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## Aboriginal Reconciliation

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South Australia Police (SAPOL) Statement of Reconciliation remains the guiding document for engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people.

SAPOL is committed to engaging with ATSI people to deliver highly regarded police services and create meaningful relationships that signify the importance of reconciliation, acknowledge culture and build trust.

During the review period, the South Australia Police Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) moved into its second year. It was assessed against its deliverables and adjusted to meet community needs. SAPOL reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining mutually beneficial relationships with ATSI people, communities and organisations to support positive outcomes towards reducing instances of ATSI people being incarcerated.

SAPOL's commitment to prevention, early intervention, and engagement with ATSI people is further supported through liaison with Federal and State Government and non-government agencies in programs aimed at working with 'at risk' families and individuals, as well as, protecting the rights of vulnerable youth.

Supporting the South Australian Government, SAPOL continues to investigate opportunities to promote ATSI staff and create employment opportunities for ATSI people. During this reporting period, SAPOL utilised the Aboriginal Employment Register program coordinated by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment to increase employment of ATSI people. As at 30 June 2018, SAPOL comprised 97 ATSI employees working as sworn police officers, community constables, police Aboriginal liaison officers (casual), cadets and administrative support officers.

SAPOL, through the Commissioner of Police, is a member of the Chief Executive's Group on Aboriginal Affairs, and Assistant Commissioner State Operations Service is the sponsor of the ATSI Focus Group which functions as a working group to provide operational and organisational guidance on Indigenous issues that will impact on SAPOL, its staff and the wider community.

SAPOL leads participation in activities including (but not limited to) ATSI specific youth programs, Blue Light camps, sporting events such as the Power Cup and the Don McSweeney Cup; and events such as Reconciliation Week and the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week. In 2018, SAPOL for the first time invited staff to participate in the NAIDOC March and Family Fun Day while on duty as a symbol of awareness, celebration and acknowledgement of the importance and relevance of culture to ATSI people.

