



# Out-of-Home Care Reform Program

**The Year Ahead**

**In Collaboration with the Independent Reference Group**

**16 January 2020**

# Welcome

Welcome To Country: Ms Marie Taylor

## Speakers

- Brad Jolly, Assistant Director General, Commissioning and Sector Engagement, Department of Communities.
- Professor Maria Harries, Co-chair Independent Reference Group for the Out-of-Home Care Reform Program.
- Professor Dawn Bessarab, Co-chair Independent Reference Group for the Out-of-Home Care Reform Program.



# What's different?



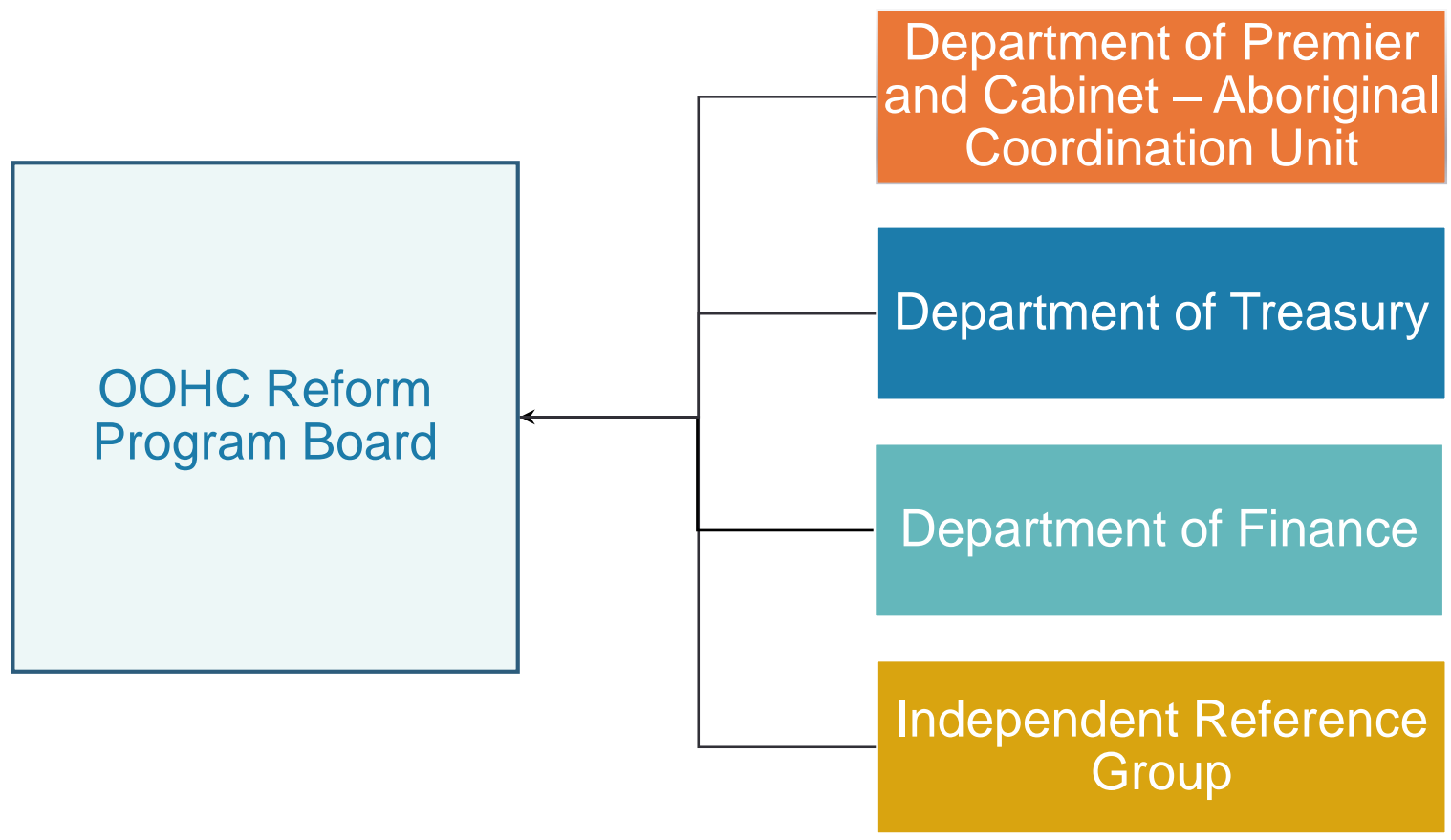
Governance – Out-of-Home Care  
Reform Program Board

Role of the Independent Reference Group

Collaborative Activities

How you can be involved

# Program Board Governance



# Key Achievements



Formalising collaboration with the IRG

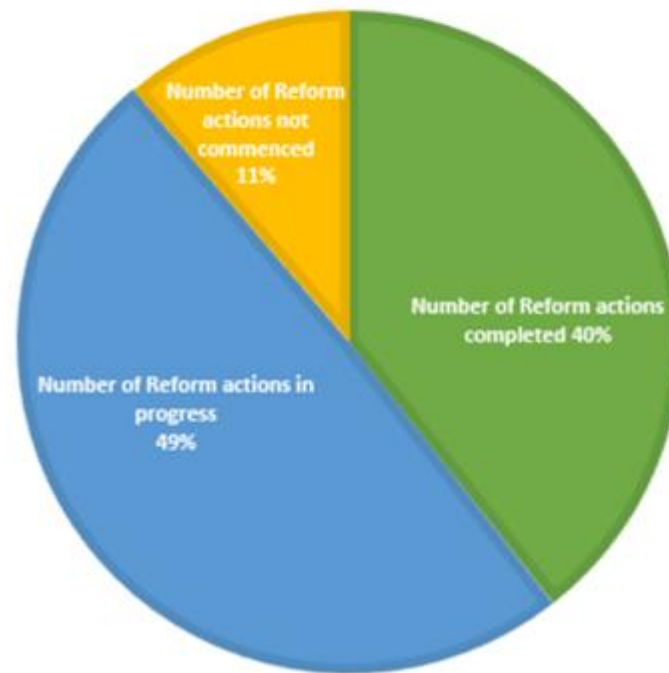


Building trust and strengthening relationships



Refreshed the approach to the OOHc reforms including ensuring broader representation of children in care, parents, families, and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations in collaboration with IRG

## Building a Better Future Reform Actions



Percentage of total (72) reform actions that are in progress, have been completed, or are yet to commence.

# Key focus areas - 2020

January

2020

December

Increased Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation participation in OOHC sector

Interim service model changes / variations to current OOHC contracts

Service design

Out-of-Home Care Reforms

**Professor Dawn Bessarab**



**Professor Maria Harries**



# Independent Reference Group

Established in April 2019

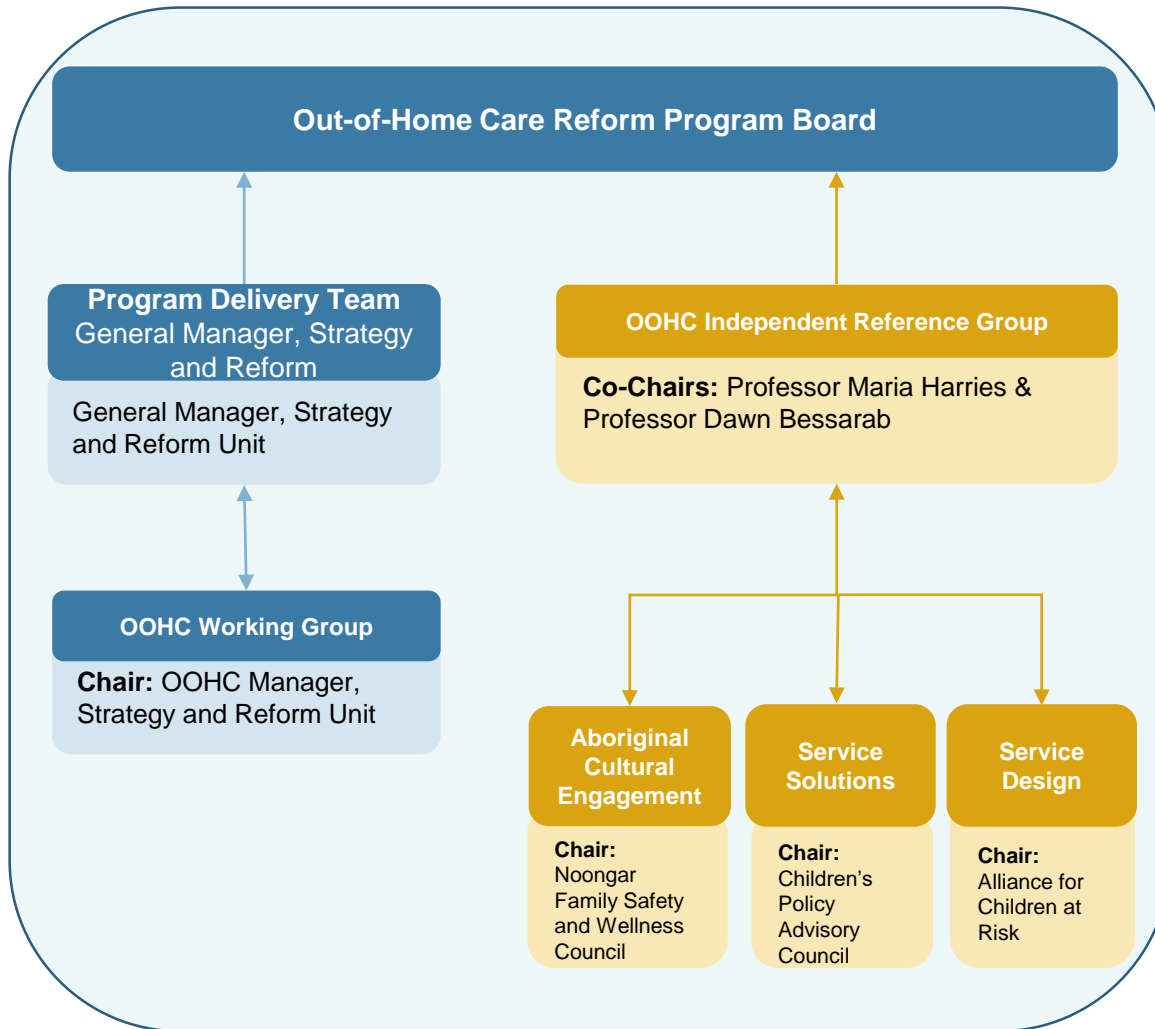


The role of the IRG is to provide advice and support to the OOHG Program Board on the commissioning of OOHG services with a focus on:

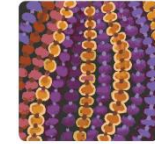
The needs of the child	Improved outcomes for children in care	A safe care system which is held to high standards	Culturally safe care for all children, especially Aboriginal children	Co-ordinated and flexible services to meet the needs of children	Value for money	<i>Recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse</i>	<i>Western Australian (WA) Government's commitments to the Fourth Action Plan under the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020.</i>	Changes to legislation following the statutory review of the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004.</i>
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# Independent Reference Group



**IRG: collectively representing over 185 organisations**



**Aarnja**<sup>Ltd</sup>

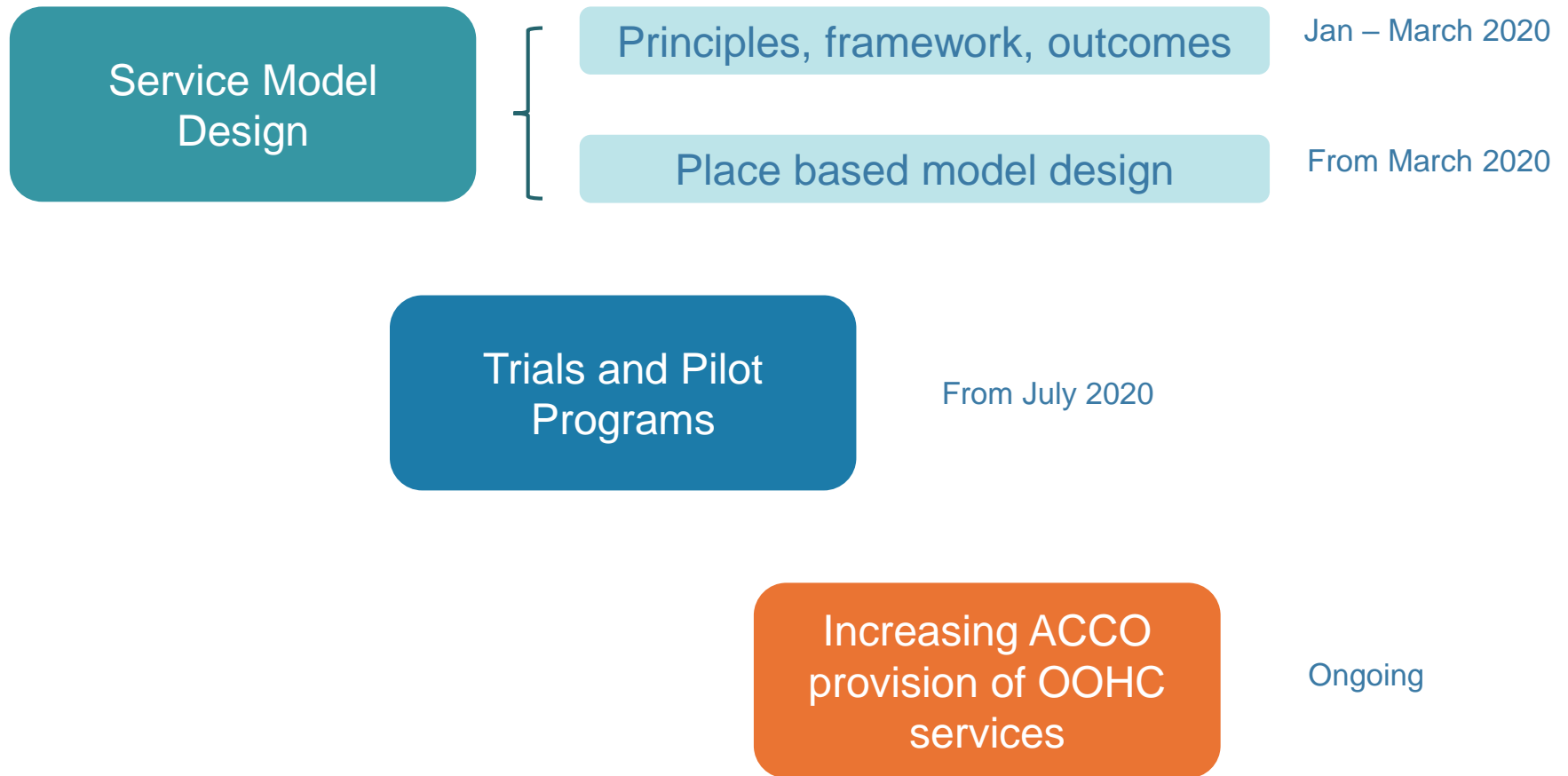


Children's Policy Advisory Council



**ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN AT RISK**

# What is planned for 2020



# Where to get information



IRG provide a communique on a regular basis. This is circulated via email and available on the IRG webpage.



Communities website is updated regularly with information and details of upcoming consultations.



IRG website is updated regularly with information and details of upcoming consultations.



Join the mailing list.



Email the Project Team at  
[StrategyandReform@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:StrategyandReform@communities.wa.gov.au)

# Thank you

- Communities and the IRG look forward to working with you to progress the OOHC Reform Program.

- OOHC Program website:

<https://www.communities.wa.gov.au/projects/out-of-home-care-reform/>

- IRG website:

<https://www.communities.wa.gov.au/projects/oohc-reform-independent-reference-group/>