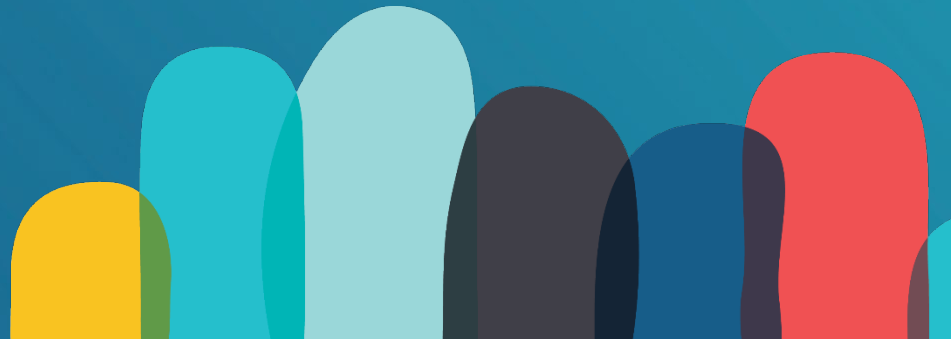
Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

Aboriginal Representative Organisation Request for Application

Non-Mandatory Briefing

Wednesday, 28 October 2026



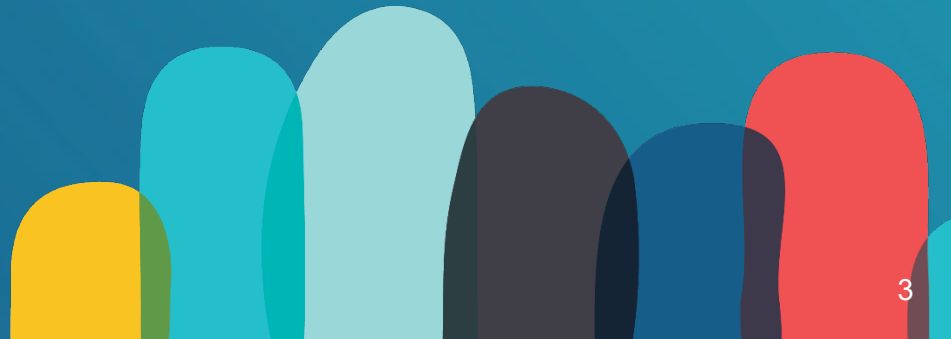

Acknowledgement of Country

Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

Welcome and Introductions

Kim Cook
Executive Director
Child Protection and Family Support (CPFS)
Priority Initiatives

Tenika Walker
Project Manager
CPFS Priority Initiatives



Please note this briefing session is being recorded.



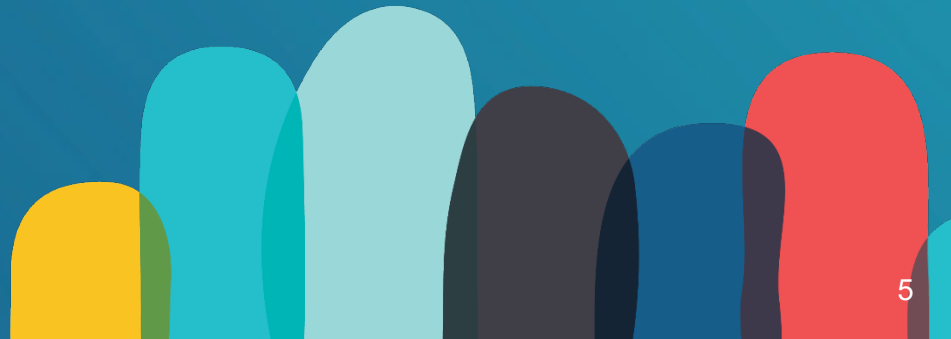
Please use the Teams Q & A function to ask questions anonymously.

Where possible, Department of Communities (Department) will answer questions at the end of the briefing.

Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

Purpose of the briefing session

- Program Overview
- Expansion of the ARO Program
- Sector Engagement and Yarns on Country
- Application Process
- Questions



Aboriginal Representative Organisations

Section 22A of the Children and Community Services Act enables the Chief Executive Officer of the Department (CEO) to approve an organisation to be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander representative organisation, known as an Aboriginal Representative Organisation (ARO).

An ARO is to demonstrate strong local knowledge of Aboriginal families, kinship networks and communities within their location, to have relationships to support the delivery of culturally safe and responsive, place-based services and enable the organisation to effectively perform the functions of an ARO under the *Children and Community Services* Act and *Children and Community Services* Regulations.

ARO Program Overview

On 19 October 2021 the *Children and Community Services Amendment Act 2021* (Amendment Act) received Royal Ascent.

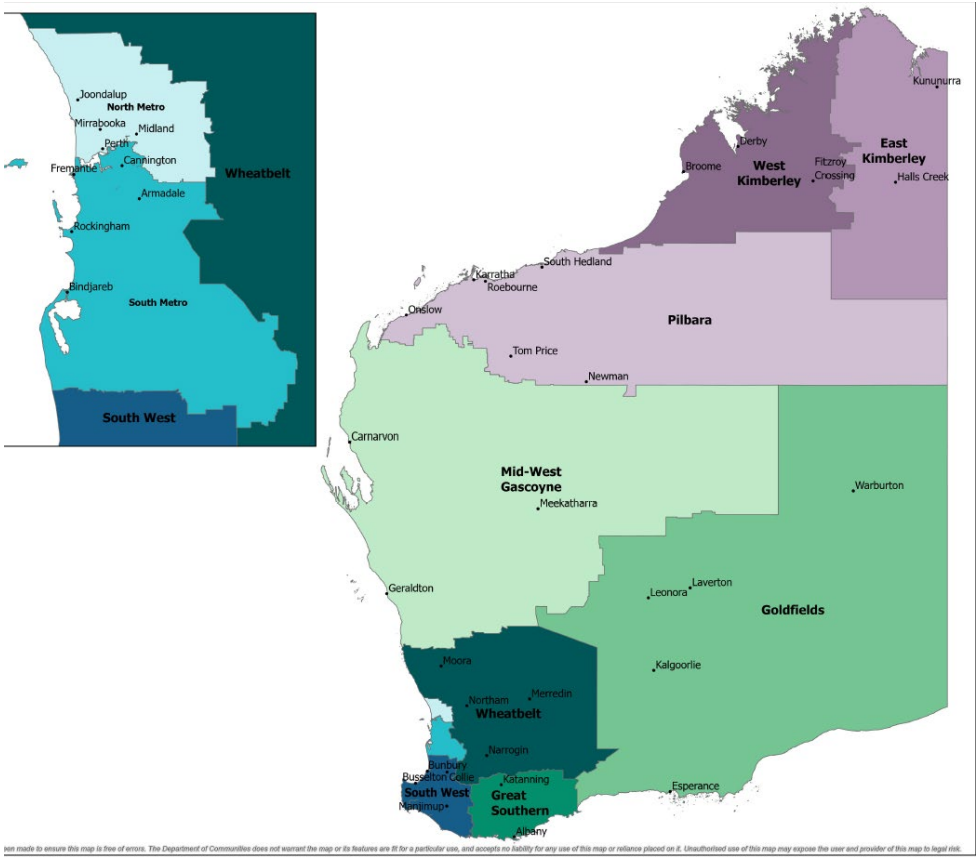
The Amendment Act includes new provisions which, once proclaimed will stipulate that the Department must:

- Consult with an ARO before a placement arrangement is made for an Aboriginal child and must;
- Provide an ARO the opportunity to participate in the preparation and/or review of a Cultural Support Plan (CSP) for an Aboriginal child.

Expansion of the ARO program

Applications are sought from ACCOs to deliver ARO services in the:

- North Metropolitan,
- South Metropolitan,
- SouthWest,
- Great Southern,
- Wheatbelt,
- Goldfields,
- Midwest Gascoyne
- Pilbara,
- West Kimberley and;
- East Kimberley regions.



Request for Application

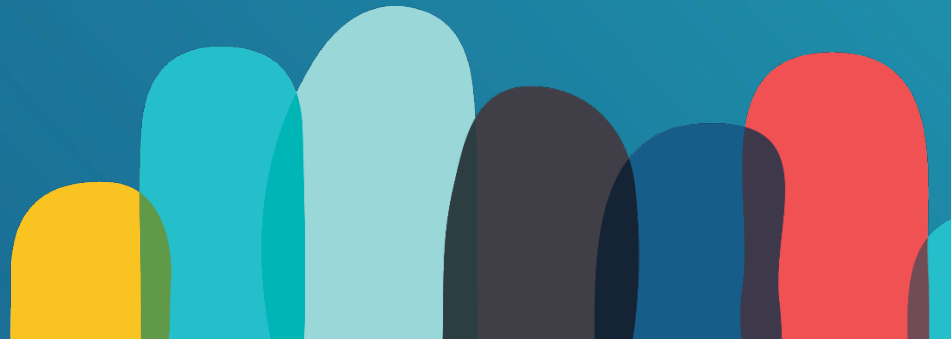
- The Request for Applications (RFA) for the ARO Program is available via Tenders WA.
- Applications opened on 23 October 2026 and will close **Friday, 11 December 2026 at 2:30 pm**.

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Department of **Communities**

Sector Engagement and Yarns on Country

Tenika Walker

Project Manager Priority Initiatives



What we heard from ACCOs:

- Cultural Authority must be central to any assessment
- Place based and flexible commissioning approaches are required, including the consideration for consortium and partnership approaches
- Greater transparency in application documentation
- Child protection district readiness is a critical success factor in ARO success, and
- Support for emerging and diverse ACCOs is important

Considerations for the Application:

- What is your Organisation's footprint in the region?
- Would the community vouch for you to be the appropriate ARO for the region?
- What are your relationships or partnerships in the region?
- Consider the make-up of your workforce and do they capture a number of cultures within your region?
- How can you work alongside the Elders and other community members?
- What is your organisations knowledge of the community governance and cultural protocols in your region that need to be adhered to?
- What strategies do you have in place to manage cultural disputes or differing cultural perspectives central to a young person's Cultural Support Plan or placement?
- How can you demonstrate assurance of community accountability when decisions made by the district are not aligned to the information provided but also reassure the community that these decisions were done with the right input and the district's rationale is sound?

Invitation to apply for approval as an ARO

This application process is for approval as an ARO under the *Children and Community Services Act 2004* and *Children and Community Services Regulations 2005*.

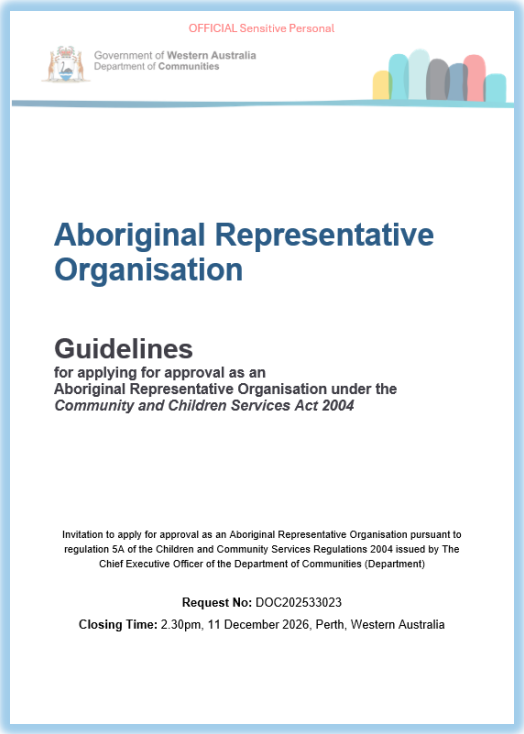
It is not a procurement process under the *Procurement Act 2020*.

The Request for Application is made up of four documents:

- The Guidelines to Apply
- The Application Form
- Offered Price Schedule
- Services Agreement



Aboriginal Representative Organisation **Guidelines**


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Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities

Aboriginal Representative Organisation

Guidelines
for applying for approval as an
Aboriginal Representative Organisation under the
Community and Children Services Act 2004

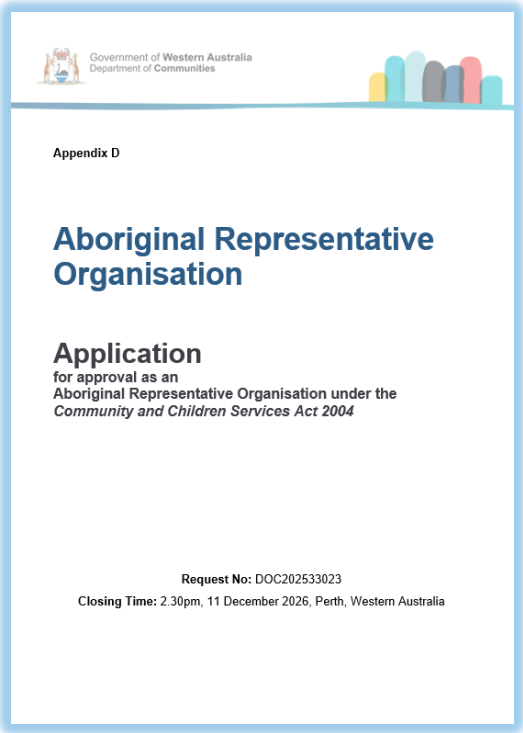
Invitation to apply for approval as an Aboriginal Representative Organisation pursuant to regulation 5A of the Children and Community Services Regulations 2004 issued by The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Communities (Department)

Request No: DOC202533023

Closing Time: 2.30pm, 11 December 2026, Perth, Western Australia

The **Guidelines** provide information to applicants to support the process of submitting a Request For Application.

Aboriginal Representative Organisation **Application Form**



Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities

Appendix D

Aboriginal Representative Organisation

Application
for approval as an
Aboriginal Representative Organisation under the
Community and Children Services Act 2004

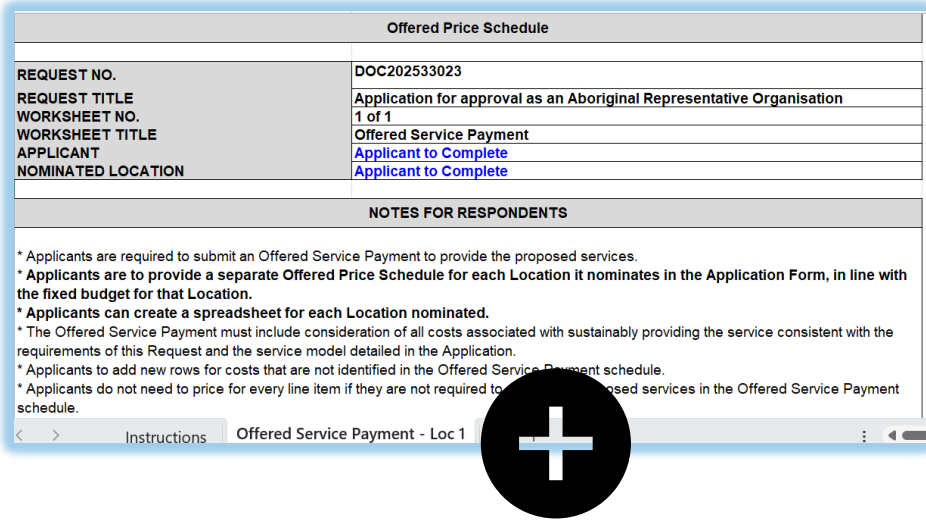
Request No: DOC202533023
Closing Time: 2.30pm, 11 December 2026, Perth, Western Australia

The **Application Form** must be completed.

Offered Price Schedule

Important points to note when completing:

- **Each location** has its own fixed budget
- Price within the **fixed budget per location**
- Create a **separate tab** for each region
- Only **one excel document** is needed

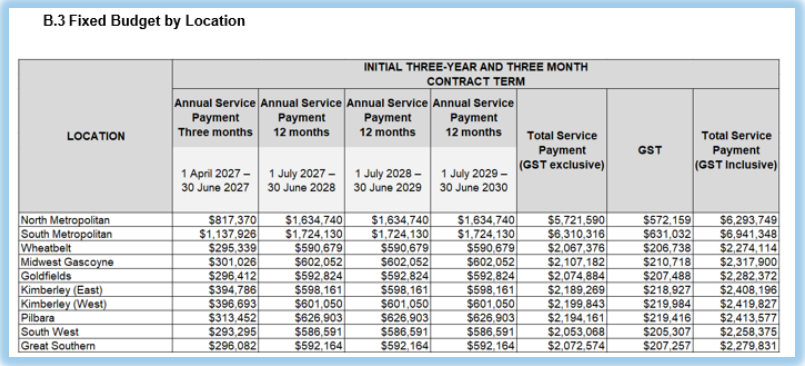


Offered Price Schedule	
REQUEST NO.	DOC202533023
REQUEST TITLE	Application for approval as an Aboriginal Representative Organisation
WORKSHEET NO.	1 of 1
WORKSHEET TITLE	Offered Service Payment
APPLICANT	Applicant to Complete
NOMINATED LOCATION	Applicant to Complete

NOTES FOR RESPONDENTS

* Applicants are required to submit an Offered Service Payment to provide the proposed services.
* **Applicants are to provide a separate Offered Price Schedule for each Location it nominates in the Application Form, in line with the fixed budget for that Location.**
* **Applicants can create a spreadsheet for each Location nominated.**
* The Offered Service Payment must include consideration of all costs associated with sustainably providing the service consistent with the requirements of this Request and the service model detailed in the Application.
* Applicants to add new rows for costs that are not identified in the Offered Service Payment schedule.
* Applicants do not need to price for every line item if they are not required to [illegible] proposed services in the Offered Service Payment schedule.

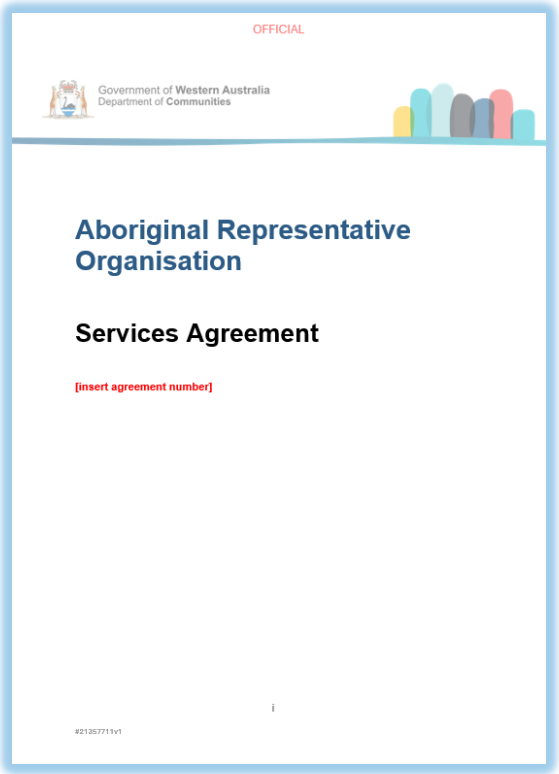
Instructions | Offered Service Payment - Loc 1



B.3 Fixed Budget by Location

LOCATION	INITIAL THREE-YEAR AND THREE MONTH CONTRACT TERM						
	Annual Service Payment Three months 1 April 2027 – 30 June 2027	Annual Service Payment 12 months 1 July 2027 – 30 June 2028	Annual Service Payment 12 months 1 July 2028 – 30 June 2029	Annual Service Payment 12 months 1 July 2029 – 30 June 2030	Total Service Payment (GST exclusive)	GST	Total Service Payment (GST inclusive)
North Metropolitan	$817,370	$1,634,740	$1,634,740	$1,634,740	$5,721,590	$572,159	$6,293,749
South Metropolitan	$1,137,926	$1,724,130	$1,724,130	$1,724,130	$6,310,316	$631,032	$6,941,348
Wheatbelt	$295,339	$590,679	$590,679	$590,679	$2,067,376	$206,738	$2,274,114
Midwest Gascoyne	$301,026	$602,052	$602,052	$602,052	$2,107,182	$210,718	$2,317,900
Goldfields	$296,412	$592,824	$592,824	$592,824	$2,074,884	$207,488	$2,282,372
Kimberley (East)	$394,786	$598,161	$598,161	$598,161	$2,189,269	$218,927	$2,408,196
Kimberley (West)	$396,693	$601,050	$601,050	$601,050	$2,199,843	$219,984	$2,419,827
Pilbara	$313,452	$626,903	$626,903	$626,903	$2,194,161	$219,416	$2,413,577
South West	$293,295	$586,591	$586,591	$586,591	$2,053,068	$205,307	$2,258,375
Great Southern	$296,082	$592,164	$592,164	$592,164	$2,072,574	$207,257	$2,279,831

Services Agreement


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Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities

Aboriginal Representative Organisation

Services Agreement

[insert agreement number]

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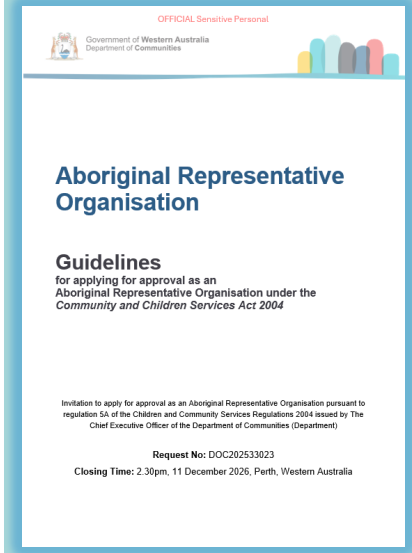
The **Services Agreement** is to provide you visibility of the terms and conditions that the Department intends to apply to the services being delivered by the ARO.

Following evaluation of application, an approved organisation will receive and agree to the **Services Agreement** to deliver the ARO services for the region which the organisation is approved to be the ARO.

Invitation to apply documents

For your information:

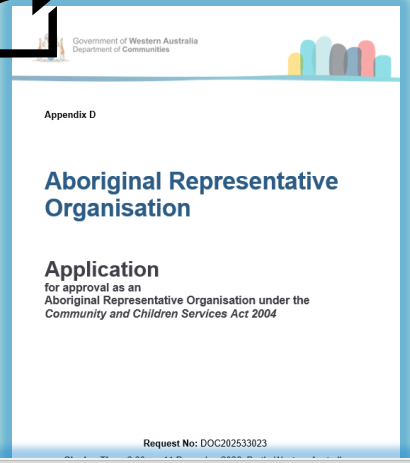
- Guidelines
- Services Agreement





To be submitted through TendersWA:

- Application Form
- Offered Price Schedule.



Offered Price Schedule

REQUEST NO.	DOC202533023
REQUEST TITLE	Application for approval as an Aboriginal Representative Organisation
WORKSHEET NO.	1 of 1
WORKSHEET TITLE	Offered Service Payment
APPLICANT	Applicant to Complete
NOMINATED LOCATION	Applicant to Complete

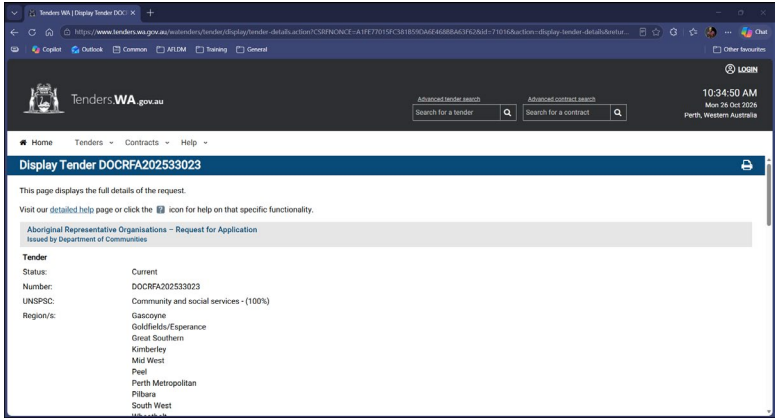
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Instructions | Offered Service Payment - Loc 1

Tenders WA

- Invitation to apply is **published** on Tenders WA
- **Registered** already – please check your details are correct
- **Not registered** – please do so
- Regularly **check** the Tenders WA advertisement



Questions, clarifications and addenda

- **Submit** to: communityservicesprocurement@communities.wa.gov.au
- **Clarification** relevant to other applicants will be published on Tenders WA
- **Review** all published addenda and ensure your application reflects the most current requirements



Closing Date and Time

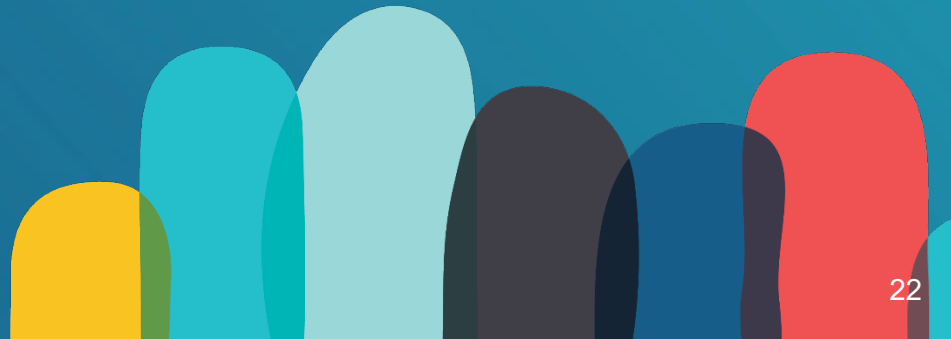
- **Request number** DOC202533023
- **Submit** via Tenders WA
- **Closing date** is 11 December 2026
- **Closing time** 2.30pm AWST
- **Late applications** cannot be accepted



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

Questions?

Questions and their responses may be added as an addendum to this Request for Application.



Closing Reflections

For further information please contact communityservicesprocurement@communities.wa.gov.au

View the Tenders WA page: www.tenders.wa.gov.au

