The Aboriginal Health Impact Statement systematically applies an ‘Aboriginal health lens’ to our work.

**ABORIGINAL HEALTH IMPACT STATEMENT**

Aboriginal health means not just the physical wellbeing of an individual but refers to the social, emotional and cultural wellbeing of the whole community in which each individual is able to achieve their full potential as a human being, thereby bringing about the total wellbeing of their community.

**THINK ABOUT**
- Who will be affected?
- The burden of ill health and/or health priorities
- Access to services
- How it links to existing policies, programs or strategies?

**UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE**
- Use data to understand impact, risk factors and inequities
- Understand the why before you start engagement or consultation with community
- Aboriginal people are diverse and the focus needs to be on equitable outcomes.

**POTENTIAL IMPACT ON ABORIGINAL PEOPLE**
- Identify the need and ask Aboriginal people, communities and services what will make a difference
- One Aboriginal person is not the voice of all.

**ENGAGEMENT WITH ABORIGINAL PEOPLE**
- Understand that mistrust exists in a lot of communities due to past policy and legislation so some communities may be reluctant to engage with government organisations
- Take opportunities when they are offered and always accept invitations to meet
- Approach Aboriginal people as experts in their own wellbeing and community needs. Have a curious mind and don’t go with an agenda you want met.