



Action on Aboriginal cultural heritage reform

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The WA Alliance of Native Title Representative Bodies and Service Providers (WA Alliance) unanimously agree the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill* should not be presented to State Parliament in its current form.

The WA Alliance came together this week with a clear message that Traditional Owners have not been properly consulted on heritage for which they own and care, and the Bill should not be presented to State Parliament in its current form.

Government has not made public the results of consultation, undertaken in a time frame of just five weeks in 2020.

As stated at the time of release of the draft bill, these members do not believe sufficient time was allowed in this current phase for Aboriginal people to fully engage on the Bill and its impacts on their heritage.

Everyone's submissions were based on the original draft bill circulated in 2020. Members are disappointed that after providing extensive feedback on the draft bill at meetings and through written submissions they have yet to see what, if any, feedback will be included in the Bill to be presented later this year. Members call for a summary of key findings from the consultation undertaken, to see if Traditional Owners have truly been heard.

Further, members seek transparency and invite government to a co-design approach, where they sit with Traditional Owners to make amendments before the Bill is presented to Parliament.

WA Alliance members are: Central Desert Native Title Services (CDNTS), Kimberley Land Council (KLC), Native Title Services Goldfields (NTSG), South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALC), and Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC).

With a clear State Government majority in both houses of Parliament there is no rush for legislation to pass.

About WA Alliance Native Title Representative Bodies and Service Providers

Members of the WA Alliance Native Title Representative Bodies and Service Providers (WA Alliance) regularly meet and work together and present a unified voice on issues of common interest. Members are: Central Desert Native Title Services (CDNTS), Kimberley Land Council (KLC), Native Title Services Goldfields (NTSG), South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALC), and Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC).

Media contact: **Jane Mitchell**, Communications Manager, email jmitchell@ymac.org.au or editor@ymac.org.au , mobile **0427 463 796**.