

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



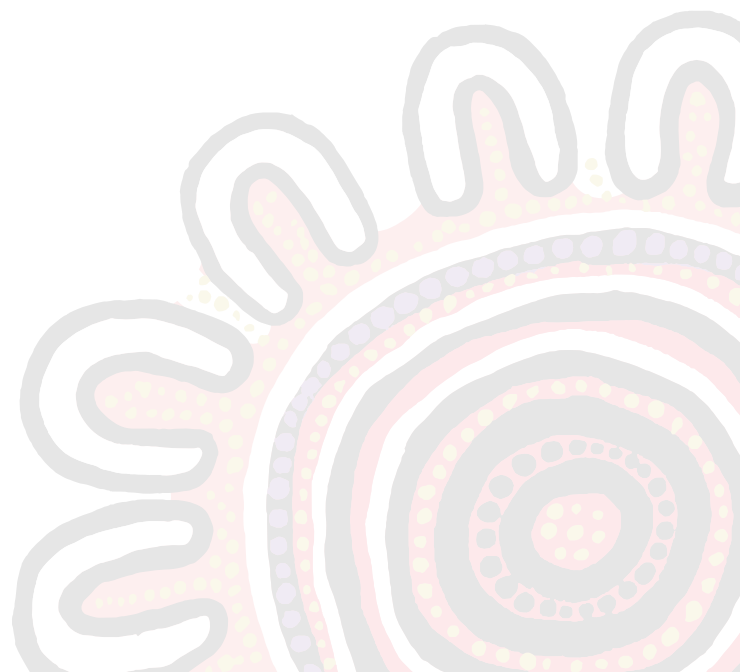
Procurement Plan for Indigenous Goods and Services

Acknowledgement of Country

Western Sydney University acknowledges the peoples of the Darug, Tharawal, Eora and Wiradjuri nations. We acknowledge that the teaching, learning, and research undertaken across our campuses continues the teaching, learning and research that has occurred on these lands for tens of thousands of years.

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WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY PROCUREMENT PLAN FOR INDIGENOUS GOODS AND SERVICES

Western Sydney University's (Western) Indigenous Strategy 2020-2025 establishes how Western will position itself as a national leader in Indigenous higher education.

The Indigenous Strategy focuses on strategic objectives in seven areas of Indigenous engagement: students; employment; research; learning and teaching; community engagement; leadership; and cultural viability and knowledge.

This document will focus on Strategic Objective 5 and the current initiatives in place.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5

Community Engagement: Promote Western Sydney University as a place that works with and for the Indigenous Australian community.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS 1:

→ Develop a comprehensive Indigenous Procurement Policy to support Indigenous business.

KEY SUCCESS MEASURES:

→ Increased procurement of goods and services from Indigenous businesses.

Strategic Objective 5, and the action and measure noted above, align directly with the University's Sustainability and Resilience Decadal Strategy, given the clear association with UN Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries. The following sections are therefore aligned to the University's sustainability outcomes and, once goals reach maturity, will also be brought into alignment with sustainability targets.

SECTION A SUMMARY: CURRENT INDIGENOUS BUSINESS PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES

Initiatives that the University is currently undertaking:

1. Indigenous supplier engagement.
2. Inclusion of Indigenous vendors within established panel suppliers.
3. Acknowledgment of Indigenous people and businesses through procurement sourcing activities.
4. Update of RFX templates and procurement user guides to encourage Indigenous participation either directly or via indirect vendors.
5. Registering to Supply Nation.

SECTION B SUMMARY: FUTURE INITIATIVES

1. Further utilisation of Supply Nation database and networking events.
2. Restrictive Purchasing through COS Stationery.
3. Training sessions for prospective Indigenous Businesses.

1. INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN SUPPLIER ENGAGEMENT

At present, the mechanisms to identify direct Indigenous supply spend are not available within the structures of the procurement system. However, the University is working towards a sustainable methodology to identify direct and indirect Indigenous spend data, which will be structured around two tiers of information respectively. The University anticipates having this, and associated reporting mechanisms, in place by the end of 2023.

Western has engaged with 19 vendors between 2018 -2022 which are accredited with Supply Nation (indirect):

SUPPLIER	CATEGORY
Charter Hall Holdings	Property and Facilities
Red Energy Ptd Ltd	Property and Facilities
Mirvac Group	Property and Facilities
Landcom	Property and Facilities
Commonwealth Bank	Business/Professional Services
GJK Facility Services	Property and Facilities
Certis Security Australia Pty Ltd	Business/Professional Services
Air Conditioning Engineering Services	Property and Facilities
Horticulture Innovation Aus Ltd	Research and Training
Hays Specialist Recruitment	Business/Professional Services
DXC Enterprise Aus	IT
Comfortdelgro Corp	Business/Professional Services
Buildcorp Group	Property and Facilities
Mainbrace Constructions Pty Ltd	Property and Facilities
Mirvac Residential NSW Developments Pty Ltd	Property and Facilities
Aarnet Pty Ltd	Business/Professional Services
Peoplebank Aust Ltd	Business/Professional Services
Deloitte Consulting Pty Ltd	Business/Professional Services
South Western Sydney Local Health District	Clinical Facilitation

ENGAGING WITH LIKE-MINDED INDIGENOUS-FOCUSED VENDORS

Western Sydney University is also proud to collaborate with COS (largest Australian owned and operated national office product company) utilising their partnership with Muru Group (Muru Office Supplies/ MOS), a 100% Australian-owned national Supply Nation certified workplace supplies provider.

MOS is Indigenous community focused and contributes 20% of profits to education, employment, health and wellbeing initiatives supporting Indigenous communities across Australia.

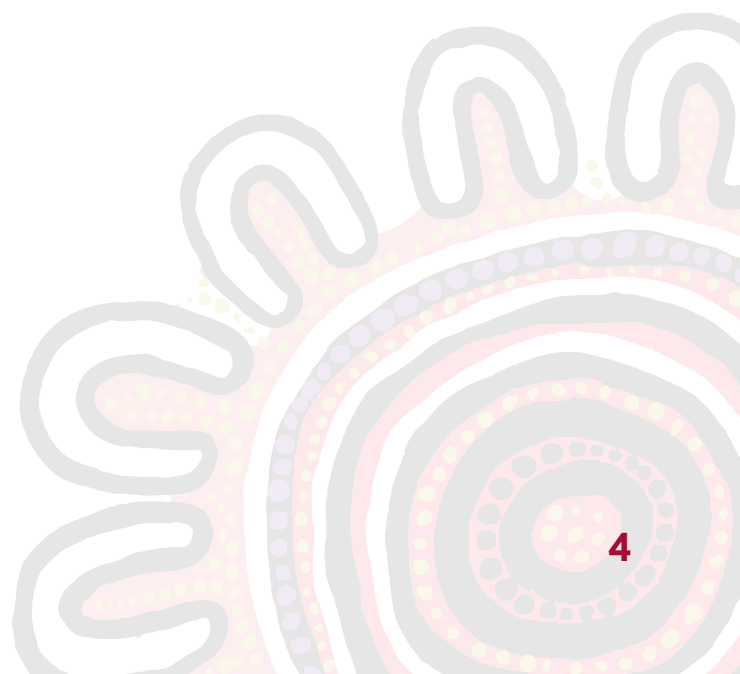
In 2021, 2.35% (\$8.5k) of the University's expenditure with COS was spent purchasing Muru Office Supplies stationery, with approximately 1.97% (\$4.5k) of purchases made to Muru so far this year.

2. INCLUSION OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN VENDORS WITHIN ESTABLISHED PANEL SUPPLIERS

Currently Western has 4 established preferred supplier panels including a Furniture Panel, Legal Panel, Construction Panel & Clinical Facilitation Panel.

3 OUT OF 4 OF THESE SUPPLIER PANELS INCLUDE INDIGENOUS VENDORS

PANEL	INDIGENOUS VENDOR
Furniture Panel	Direct Ergonomics
Legal Panel	Terri Janke & Company
Clinical Facilitation Panel	South Western Sydney local Health District (indirect)



3. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INDIGENOUS HISTORY THROUGH WESTERN GROWTH PROCUREMENT SOURCING ACTIVITIES

Western Sydney University is committed to supporting the community through increased procurement of goods and services from Indigenous businesses. Western Growth is a large-scale transformative initiative, developing spaces throughout Greater Western Sydney into modern and multi-versal environments that provide value to the community.

Indigenous engagement is integral to all Western Growth projects to guide teams to meaningfully respond to Indigenous culture and heritage and ensuring place-led design approaches.

Western Growth encompasses several unique and diverse projects and initiatives. Procurement has facilitated a number of sourcing activities in relation to the following:

5+ INDIGENOUS-FOCUSED PROCUREMENT SOURCING ACTIVITIES

Including:

- Procurement of several placemaking and signage elements for Parramatta Engineering Innovation Hub and the Westmead Innovation Quarter including Acknowledgment of Country statement signage and Indigenous elements.
- Procurement of Lead Design Consultant, including Indigenous Heritage Consultant for the Hawkesbury Placemaking Strategy- Hawkesbury European and Indigenous heritage interpretive signage and placemaking strategy will guide the future planning and development of Hawkesbury campus.
- Procurement of a Principal Certifier for the Lang Walker AO Medical Research Building (LWMRB). Prior to the procurement of the Principal Certifier, important feedback on the design, landscape, and art strategy was obtained in consultation with Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation and Professor Aunty Kerrie Doyle.
- Procurement of Lead Design Consultancy Services (including an Indigenous Specialist subconsultant) for the First People's Walk based at Kingwood Campus - First Peoples Walk is an outdoor place making project, that acknowledges local Aboriginal history through storytelling, multipurpose teaching areas and event spaces.
- Future procurement sourcing activities in relation to the Indigenous Centre of Excellence (the Indigenous Centre) at Parramatta South Campus- The Indigenous Education and Culture Centre will be a place to celebrate Western's connection to Indigenous People, and a destination for students, staff and the community. It will be a benchmark for Indigenous leadership, a place of research and inquiry where layers of history are celebrated throughout the building design.

4. UPDATE OF THE RFx TEMPLATES TO ENCOURAGE INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION EITHER DIRECTLY OR VIA INDIRECT VENDORS

Procurement has further refined their RFx templates to include an additional Tender Schedule-Indigenous Participation Information for construction projects >\$1m and other suitable RFx activities.

Within this tender schedule Vendors are required to answer the following questions:

1. Does the tenderer have a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)? If yes, please attach to your submission.
2. Is the provider a member of Supply Nation? If yes, please provide details below.
3. How many Indigenous employees does your organisation employ (FTE) and what percentage is this of your total FTEs?
4. How many Indigenous employees does your organisation employ in New South Wales (FTE) and what is this as a percentage of your New South Wales FTEs?

and additionally, provide details surrounding the following:

1. Evidence of direct employment or education: The Respondent must nominate up to three contracts/projects completed within the last two (2) years that demonstrate the tenderer's capacity to employ or educate Indigenous people to undertake construction-related activities.
2. Contribution to education and employment goals: The Respondent must attach details and documented evidence of up to three examples of the Respondent indirectly contributing, during the last 2 years, to the education and employment of Indigenous people.
3. Aboriginal Participation Plan: The Respondent must attach its proposed Aboriginal Participation Plan for the Project which meets the requirements of the APIC Policy and the APIC Supplier Guidelines.

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO INDIGENOUS BUSINESSES

Western Sydney University has developed a Social and Indigenous Procurement Guide which will be readily available on the University's procurement webpage to ensure the wider community have access to updated information and resources.

This guide has been established to provide useful information including an overview of the Procurement and Tendering process for Indigenous respondents to utilise when responding to University RFx invitations to provide the best opportunity for a successful outcome.

Western Sydney University endeavours to continue to review procurement practices to remove potential barriers to procuring goods and services from Indigenous businesses. A broad supplier onboarding guide will also ultimately form a key part of this approach.

5. REGISTERING TO SUPPLY NATION IN 2021

In 2021, Western Sydney University registered with Australia's leading database of verified Indigenous businesses, Supply Nation.

SUPPLY NATION HAS CONNECTED WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY PROVIDING ACCESS TO OVER 3,700 VERIFIED INDIGENOUS BUSINESSES ON THE INDIGENOUS BUSINESS DIRECT

Assisting Western to modify and redirect spend to include the traditionally under-utilised Indigenous business sector whilst assisting in the achievement of Indigenous procurement targets. This platform has various benefits including access to training and development to build supplier diversity programs, business matching support, guidance and support based on the vision of Western's supplier diversity journey.

SECTION B: FUTURE INITIATIVES

Whilst Western Sydney University has a number of initiatives currently in place, the University would like to further increase Indigenous community engagement through the following proposed initiatives:

1. FURTHER UTILISATION OF SUPPLY NATION DATABASE AND NETWORKING EVENTS

Western Sydney University will further utilise Supply Nations Indigenous supplier database, s which could be utilised for future procurement activities to include Indigenous vendors where possible. Western Sydney University will work to identify categories that would provide true opportunities to partner with Indigenous suppliers whilst delivering outcomes for the University.

Western Sydney University, through Supply Nation, has the ability to further network and engage with Indigenous businesses through networking events to foster new business opportunities, stakeholder engagement, partnerships and to establish commercial relationships.

2. RESTRICTIVE PURCHASING THROUGH COS STATIONERY

Western Sydney University has the option to restrict stationery purchasing for specific stationery items such as paper, tissues, sticky notes and hardcover notebooks to the “Muru” Brand to further drive indigenous purchasing expenditure, in line with the University’s Indigenous engagement initiative.

3. DEVELOP AN INDIGENOUS SUPPLIER MENTORING AND SUPPORT TRAINING PROGRAM

Western Sydney University is currently in the process of establishing training programs for Indigenous businesses, these training programs aim to provide the following guidance:

- In depth breakdown of the procurement process, including how vendors are evaluated (diligence processes and assessment of capability (including vendor experience, financials, key personnel, insurance and risk management) for Indigenous suppliers to better understand the complexities of the procurement process and extend their capacity.
- Post-tender award process including compliance and contract management.

Additionally, the proposed 2-hour course aims to provide the following services:

- Assistance with Tender writing.
- Assistance in establishing a business capability statement.
- Evaluating and assisting in a business supply chain readiness.