

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

Significant ministerial roles

Ministerial Working Group on the Future of Cocos (Keeling) Islands (MWG)

Purpose	<p>The Ministerial Working Group on the Future of Cocos (Keeling) Islands (MWG) was established in May 2024 to oversee a whole-of-Government response to the impact of climate change on Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI).</p> <p>Chaired by you, the MWG includes: the Minister for Home Affairs; the Minister for the Environment and Water; the Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy; the Minister for International Development and the Pacific; the Assistant Minister for Defence; and the Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians.</p> <p>The MWG is supporting finalisation of the CKI Coastal Hazards Risk Management and Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP). The Australian and Western Australian Governments partnered with the Shire of CKI to develop the CHRMAP, which is expected to be publicly released in late 2025.</p> <p>The MWG has been tasked with developing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pathway for the Australian Government's response to the impacts of climate change on CKI; and • options and recommendations for short, medium and long-term actions in response to the impacts of climate change on CKI.
Current status	<p>The MWG was intended to function as a time-limited group. The MWG held three meetings in 2024. A fourth meeting, scheduled for February 2025, was postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. No further meetings have been scheduled.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You chair the MWG playing a strategic role in the development of a Government position on the future of CKI.</p>
Resourcing/ funding information	<p>Secretariat for the MWG is provided by the department. The MWG is also supported by a cross-government Senior Officials' Working Group (SOWG) that convenes prior to MWG meetings and provides strategic and policy advice to ministers.</p>
Contact	<p>David Mackay, Deputy Secretary, Regions, Cities and Territories; 02 s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii)</p>

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE