

# Community Services Department, State Government of Queensland

1984 – 1987

## Details

---

The Community Services Department was established on 31 May 1984, when the Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984 and the Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984 were passed. It was previously known as the Aboriginal and Islanders Advancement Department, with the new department the policy was changed to promote equal opportunity in the Queensland Community for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. The Department ran the Kowanyama Mission from 1984 to 1987. In 1987, the name of the Department was changed by proclamation to the Department of Community Services and Ethnic Affairs.

The Department of Community Services was established on 31 May 1984 when the Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984 and the Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984 were passed. The policy of the time promoted “responsible participation and equal opportunity in the Queensland Community” for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. These Acts facilitated the establishment of local-authority type Councils. The democratically elected Community Councils had increased responsibilities, their main function being the making of recommendations to the Minister on matters of progress, development and wellbeing of the people they represented.

The name of the Department of Community Services was changed by proclamation on 14 December 1987, to Department of Community Services and Ethnic Affairs.

## More info

---

### Chronology

- Chief Protector of Aborigines Office, State Government of Queensland (25 March 1904 - 12 October 1939)
- Director Of Native Affairs Office, State Government of Queensland (12 October 1939 - 28 April 1966)
  - Aboriginal and Island Affairs Department, State Government of Queensland (28 April 1966 - 16 January 1975)
  - Aboriginal and Islanders Advancement Department, State Government of Queensland (1975 - 1984)
- **Community Services Department, State Government of Queensland (1984 – 1987)**
  - Community Services and Ethnic Affairs Department, State Government of Queensland (1987 - 1989)
  - Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs Department, State Government of Queensland (7 December 1989 - 25 January 1996)
  - Department of Family and Community Services, State Government of Queensland (25 January 1996 - 26 February 1996)
  - Department of Families, Youth and Community Care, State Government of Queensland (26 February 1996 - 22 February 2001)
  - Department of Families, State Government of Queensland (17 February 2001 - 12 February 2004)

## Related Entries

### Ran

- [Kowanyama Mission \(1967 - 1987\)](#)  
Date: 1984 - 1987

## Records

---

### Records

- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Records \(1880s - current\)](#)
- 

You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/community-services-department/>