Don Harwin Minister for Aboriginal Affairs



Damien Tudehope Minister for Finance and Small Business

MEDIA RELEASE

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POLICY REFRESH TO BETTER SUPPORT ABORIGINAL BUSINESSES

A refresh of targets designed to support Aboriginal-owned businesses to better access NSW Government work will help support thousands of jobs, following a review of the Aboriginal Procurement Policy (APP) and the Aboriginal Participation in Construction (APIC) Policy.

The <u>review</u> recommends the two policies be merged with simplified requirements and measures to help build capacity and capability in Aboriginal-owned businesses.

Finance and Small Business Minister Damien Tudehope said the new policy, to come into effect mid next year, would continue to target three per cent of government goods and services contracts to be offered to Aboriginal-owned businesses and will support an estimated 3000 jobs for Aboriginal people by the end of 2021.

"The NSW Government is ambitious with its targets and makes no apologies for working to encourage Aboriginal employment and improve skills through direct engagement with NSW Government agencies or through the supply chain.

"Once in place, the changes will make it easier for Aboriginal-owned businesses to work with us," Mr Tudehope said.

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Don Harwin said the revised policies would better deliver economic opportunities and jobs to Aboriginal-owned businesses and people through the supply chain.

"It is important we continue to review our policies in consultation with the community and industry on how to continually improve our engagement with Aboriginal-owned businesses and deliver for the community.

"We want to promote a diverse workforce and see sustainable growth, and Aboriginal-owned businesses are very much a part of this," Mr Harwin said.

In an effort to increase spend with Aboriginal-owned businesses, the review also recommends that NSW Government clusters direct one per cent of addressable procurement spend to Aboriginal-owned businesses – and to demonstrate the

Government's commitment to this target, cluster progress toward these targets will be published online.

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