

Minister Stephen Mullighan

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure
Minister for Housing and Urban Development

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APY Lands addressing project provides better access to key services

About 2500 residents of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands are getting better access to basic services with the roll-out of a new addressing system.

The Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan said the \$272,000 project was delivering big outcomes for Aboriginal people in South Australia's Far North.

"A lack of a nationally recognised addressing system had posed barriers to Aboriginal people accessing services such as registration and licensing," Mr Mullighan said.

"With no recognised addressing system Aboriginal people living on the lands were unable to provide a valid address when interacting with the wider world.

"Online forms for everyday use such as registration, banking and Centrelink access were out of reach."

The APY Lands Addressing Project was jointly developed and funded by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, Housing SA, SA Water and the Department of State Development.

"The APY Lands has an area of more than 100,000 square kilometres and is home to 13 Aboriginal communities with about 2500 residents in total," Mr Mullighan said.

"Over 12 months the project team worked with the Anangu to create road names based on the creeks, hills and landmarks unique to the APY Lands communities.

"They also used the Pitjantjatjara language names for camel, emu, snake and other animals, creating 143 road names in total across the 13 communities.

"These new addresses will provide a vital link for people on the APY Lands to interact with online forms and websites.

"They will also enable Government and other agencies to deliver better services into the communities as well as assisting emergency services, particularly with disaster management."

The Anangu identified the need for a proper addressing system and APY Executive provided their full endorsement at a board meeting in August last year.

"The project team has worked closely with the local community to complete this project in just one year, while other states have been working on similar projects for up to a decade and still aren't finished," Mr Mullighan said.