



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Policy

Acknowledgement of Country

The South Australian Government acknowledges and respects Aboriginal people as the state's first people and nations, and recognises Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of South Australian land and waters.

The South Australian Government acknowledges that spiritual, social, culture and economic practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people come from their tradition, and that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people maintain cultural and heritage beliefs, languages and laws which are of ongoing importance today.

1. Purpose

This policy provides direction to all Department for Child Protection (DCP) staff regarding the objectives and targets for the procurement of goods and services from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs).

It aims to assist DCP in its partnership with Aboriginal Businesses and ACCOs and complement the objectives of the DCP [Reconciliation Action Plan](#), DCP [Aboriginal Recruitment & Retention Strategy](#) and the [National Agreement on Closing the Gap](#).

2. Scope

This policy applies to all DCP staff that procure goods or services in the performance of their employment duties.

3. Authority

Procurement and contracting activities within DCP must consider legislative, State and departmental requirements outlined below, where applicable:

3.1 Legislative context

- [Treasurer's Instruction 8, 11, 17 and 18](#), issued by the Treasurer under the authority of Section 41 of the [Public Finance & Audit Act 1987](#)
- [National Agreement on Closing the Gap](#)

3.2 Whole of Government requirements

- [South Australian Industry Participation Policy](#)
- [Premier and Cabinet Circulars](#) – 27 (Disclosure of Government Contracts) and 44 (SA Funding Policy for Not for Profit)
- [DTF Procurement Services SA Policies, Guidelines and Templates](#)
- [Across Government Contracts](#)



3.3 DCP requirements

- [DCP Strategic Plan](#)
- [DCP Reconciliation Action Plan](#)
- [DCP Aboriginal Recruitment & Retention Strategy](#)
- [Procurement Governance Policy](#)
- [Procurement sourcing Procedure](#)

3.4 Principles

Procurement activities undertaken within DCP seek to advance the Department of Treasury and Finance Procurement Services SA (DTF PSSA) procurement key principles, and extend to upholding the following principles:

- The safety of children and young people is the paramount consideration and DCP will put their needs at the centre of procurement and contracting practices.
- DCP will ensure procurements are aligned with its strategic objectives.
- DCP will seek to achieve value for money in every procurement it undertakes.
- DCP will maximise opportunities for South Australian businesses through the application of the [South Australian Industry Participation Policy](#) (SAIPP).
- DCP will maximise the use of South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs through the application of the SAIPP and DCP's [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Policy](#).
- DCP will promote innovation through outcomes-based procurement.
- DCP will ensure an Aboriginal Impact Statement (AIS) is completed as part of the procurement process where required.

4. Policy requirements

DCP staff purchasing goods or services in the performance of their employment duties are required to consider the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs to provide the required goods or services and maximise opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs to engage and partner commercially with DCP.

In purchasing goods or services from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs, DCP must comply with legislative, whole of government and DCP procurement requirements as applicable and outlined in the [Procurement sourcing Procedure](#) and related documents.

4.1 South Australian Industry Participation Policy and Guidelines provisions

The [South Australian Industry Participation Policy](#) and associated guidelines makes provisions to specifically improve participation and benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from employment and economic opportunities arising from government expenditure.

For procurement processes valued at less than \$550,000 (GST inclusive), a single quotation can be sought, or direct negotiation undertaken, with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business or ACCO where that business represents value for money and meets the definition of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business or ACCO. In accordance with the [Procurement Governance Policy](#), the consideration of value for money should not be restricted to cost alone, but also consider a range of qualitative and risk factors.

Where a procurement process is valued in excess of \$550,000, the South Australian Industry Participation Policy provides for opportunities to increase weightings associated with evaluations and to tailor Industry



Participation Plan content where opportunity exists to increase economic participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs.

Advice should be sought from DCP Procurement and Contracting unit for all procurement processes in excess of \$55,000 (GST inclusive), including where goods and services are being sought from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business or ACCO.

4.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business procurement targets

This policy sets targets for minimum representation of Aboriginal businesses (including ACCOs) within DCP's business partners. In setting these targets, DCP seeks to maximise opportunities for Aboriginal businesses and ACCOs to engage and partner commercially with South Australian Government.

DCP has adopted the across Government target set by the [Office of the Industry Advocate](#) for at least 0.5% of spend to be with Aboriginal businesses or ACCOs.

DCP recognises the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants, children and young people within the child protection system and, therefore, in accordance with the DCP [Reconciliation Action Plan](#), commits to procuring a minimum percentage of the value of all goods and services from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses or ACCOs in accordance with the following table, exceeding the minimum across-Government targets:

| Financial Year | Minimum spend with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses |
|----------------|---|
| 2024/25 | 11.0% of all contracted services |
| 2025/26 | 12.0% of all contracted services |
| 2026/27 | 13.0% of all contracted services |

4.3 South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business Register

The Office of the Industry Advocate hosts an [online portal](#) that connects the Aboriginal business sector to procurement and contracting or sub-contracting opportunities. DCP staff should search this register for suitable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs when discharging their responsibilities under this policy.

5. Compliance, monitoring and evaluation

As part of the [Policy Governance Framework](#), this procedure will be reviewed and updated by Finance and Corporate Services in accordance with the review date shown at 'Document Control'.

6. Related documents

| Related documents, forms and templates |
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| National Agreement on Closing the Gap |
| Public Finance & Audit Act 1987- Treasurer's Instruction 8, 11, 17 and 18 |
| South Australian Industry Participation Policy (SAIPP) |



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| Premier and Cabinet Circulars – 27 and 44 |
| DCP Strategic Plan |
| DCP Reconciliation Action Plan |
| DCP Aboriginal Recruitment & Retention Strategy |
| Procurement Governance Policy |
| Procurement sourcing Procedure |

7. Glossary

| Term | Meaning |
|--|--|
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business | <p>The definition of a South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business for the purpose of the South Australian Industry Participation Policy is one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a business operating in South Australia that is 50% or more owned by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander resident of South Australia • a 50% or more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned business operating in South Australia where the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owner is a non-South Australian resident but the business provides economic benefit to South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through ongoing employment in this State • registered with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Regional Authority or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Landholding Authority, and is 50% or more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned and based in South Australia • an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Joint Venture arrangement with at least 50% South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ownership and verification that management and financial decisions are made by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partner. |
| ACCOS | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Organisations is an incorporated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation initiated by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community and is governed by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Body elected by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community. |
| SAIPP | Industry Participation Policy |
| OIA | Office of the Industry Advocate |
| Procurement | Acquisition of goods and/or services as defined in Treasurer's Instruction 18. |



Document control

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|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Reference No./ File No. | | | |
| Document Owner | | Lead Writer (position) | |
| Directorate/Unit: Finance and Corporate Services, Procurement and Contracting | | Manager Procurement and Contracting | |
| Accountable Director: Chief Financial Officer | | | |
| Commencement date | 11 September 2024 | Review date | 6 September 2027 |
| Risk rating Risk Assessment Matrix | Consequence Rating | Likelihood | Risk Rating |
| | Insignificant | Possible | Low |

| REVISION RECORD | | |
|------------------|---------|---|
| Approval Date | Version | Revision description |
| 1 November 2019 | 1.0 | New policy |
| 1 July 2022 | 2.0 | <p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business minimum spend targets amended.</p> <p>Amendments for whole of government procurement reform.</p> <p>Endorsed by Procurement and Contracting Governance Committee with recommendations.</p> <p>Updated to new template and adopted PCMGC amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace all references from “Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business” to “Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs” • Under sections 1 and 3: insert references to Closing the Gap and the National Framework • Under section 1: Replace “It aims to assist and complement the objectives of...” with “It aims to assist DCP in its partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and ACCOs and complement the objectives of...” |
| 6 September 2024 | 3.0 | Review as per policy review cycle. Changes include embedding DTF Procurement Services SA updates to Treasurers Instruction 18- Procurement, on February on 2023 and associated PSSA Policies and Procedures documents. |