

REPORT: AHCSA Election Priorities 2026

NAME AND POSITION TITLE: Emma Tahuri, Manager Sector Intelligence

Recommendation(s) / Noting:

- That Member Service CEOs review & endorse the proposed priorities and areas for advocacy to be included in the AHCSA State Election Priorities paper.

Information and Discussion

The South Australian State Election will be held on 21 March 2026. This is an important opportunity for AHCSA and the ACCHO sector to engage with political parties and their representatives, ensuring the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities remains a priority for future governments.

The AHCSA State Election Priorities have been drafted to reflect the structural and social determinants of health that continue to influence the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people and communities (**Attachment A**). These priorities will reinforce broader reforms to governance, program and policy design and funding allocation, whilst simultaneously providing specific measurable outcomes by which progress can be measured. They have been developed based on current and previous discussions our staff have had with Member Services and communities regarding areas of concern and importance related to Aboriginal health.

Member Services are invited to review and provide feedback on the proposed priorities and advocacy areas that will guide AHCSA's State Election Priorities paper. Once finalised and endorsed, AHCSA will launch a targeted media and communications campaign to ensure stakeholders across the State are informed about our priorities and concerns, particularly those candidates running for election. This campaign will include:

- Formal communication of the finalised paper with MPs across the political spectrum
- Publishing of the AHCSA State Election Priorities on the AHCSA website
- Social media posts to highlight AHCSA's election priorities

Additionally, AHCSA has developed a letter template (**Attachment B**) as a resource that is customisable. This template can be used by members if there are additional election priorities specific to your health service or community you wish to raise at a more local level. The template can be tailored to suit different intended audiences as needed.

The final and endorsed AHCSA State Election priorities paper, incorporating members feedback, will be published on the AHCSA website and members portal by mid-December 2025.