



A message to community from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Leslie Williams to the Aboriginal communities of NSW

- join the conversation

OCHRE evaluation puts Aboriginal communities in the driver's seat.

In 2011 the NSW Government and you, Aboriginal peoples living in NSW, started a conversation about a new approach to Aboriginal affairs.

The result was *OCHRE*, our community focused plan for Aboriginal affairs.

OCHRE is our commitment to a different relationship between the NSW Government and the Aboriginal peoples. A relationship where government seeks to respond to, and meet, your hopes and aspirations.

OCHRE doesn't make bold statements about changing the world overnight, or even within a generation. We deliberately acknowledge that it will take time to reach the destination where Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians achieve an equal footing.

We are now in the third year of *OCHRE* and important conversations are underway to find out the key issues and opportunities for each initiative.

The conversations are intended to find their strengths so that each develops in a way that addresses local and community needs. We are committed to an open and long-term dialogue. This is a 10 year conversation - long enough to learn about what work, what doesn't, what's been the impact, and what we need to place greater focus on. The Social Policy Research Centre at the UNSW is leading this work.

I invite you to take part in these important conversations so that your voice can help to determine the shape of the future.

I give you my commitment that the NSW Government will continue the respectful conversation started in 2011.

A blue ink handwritten signature, likely of Leslie Williams, written in a cursive style.

16 March 2016