

TABLED BY.
MS BRAZIER.
18-8-03.

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Memorandum of Understanding

PUBLIC

between

Family and Children's Services
Kimberley zone

and

Community Council

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THIS AGREEMENT IS MADE BETWEEN THE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1 PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

- 1.1 The purpose of the memorandum is to provide a basis for mutual cooperation between the Community Council and Family and Children's Services.
- 1.2 Family and Children's Services has a long historical association with members of the community.
- 1.3 Both the Community Council and Family and Children's Services agree their goal will be to work together in partnership to improve and strengthen the general wellbeing of children and family members out at the community.
- 1.4 Consistent with the above goal the following principles, which underlie the Memorandum of Understanding will guide the development and implementation of a strategic approach to improving and strengthening the way Family and Children's Services and the Community Council work together.
 - i Acceptance and respect for the roles of the Community Council and Family and Children's Services.
 - ii Recognition of the importance of local Aboriginal guidance through the Community Council which will focus on participation and decision making in department funded community projects.
 - iii To formalise an agreement between the Community Council and Family and Children's Services.

2 STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT BY BOTH FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Community Council and Family and Children's Services will work in partnership to protect and strengthen families and individuals of the community which will ensure a happy community where each person's individual rights are respected.

2.1 STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT OF
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Community Council will take an active role in this Memorandum of Understanding by:

- 2.1.1 Advising and working with Family and Children's Services on specific issues related to the protection and safety of children at community.
- 2.1.2 Advising Family and Children's Services of culturally appropriate strategies which can assist department officers to work more effectively with families/individuals out at community (as advised by Community Council and Elders).
- 2.1.3 Providing appropriate facilities for Family and Children's Services officers to work from which have some privacy for community members.
- 2.1.4 Providing support to projects for families as funded by Family and Children's Services and approved by Community Council.
- 2.1.5 Notifying community members of Family and Children's Services visits by the displaying of notices in the community office, health centre and community store.

2.2 STATEMENT AND COMMITMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Family and Children's Services will take an active role in this memorandum by:

- 2.2.1 Visiting [REDACTED] community every three weeks and/or as the need arises. A week prior to these visits Family and Children's Services will notify [REDACTED] Community Council both verbally and in writing.
- 2.2.2 Working with [REDACTED] Community Council in a culturally appropriate way to address child protection and safety issues (as identified by [REDACTED] Community Council and Elders).
- 2.2.3 Liaising with the [REDACTED] wardens, and [REDACTED] women's groups as appropriate.
- 2.2.4 Supporting [REDACTED] Community Council initiatives to strengthen the role of parents and families at [REDACTED] community.
- 2.2.5 Advocating on behalf of [REDACTED] Community Council to government and non government agencies for community resources, services, etc.
- 2.2.6 Respecting the cultural protocol of [REDACTED] community, such as Lore times and deaths, on advice from [REDACTED] Community Council.
- 2.2.7 Providing community education and information as requested.
- 2.2.8 Notifying [REDACTED] Community Council of their attendance for child protection matters but not disclosing the nature, intent or identity of those involved.
- 2.2.9 Ensuring, in most instances, investigations be conducted jointly by Family and Children's Services and the Police Department.
- 2.2.10 If it is necessary to remove a child from a family, undertaking to consult the family to determine options and priorities in their decision making.
- 2.2.11 Undertaking to inform [REDACTED] Community Council if it is foreseen that an intervention will impact on the community. And if that is the case, undertaking to remain at [REDACTED] community to provide ongoing support until the matter is resolved.

3 DURATION OF AGREEMENT

3.1 This memorandum will commence between the [REDACTED] Community Council and Family and Children's Services on the 28th APRIL 1999.

3.2 [REDACTED] Community Council and Family and Children's Services may also agree in writing, at any time after the date of signing, to alter the contents of this agreement.

3.3 The agreement will be reviewed with the community chairperson by 28th April 2000, or at an earlier date at the chairperson's request.

4 ENDORSEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT WAS MADE BETWEEN [REDACTED] COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES (KIMBERLEY ZONE).

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE [REDACTED] COMMUNITY COUNCIL

) [REDACTED]
) [REDACTED]
) [REDACTED]
) [REDACTED]
) SIGNATURE OF WITNESS
) Rhonda Parker
) NAME OF WITNESS
) DATE 28.4.99

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES (KIMBERLEY ZONE)

) [REDACTED]
) JOHN DEAN
) ZONE-MANAGER
) [REDACTED]
) SIGNATURE OF WITNESS
) Rhonda Parker
) NAME OF WITNESS
) DATE 28.4.99




Memorandum of
Understanding
(Working Together)

AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN

Family and Children's Services
(Kimberley Zone)

AND

 Community Council

Memorandum of Understanding (Working Together)

AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN

Family and Children's Services
(Kimberley Zone)

AND

 Community Council

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5. ENDORSEMENT.

1. PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT

- 1.2. To allow Family and Children's Services and [REDACTED] Community Council to work in partnership for the benefit of community members - children, families, and individuals.
- 1.3. That the aim of Family and Children's Services and [REDACTED] Community Council is to promote and strengthen the general well being of children and families within the community.
- 1.4. To develop, through this agreement, a clearer understanding of ways in which Family and Children's Services and [REDACTED] Community Council can work together toward this aim.
- 1.5. To recognise the importance of Family and Children's Services and being guided and advised by [REDACTED] Community Council in regard to cultural issues within the community.

2. [REDACTED] COMMUNITY COUNCIL STATES THAT:

- 2.1. [REDACTED] Community Council will advise Family and Children's Services of any concerns relating to the protection and safety of their children.
- 2.2. [REDACTED] Community Council will advise Family and Children's Services of culturally appropriate ways to work better with families and individuals in their community.
- 2.3. [REDACTED] Community Council will provide support to agreed projects, funded by Family and Children's Services, that benefit their community.
- 2.4. [REDACTED] Community Council will notify members of their community of any planned visits by Family and Children's Services workers.
- 2.5. [REDACTED] Community Council will invite Family and Children's Services workers to visit their community, at an agreed time, to discuss any issues of concern regarding the well being of community children and/or families.
- 2.6. [REDACTED] Community Council will advise Family and Children's Services of any concerns regarding Family and Children's Services funded programs to their community.

3. FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES STATES THAT:

- 3.1. Family and Children's Services will work with the [REDACTED] Community Council in a culturally appropriate way in all issues to do with the protection of children and the promotion of family life.
- 3.2. Family and Children's Services will undertake to visit the community at an agreed time to discuss issues of concern to both [REDACTED] Community Council and Family and Children's Services in regard to children, families and individuals.
- 3.3. Family and Children's Services will support [REDACTED] Community Council by advocating on their behalf to government and non-government agencies for resources/services to the community.
- 3.4. Family and Children's Services will respect all aspects of [REDACTED] Community Council culture and way of life and will seek community advice on ways to provide Family and Children's Services in a culturally appropriate manner.
- 3.5. Family and Children's Services will respect the confidentiality of all community members.
- 3.6. Family and Children's Services will advise [REDACTED] Community Council of their wish to visit the community for a child protection reason but will not necessarily advise of the nature of the concern or the identity of those involved.
- 3.7. In some instances a child protection matter will need to be investigated jointly by Family and Children's Services and the police. If it is necessary, for a child's safety, to remove a child from their home, Family and Children's Services will undertake to consult with all relevant family and community members before making a placement decision.
- 3.8. Family and Children's Services will provide community education and information to [REDACTED] Community Council on request - subject to agreement about how the information will be presented and the time to visit the community.

4. DURATION OF AGREEMENT

- 4.1. [REDACTED] Community Council and Family and Children's Services can agree, at any time, to amend or alter the contents of this agreement.
- 4.2. This agreement between [REDACTED] Community Council and Family and Children's Services will commence on 1/11/2000 and will be reviewed annually from this date.

5. ENDORSEMENT

This agreement is between [REDACTED] Community Council and Family and Children's Services (Kimberley Zone).

SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF OF [REDACTED] COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: [REDACTED]

WITNESS: [REDACTED]

DATE: 1/11/00

SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

ZONE MANGER: [Signature]

WITNESS: [Signature]

DATE: 1/14/00