and evaluation for the six programs included in the TEI reform
- is based on Results-Based Accountability (RBA)
- aims to clearly show how TEI program activities contribute to population outcomes by an ongoing cycle of evaluation, governance arrangements, shared learning, responsive local service delivery, and continuous quality improvement.

- provides TEI performance measures (outputs) and population indicators (outcomes) that are streamlined for state-wide consistency
- includes three types of ongoing evaluation
 - process evaluations of TEI performance
 - outcome evaluations of the aims of the TEI program and
 - economic evaluations of the cost / benefit of the TEI program
- has been developed to support the design, implementation, delivery and continual improvement of the TEI program
- is client-centred and will measure the impact of the TEI program for all participants, with a focus on TEI and local priority groups, including Aboriginal children, families and communities, 0-3 year olds, and younger parents.

Action The draft [PMEF](#) is available for comment – please email feedback to TEIReform@facs.nsw.gov.au by Friday 22nd September 2017

TEI Program Commissioning Timeline

The timeline outlines the key milestones for TEI commissioning over the next three years, until June 2020. During this time, TEI specific contracts will be negotiated and service providers will transition to align with the new TEI Program Guidelines. [The TEI Program Commissioning Timeline](#) and the District [TEI Transition presentation](#) are available for further information.

More Information

For more information about this reform visit www.facs.nsw.gov.au/teiprogramreform or email the FACS Families and Place branch at TEIReform@facs.nsw.gov.au.

Questions and Answers

Updated Q&As are now available on the [FACS](#) and [Community Services](#) websites. As always please email any comments or questions to TEIReform@facs.nsw.gov.au