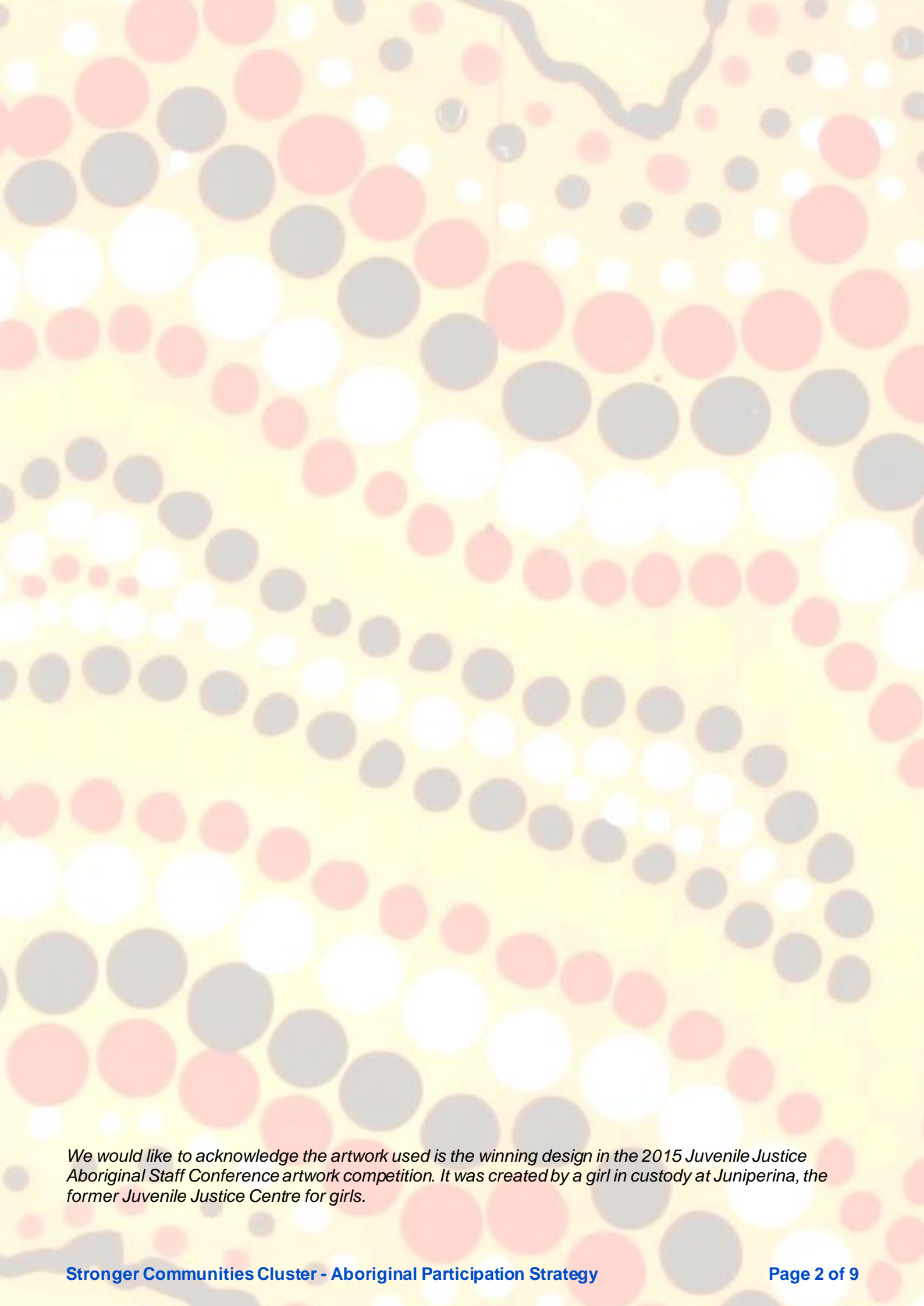


# STRONGER COMMUNITIES CLUSTER



## ABORIGINAL PARTICIPATION STRATEGY – 2020/2021





*We would like to acknowledge the artwork used is the winning design in the 2015 Juvenile Justice Aboriginal Staff Conference artwork competition. It was created by a girl in custody at Juniperina, the former Juvenile Justice Centre for girls.*

# Stronger Communities Cluster

*The Stronger Communities Cluster team are based in all parts of New South Wales, and we acknowledge the Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the land and waters in which we work and live. We pay our respects to all elders past and present, and as a team are committed to supporting all the Aboriginal communities in our great state.*

## Introduction

The New South Wales (NSW) Government values the economic, social and cultural contributions offered to the peoples of NSW from the Aboriginal community and Aboriginal businesses across the state. The NSW Government Aboriginal Procurement Policy (APP) first developed in 2018 is a major commitment and will contribute to the NSW Governments strategic economic policy of growing NSW's First Economy.

The Stronger Communities Cluster is fully committed to support the overall objectives, metrics and targets of the APP through both Cluster-wide objectives as well as agency specific initiatives.

A key part of the APP commitments is the development of agency or Cluster Aboriginal Participation Strategy (APS) plan documents. This APS, developed for the Stronger Communities Cluster, is the basis of Cluster-wide activities for the 2021/2022 financial year. This APS shall be reviewed and published each financial year, or in the event there are any significant changes to the APP.

## Message from the Cluster CPO's

As the senior procurement executives representing each of the agencies in the Stronger Communities Cluster, we know that through our combined spend commitments that we can have a significant and meaningful impact in helping develop Aboriginal businesses in the state of NSW.

We are a broad and diverse group of agencies that through the services we deliver effectively cover every corner of the state and work, in one way or another, with every community in NSW.

In support of the NSW Governments Aboriginal Procurement Policy and underlying strategic intent, we have developed this Aboriginal Participation Strategy (APS) to be the basis of our agreed approach and understanding of how we will work together as an Agency Cluster to achieve the outcomes we are looking for.

This document was developed and is managed by a working group within the Cluster and builds on the extensive work already underway within the agencies. The document has been reviewed and signed-off by the Cluster CPO community and we look forward to working on these initiatives in the coming year, raising awareness of the opportunities and building on leveraging the work already undertaken within the Cluster.



(Signed by Mark Herrero (A/Cluster CPO) on behalf of the Cluster CPO team.



# Purpose of this Document

The purpose of this document is to be the Aboriginal Participation Strategy (APS) for the Stronger Communities Cluster, supported by each of the individual agencies within the group. It is aimed to supplement the materials published by the NSW Government related to the APP and Aboriginal business, procurement and supply chain programs.

This document outlines the key priorities and initiatives that have been identified and agreed to be actioned as Cluster-wide items. As these priorities and initiatives develop over time, the status will be updated and tracked in the annual update published.

While this document will outline and highlight key initiatives and the ongoing status of the activity, Agency and Cluster specific metrics (e.g. spend reporting, FTE hiring, contract volumes etc) will be tracked and reported centrally within the tools established by NSW Procurement team.

This document will be complemented by an agency specific 'APS Progress Report' where applicable and appropriate, to outline any specific or unique agency driven initiatives (and results) that are appropriate to capture and document. A standard reporting template has been generated for this purpose, and the guidance to the individual agencies that this information be included in either their Annual Procurement Plan or their related Annual Accreditation materials.

## Commitment to the NSW Government targets

As both individual agencies and as a Cluster, we are committed to supporting the overall targets and objectives established by the NSW Government as outlined in the APP document.

We acknowledge that within the Cluster we are a diverse set of agencies that operate in very different spaces and on very different scales across the state. Through the development of this combined APS document structure and approach, our intent is to work together and leverage off each other to contribute to the targets outlined below.

- Supporting the NSW Governments aim to support an estimated 3000 full time equivalent employment opportunities for Aboriginal people through NSW Government procurement activities by 2021.
- Support the objective for Aboriginal owned businesses to be awarded at least 3% of the total number of domestic contracts for goods and services issued by NSW Government agencies by 2021.
- Meet any specific or additional targets that are allocated to the Stronger Communities Cluster or any agency within the group, in addition to any targets identified for specified categories of expenditure.

The activities and actions that will be driven through the Cluster and outlined in the APS, and individual agency reporting, will focus on the achievement and delivery of these targets.

# Agencies covered by this APS document

The Stronger Communities Cluster within the NSW Government is predominately made up of the agencies previously working within the Family and Community Services Cluster and the Justice Cluster..

For the 2021/2022 financial year, all APS across the Stronger Communities Cluster have been consolidated into a single APS. As a result, the agencies outlined below are covered by this APS and committed to the objectives and deliverables contained herein.

- Crowns Solicitors Office
- Department of Communities and Justice
- Fire and Rescue NSW
- Legal Aid NSW
- NSW Rural Fire Service
- NSW State Emergency Services
- NSW Police Force
- NSW Crime Commission
- NSW Judicial Commission
- Office of Director of Public Prosecution
- Office of Sport
- Office of the Children's Guardian



The Stronger Communities APS is based on the following three fundamental principles.



By aligning our strategies to the principals outlined above the stronger communities' cluster will drive the changes required to improve the aboriginal participation across the organisation.

## Awareness



**1**

**Stronger Communities Cluster CPO Network and Collaboration**



**2**

**Raise Awareness, Education and Planning**

## Engagement



**3**

**Review and update Sourcing Activities and Strategies**



**4**

**Building relationships with Aboriginal communities and certified bodies**



**5**

**Review of Procurement Policy and Templates**

## Promotion



**6**

**Enhancement of reporting mechanism on spend**



**7**

**Promoting successful engagement.**

# Case Study

## ***E-Bisglobal - NSW Police*** **Print Management Services, including Warehousing & Distribution Services**

As the contracted Print Management Provider to the NSW Police Force, E-Bisglobal manage the supply, warehousing and distribution of printed corporate stationery, forms, marketing collateral as well as security items including accountable documents, drug and evidence bags as well as branded merchandise, signage and displays along with ad-hoc requirements. This includes production of all print requirements, inventory control, warehousing, replenishment orders are all managed by E-Bisglobal's internal account management team. E-Bisglobal's online platforms are integrated via API's with the NSW Police SAP system where the orders are processed seamlessly.

E-Bisglobal have a highly secure warehouse facility where accountable documents are held along with a second contingency warehouse to manage business critical stock as part of E-Bisglobal's Business Continuity Plan.

NSW Police Force have found that E-Bisglobal provide high quality goods and services and are responsive to their requirements. NSW Police Force will continue to build this supplier relationship.

E-Bisglobal are fully certified with the NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (NSWICC)



# Achievements

- Update of policies, procedures and intranet sites to incorporate promotion of engagement of Aboriginal businesses in the procurement process for all Agency's in the Cluster
- Promotion of successful Aboriginal business engagement through the Cluster CPO forum
- Engagement with Senior Executives to promote the engagement of Aboriginal owned businesses for all Agency's in the Cluster
- Inclusion of procurement related actions and deliverables within the Office of Sport's Reconciliation Action Plan.
- Donation of over 100,000 KN95 masks to over 90 Aboriginal Land Council sites across NSW in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Implementation of Aboriginal Participation Strategies for a number of contracts in the 2020/21 financial year
- A Stronger Communities cluster initiative to partner with the NSWICC to develop a 'Coaching / Mentoring' program for CPO's to support Indigenous business responding to large acquisition programs (govt or private sector). Initial discussions underway following a discussion with the NSWICC Board in April 2021.