

News Release

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PROCUREMENT STRATEGY TO BOOST ABORIGINAL BUSINESSES

A new State Government strategy will aim to identify opportunities for greater Aboriginal participation in government procurement and boost the capacity of Aboriginal businesses.

Companies tendering for large State Government projects will also be able to identify suitable Aboriginal businesses to help them meet targets in many of the projects being rolled out in northern Adelaide and across the state.

Ian Nightingale, Industry Participation Advocate says the strategy is in addition to the State Government's Workforce Participation targets, which set targets for the number of Aboriginal people to be employed by contractors and subcontractors tendering for major government projects.

"With this targeted approach, Aboriginal businesses capable of supplying goods or services to government will be identified by the Office of the Industry Advocate," he says.

"The Office will help these businesses build their capacity so they can take up opportunities to work with government either directly or in-directly as a supplier or subcontractor."

Mr Nightingale says the new strategy is another example of how we can build on the successful Industry Participation Policy.

"The Office of the Industry Advocate will work closely with government agencies to identify other procurement opportunities where the industry participation weighting will be increased to 20 per cent to support Aboriginal economic participation," says Mr Nightingale.

The State Government recently approved a minimum of 20 per cent weighting for Industry Participation Plans in government contracts for projects in northern Adelaide.

As part of the State Government's Northern Economic Plan, the Industry Participation Advocate will collaborate with the Playford, Salisbury, and Port Adelaide Enfield councils to help them develop an Industry Participation Framework suitable for local government procurement.

For further information contact the Office of the Industry Advocate on 08 8226 8926 or via email: ويا@sa.gov.au.