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Western Australia.*

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FORUM

COMMUNIQUE - MEETING 24 June 2019

Ensuring the needs of people remain front and centre under a new outcomes framework was the main focus discussed at the latest Supporting Communities Forum meeting.

Successfully delivering on the Supporting Communities election commitment, the Outcomes Measurement Framework provides a consistent approach to community service delivery in Western Australia. Endorsed by the Forum at its June meeting, the Outcomes Framework is a significant achievement and was developed following extensive stakeholder consultation.

The Framework will facilitate a collaborative approach to measure outcomes; will provide a consistent language across government and the community services sector; and will support integration of service delivery to achieve improved outcomes for all Western Australians.

Aligning with other Forum priorities (including the Our Communities Report and Procurement Reform initiatives) and the State Government's 'Our Priorities: Sharing Prosperity' whole-of-government targets program, the Outcomes Framework is now with Government for consideration.

Community consultation and engagement remains a top priority for the Forum and an update provided by the Procurement Reform Working Group discussed the draft 'Good Procurement Practices' report which was developed as a result of extensive stakeholder consultation and input. The report highlights the key elements of good procurement practice; the need for effective procurement planning; improved technical skills in both Government and the community services sector; and relationship-based contract management.

Early in June 2019, thirty-five representatives from the community services sector attended a consultation event to discuss the draft report. The consultation provoked considerable discussion around the need for strategies to strengthen procurement practices within Government and to ensure compliance with the Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy. With in-principle support provided for the draft report, the Working Group will submit an updated report to the Forum for final endorsement in September 2019.

The Data Sharing and Linkage Working Group discussion on the privacy and data sharing key components of the proposed legislative model included a briefing from the Department of the Premier and Cabinet about the three-month consultation period beginning August with the community at large and stakeholders in the public and community services sectors as well as specific consultations with Aboriginal people.

An updated summary of all of the work of the Working Groups is available on the Forum's [webpage](#) for wider stakeholder reference.

Other significant matters discussed included discussions on the critical importance of cultural competency and awareness within the Government and community sectors; the release of the Government's endorsement of the recommendations made in the 'Sustainable Health Review'; and the 10-Year partnership agreement on Closing the Gap including the appointment of an Interim Aboriginal Working Group.

[Minutes](#) for every meeting are available on the Forum's webpage.

The Forum will next meet on 9 September and will consider the draft 'Privacy and Responsible Sharing for the WA Public Sector - Discussion Paper', plus discuss the draft 10-Year Homelessness Strategy; opportunities for procurement co-design; and the final Collaboration report which will synthesise literature review findings and identify the attributes, enablers and barriers to collaboration.

Please feel free to distribute this Communique.

If you would like to register to the Forum mailing list or have general enquiries please email the Forum Secretariat at SCF@dpc.wa.gov.au.