

Information Guide - Expressions of Interest for partners who want to co-design and implement a 'Leading Community' Demonstration Site

EOI Applications Close: 1/11/2023

1 INTRODUCTION

[Strong Family, Strong Communities](#) is the Aboriginal Housing Office's ten-year plan to support improvements to the health and well-being of Aboriginal families and communities in NSW. It will focus on:

Putting Families First:

- Improving housing services with a focus on families
- Partnerships with other human services (health, justice, education and employment) so families thrive in their homes and their communities

Strengthening the Aboriginal Housing Sector:

- Working with Aboriginal community housing providers so they are well-regulated
- Supporting providers to build their capacity and capability to provide better services for the future

Better Understanding

1. Improving data collection, analysis and evaluation to better understand needs for the future and improve services and client experience

2 THE LEADING COMMUNITY DEMONSTRATION SITE (LCDS)

What is it?

The LCDS will deliver a new service model for Aboriginal families who need support with housing. The new service model will also address at least one other big social matter nominated by the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCO) as representative of their community.

The LCDS will run for 3 years, with the first being a setup year will be funded up to \$250K and additional \$150K each year for the following two years.

It will be Aboriginal led co-designed approach with the ACCO as the representative of their community with the AHO and partnered with another NSW Government Agency, and non-government organisations including Aboriginal service providers.

The partner NSW Government agency will be nominated by the ACCO which will be based on they identify as important for the project.

Aboriginal Cultural Competency will be a key selection criteria in the nomination of the NSW Government Agency partner.

We want to learn more about how to design new services with you in the future. The leading community site will teach us important lessons about co-designing Aboriginal services for Aboriginal families.

The LCDS is being tried in one site. As we learn more, we could expand to more sites in the future.

How could my community get involved?

The AHO invites Aboriginal communities to express their interest to host the site.

We want ACCO's respond to the EOI.

Tell us why you would like to host the site and how your community could benefit.

We want to know about your experience working in partnerships with Government and non-government providers to deliver services in your community.

Who is eligible to apply?

Any ACCO located in NSW is eligible to apply. Note the AHO definition of ACCO is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation that is an incorporated Aboriginal organisation, initiated, based in and governed by, the local Aboriginal community to deliver holistic and culturally appropriate services to the Aboriginal community that controls it, local community board members must be listed.

Who else is involved?

AHO has committed to work with the community, peak bodies and key government organisations to co-design a culturally appropriate service model for the LCDS pilot.

Once a site has been selected, we will work with your community and local providers to support you with the design of the new service. We will help your community make connections with providers and the other Government agencies; we will support you along the way to make your new service a big success.

3 CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Healthy, safe and stable housing is vital for the wellbeing of Aboriginal families, it is a great starting point, but it takes more than a home to have a strong family and community.

As part of [Strong Family, Strong Communities](#), the Aboriginal Housing Office wants to work with a community keen to design a new service to support their mob.

The idea for the new service is to improve your housing solutions and support you with another social matter impact in your community to make life better for you and your mob into the future.

We want to work with your community, peak bodies and key NSW Government organisations using an Aboriginal led co-design approach to help develop a culturally appropriate services that are right for your local community.

We're calling for Expressions of Interest from communities and ACCO's who would like to host a LCDS pilot.

We would like to co-design services with a selected community / ACCO so things are delivered in a way that works for you.

By expressing your interest to host the site, you can decide who the service is for, what it does, how and where it is delivered, and who you will work with in partnership with the AHO and NSW Government.

We would like to hear from ACCO's interested and experienced in working in partnership to achieving positive outcomes for Aboriginal families.

Any previous experience working with community or NSW Government departments would be great.

If an LDM Regional Alliance is selected, then the NSW Government will enter into an agreement (an Accord) which will outline how we will work together.

The AHO is committed to taking a flexible, local, Aboriginal led co-design approach which Promotes self-determination to achieve positive outcomes for Aboriginal families and communities.

4 EOI CRITERIA

The suggested questions below can be used as a guide when filling out the EOI form.

1. Community Issues to be addressed:

- What housing matters are affecting your community? What suggestions do you have to improve the situation? How might you work with Government and providers to make it happen?
- What other social matters are impacting your community? What suggestions do you have to improve the situation? How might you work with Government agencies and providers to make it happen?
- How are you currently addressing these topics? What is getting in the way?
- What services are working well in your community?
 - Or have you seen services in other communities that work well?
 - Describe what makes a service appealing to your mob?
- How important is Aboriginal culture in the delivery of services to your community?

2. Demonstrated experience in Partnering with Government Agencies and other service providers:

- What does your organisation do and explain how it improves the lives of Aboriginal clients and their families?
- Tells us how do you think partnering with the AHO and the NSW Government would assist in making life better in your community?
- Who are you currently partnering with? Please list all government, non-government and Aboriginal organisation partners you currently have a formal or informal relationship with. Provide letters of support from at least three (3) of these partners
- Does your organisation see any other opportunities for formal partnerships?

3. Experience with servicing Aboriginal families and communities:

- Can your community deliver an Aboriginal family-centered service for housing and/or other social impacts such as health, education, justice or employment? What help would you need to make this happen?
- What experience does your community have in delivering culturally inclusive practices?
- What skills does your community have to run focus groups, workshops, key stakeholder groups?
- Where does your service or other community services operate? In your community or many communities across the region?

4. Data collection and success metrics

- What does success look like for your project and how will you measure this?
- How will you show benefits or success of the initiative be shown and measured?

5. Budget and costings for your project (budget up to \$250K first year and \$150 2nd and 3rd year)

- What will your initiative cost to set up and run?
- Will your initiative be sustainable?
- Please outline a brief costing and timeline of your initiative

6. Risk and Mitigation

- Please show that you have considered all risk that may arise in with your initiative and how your organization will mitigate them.
- Does your organisation have the capability to address risks that may arise from your initiative?
- Clearly identify potential risks with strategies for mitigation.

7. Organisational Governance

- Are you an ACCO?
- Outline your organisation's leadership structure including key personnel.
- List your organisation's decision-making bodies.
- Do you receive any government funding?
- How does your organisation monitor and report on output and outcomes achieved?
- How does your organisation monitor and report on financial expenditure?

7. Community Governance

- What type of council/organisation governs your community?
- Who are the leaders in your community and what are their roles?
- List the community decision making bodies.
- What are the main funding streams for your community's government?
- How does your community's government report on outcomes and financial expenditure?

5 KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We want the leading community site to achieve better outcomes for Aboriginal families and the community – by partnering with the NSW Government, Aboriginal organisations and co-designing services, training and work opportunities for the local community.

Applicants should consider:

- Which services or programs currently running in your community are working for your mob?
- What makes these services or programs so successful?
- What are the biggest challenges faced by Aboriginal families and/or social housing tenants in your community?

- How does your community like the services to be delivered? Who would you partner with to deliver the services?
- How do you see your organisation working with the community, NSW Government and other providers to design the new service? Who would you involve and when?
- What could your proposed service, developed with the community and NSW Government do to help Aboriginal families' housing stability and other social impacts in your community?
- What role do you see the AHO and/or other government partners playing in this model?
- On going sustainability of the program after 3 year

6 INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

An indicative timetable for the EOI process is as follows:

Expressions of Interest close: 1/11/2023

Evaluation completed: 15/11/2023

Successful applicants notified: by the end of November 2023

7 DISCLAIMER

The Principal is not committed contractually in any way to those applicants whose applications are accepted. The issue of this Request for EOI does not commit or otherwise oblige the Principal to proceed with any part or steps of the process.

Whilst the information contained in this Request for EOI has been formulated with all due care, the Principal does not warrant or represent that the information is free from errors or omissions. The information is made available on the understanding that the Principal and its respective employees and agents, shall have no liability (including liability by reason of negligence) for any loss, damage, cost or expense incurred or arising by reason of any person using or relying on the information and whether caused by reason of any error, omission or misrepresentation in the information or otherwise. Furthermore, the Principal takes no responsibility for the accuracy, currency, reliability and correctness of any information included in this EOI.

8 NSW GOVERNMENT CODE OF PRACTICE FOR PROCUREMENT

Applicants must comply with the NSW Government *Code of Practice for Procurement (Code)* and *Implementation Guidelines*, which are available on the Procure Point website.

Lodgment of an EOI is evidence of an applicant's agreement to comply with the Code during the Request for EOI process and any subsequent tendering process. If an applicant fails to comply with the Code, its application may be passed over.

9 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Submitters are required to disclose any conflicts of interest to the Aboriginal Housing Office. This may relate to parties past and present. This can be in the EOI response by filling in the conflict of interest form and attaching it to your submission. Or you can contact the AHO Aboriginal project manager on the details below.

10 CONTACT PERSON

Refer all requests for information about this EOI process to the project manager who can be contacted on: ClientOutcomes@aho.nsw.gov.au

11 SELECTION PROCESS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Please refer to attachment called Selection Process and Evaluation

Criteria. 12 SUBMISSION PROCESS

Expression of Interest must be submitted to Strong Families Strong Communities by **11:59pm 1 November 2023**

Email is to be titled **EOI LCDS <Community Name>** and sent to the email ClientOutcomes@aho.nsw.gov.au