Minister Wyatt and Minister McGurk launch the revised DCSP Policy

On Thursday 4 October 2018, Finance Minister Ben Wyatt and Community Services Minister Simone McGurk jointly launched the revised Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy. The updated policy is a key milestone in the implementation of the McGowan Government's Supporting Communities election commitments.

The launch was held at Wungening Aboriginal Corporation where Chief Executive Officer Daniel Morrison welcomed Minister Wyatt and Minister McGurk, and Louise Giolitto of the Western Australian Council of Social Services (WACOSS), Taryn Harvey of the Western Australian Association of Mental Health and Julie Waylen of National Disability Services.

The State Government makes a significant investment in the community services sector. This policy will support the sector to ensure every dollar goes further in supporting Western Australians.

Community Services Minister Simone McGurk: “The community services sector is an essential part of building strong and sustainable communities, so it is important that we get services right.

"This policy puts people at the centre of service design, focuses on outcomes for people receiving services and removes administrative burdens on sector organisations so they can get on with the important work supporting our community.

"The Department of Communities alone will disburse in excess of $220 million in 2018-19 to the community services sector, so it is essential to provide a framework which supports the sector."

Finance Minister Ben Wyatt: "This announcement today brings together an extensive period of consultation with the not-for-profit sector about the best ways we can help them provide the best outcomes and also ensure that taxpayers receive the best value for money from their contribution."
FaCS’ DCSP Policy Launch Event

On Tuesday 16 October 2018, FaCS hosted a breakfast event launching the revised DCSP Policy. Approximately 100 representatives from both the government and community sectors attended to hear about the revision from the Department of Finance’s Kate Ingham and Steven Hill. Presentations included an overview of the consultation journey to develop the Policy, and detail was provided to support the enhanced approach to Planning in Partnership. With a panel discussion featuring Louise Giolitto (WA Council of Social Service), Michelle Scott (Supporting Communities Forum), Tim Marney (Mental Health Commission), Kate Ingham (Department of Finance), Michelle Andrews (Department of the Premier and Cabinet) and Grahame Searle (Department of Communities), the audience was able to hear from key players of both sectors on what the revised Policy means for them, and ask questions on how the Policy will achieve better outcomes for the communities and people who need them.
New Planning in Partnership Guide

FaCS is pleased to announce the release of the new Planning in Partnership Guide (the guide), which replaces the Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines. The guide is designed to support government agencies in applying the DCSP Policy to the planning stage of a community services procurement process. The guide focuses on the requirement for government agencies to engage in co-designing services with stakeholders including service providers and service users.

The guide provides direction on how to engage with stakeholders in co-designing services and includes a co-design plan, methods of engagement and co-design and a stakeholder communication strategy template. It contains links to useful resources on co-design which will be of great use to government agencies developing co-design processes.

The Planning in Partnership Guide is now live on the Finance website. Please contact FaCS if you would like to provide feedback on the guide.

Public Sector Reform Program

The State Government is undertaking major reform of the public sector to create a more efficient, collaborative and high-performing public sector that delivers better services to the Western Australian community.

Check out page 3 of the latest issue of the Public Sector Reform Newsletter for an update on how the public sector is adapting to digital advances in data sharing, ICT procurement and cyber security. The Public Sector Reform Unit will report to each meeting of the Supporting Communities Forum to ensure cross sector input and collaboration.

If you have any ideas or feedback about public sector reform or would like to share your agency’s achievements, lessons and stories, please get in touch with the Public Sector Reform Unit at publicsectorreform@dpc.wa.gov.au.

For regular up to date information about the reform program, please visit DPC’s website.
What’s Happening in the Sector?

If you would like to suggest an item for inclusion in future issues of the Bulletin informing readers of upcoming events or information, please email FaCS.

Here’s what’s happening in the upcoming months:

**Out-of-Home Care Procurement and Contracts**

The Department of Communities is currently working to finalise a procurement strategy to set the path for procurement of new services, in relation to reform around out-of-home care (OOHC) system, the objectives of which were outlined in Building a Better Future: Out-Of-Home Care Reform in Western Australia.

For more information contact Jacqui Herring, Assistant Director General Commissioning and Sector Engagement, 08 6552 4388, or Jane Simmons, General Manager Strategy and Reform, 08 9222 2516.

**Connect with Me Co-design video**

Find out more about co-design in [this video](#) developed by People with Disabilities WA, to supplement the Connect with me Co-Design Guide for People with Disabilities WA, featured in last month’s Bulletin.
FaCS is pleased to announce that registration for our DCSP Policy workshops is now open!

**Procuring community services and the DCSP Policy**  
**Wednesday 21 November 2018 | Wednesday 6 March 2019**  
This half day workshop will provide an overview of how the state government procures community services and the DCSP Policy (2018), discussing the intent of the DCSP Policy, improvements in this version and highlighting key considerations to ensure effective and consistent application.

**Planning in Partnership**  
**Tuesday 27 November 2018 | Tuesday 12 March 2019**  
This half day workshop will provide a detailed breakdown of the Planning in Partnership section of the DCSP Policy (2018). This section includes: Planning, Needs analysis and Co-design.

**Developing and measuring outcomes**  
**Wednesday 5 December 2018 | Tuesday 9 April 2019**  
This half-day workshop will help you determine and understand the relationship between inputs, outputs and outcomes. The session utilises the 'program logic model' to develop and measure outcomes for a community service.

**Managing service agreements**  
**Tuesday 11 December 2018 | Thursday 2 May 2019**  
Are you new to service agreement management or would you like to refresh your skills and maybe pick up some new ideas on how to effectively manage one? This workshop will provide you with an understanding of how to effectively manage a service agreement.

Details for all workshops:  
Cost: Free  
Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm  
Location: Albert Facey House – 469 Wellington Street, Perth

All workshops are designed for both government and not-for-profit sectors.

You can find further details for all FaCS training on the [community services sector training page of the Department of Finance website](https://www.finance.gov.au/).
From the Stable Door
Update from FaCS Director, Kate Ingham

October has been a big month for the FaCS team, with the launch of the new DCSP Policy and the Western Australian Disability Enterprise (WADE) Expo. It’s safe to say the team is looking forward to the end of year – celebrating all their achievements for 2018 and taking a well-deserved break!

The DCSP Policy launch has been a culmination of more than a year of hard work by our team – research, stakeholder consultation, drafting and revision, and creating a suite of new templates and guides. It was great to hear Finance Minister Ben Wyatt announce the new Policy and how important it will be to improving outcomes for the Western Australian community. The launch event on 16 October was an opportunity to get government agencies and community services in a room together to hear Steve and I explain the key changes to the Policy and ask questions of the expert panel, which included DGs and CEOs among other key representatives. The implementation of the new Policy has only just begun, and FaCS have scheduled a number of workshops for late 2018 and early 2019 to help build the capacity of both sectors to apply the DCSP Policy to their community services procurement.

One a separate note, the Social Procurement Initiatives team have been instrumental in organising the WADE Expo, which took place on October 24. Thank you to all of the WADEs for participating and everyone who came along to find out more about procuring goods and services whilst supporting fulfilling and secure work opportunities for people with a disability.

FaCS officially welcomed Rachael Mounfield to our team this month. Rachael has been an Acting Policy and Research Officer in the Social Procurement Initiatives team for the past six months, and we are very pleased that she has now been appointed to a permanent position within the team.

On the horse front I’m excited to say that the large scale international horse event that I take leave from work to volunteer and run was a big success. The event is run on the beautiful farmlands that surround Fairbridge Village. My own horses put in solid performances (my favourite orange pony pictured below) but I was more inspired by the people who volunteer and give up their time. Where would we be without the generosity of those amazing people that give up their own time to contribute back in some way? It was nice to spend some time out of the office doing manual labour and enjoying the fresh air, although its fair to say my body was in shock the entire time!

Wishing everyone a smooth run into Christmas, this can be a challenging time for some members of our community and we need to keep an eye out for each other and support each other where we can.