The South West Native Title Settlement

Community Development and Economic Partnerships

The South West Native Title Settlement is a landmark native title agreement that was negotiated between Noongar people and the Western Australian Government (WA Government).

The Settlement commenced 25 February 2021.

This fact sheet is provides information about:

- The Community Development Framework
- The Noongar Economic Participation Framework

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Community Development Framework

The Community Development Framework is a commitment between the WA Government and the Noongar people to a set of principles, priorities and governance arrangements to advance Noongar community development.

The framework aims to provide an environment for key government agencies, non-government organisations (NGOs) and industry to work collaboratively with the Noongar community, six Noongar Regional Corporations and Central Services Corporation (collectively, Noongar Corporations) in the design and delivery of human and community services and programs, in a manner consistent with shared principles and priorities.



South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council Abororiginal Corporation Level 2, 100 Royal Street East Perth WA 6004 Tel 08 9358 7400 Fax 08 9358 7499 Email reception@noongar.org.au noongar.org.au

What are the key objectives?

- Improved and sustainable social and economic outcomes for the Noongar community;
- Strengthening of Noongar culture, language, traditional knowledge, values and identity in continuation with a greater understanding and celebration of Noongar culture and society throughout Western Australia;
- Increased capacity for Government and other service providers to work more effectively, and partner with Noongar people in the design and delivery of human and community services; and
- Improvements in economic independence, leadership and governance, and self-esteem across the Noongar community.

Who will oversee the implementation?

Implementation of the framework will be overseen by the Community Development Reference Group, which will comprise:

- Members of the Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee (AACC);
- Chair/ Representatives from the seven Noongar Corporations; and
- Representatives from NGOs delivering services to the Noongar community.

The Reference Group will meet bi-annually, and will be co-chaired by a nominated representative from the AACC, and from the Noongar Corporations.



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How will it be implemented regionally?

At the regional level, the key implementation mechanism will be the District Leadership Groups who coordinate cross-agency human service delivery activities across the various metropolitan and regional areas covered by the Settlement.

The groups comprise a range of WA Government human service agency managers, together with representatives of Local and Commonwealth Governments and NGOs.

They will meet regularly with the relevant Noongar Regional Corporations to oversee the implementation of the framework.

What are the framework's priorities?

The framework identifies the following agreed priorities as a focus for meeting the its objectives:

- Safeguarding, developing and transmitting Noongar Culture;
- Capacity building and leadership;
- Housing;
- Youth;
- Health; and
- Education.

Further region-specific priorities may be agreed, and the priorities will be reviewed after five years.

The framework's guiding principles are centred on:

- Recognition of Noongar culture;
- A partnership approach;
- Transparency, accountability, good governance; and
- Sustainable, strengths-based and responsive service delivery.



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Noongar Economic Participation

The Noongar Economic Participation Framework is a mutual commitment from the WA Government and the Noongar people, through the Noongar Regional Corporations, to work together on strengthening Noongar peoples participation in business and other economic opportunities.

The framework complements the significant economic assets and development opportunities made through the Settlement.

What are the objectives of the framework?

- Grow Noongar owned businesses and Noongar/ non-Noongar joint ventures, and increase Noongar employment in Noongar businesses;
- Increase the knowledge and skills of the Noongar community in the areas of Government procurement, tendering and contracting;
- Increase Noongar participation and representation in employment and the broader economy; and
- Build on the existing strengths of the Noongar community to foster the Noongar entrepreneurial culture.

Principles of the framework

- Recognition that Noongar people and business are a valued part of the local and regional economy particularly in the South West;
- Channels of communication are open to ensure Noongar businesses and corporations are provided with information regarding Government contracting and tendering opportunities;
- A demonstrated commitment to transparent, accountable and appropriate governance structures.



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How will the framework be implemented?

A Steering Group will oversee the implementation of the framework. The Steering Group is comprised of:

- Representatives from each of the six Noongar Regional Corporations;
- A representative from the Central Services Corporation; and
- Representatives from key WA Government departments focused on training, development and economic opportunities.

The Steering Group will consider the framework's scope in response to the evolving aspirations of the Noongar people and their Regional Corporations, in response to the growing assets provided through the Settlement.

For more information about the Settlement, SWALSC and the Regional Corporations visit noongar.org.au



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