

# Putting the Public First: Economic Audit Implementation

No. 8

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## Sustainable Funding and Contracting with the Not-For-Profit Sector

Rolling out of Component I funding for eligible service agreements has commenced.

The new *Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy* became effective from 1 July 2011. It was developed jointly by the public and not-for-profit sectors and will build and support a mature and streamlined contracting relationship between the sectors.

A range of templates and guides to support the associated procurement reforms have been published on the Department of Finance's website at: <http://www.finance.wa.gov.au/cms/content.aspx?id=12603>

To guide and support both government and the not-for-profit sectors in implementing the new Policy and reforms a series of workshops on understanding the Policy, templates and processes were held in July for public sector agencies and the not-for profit sector. Workshops were also hosted in July by National Disability Services on "Getting value for your 15%".

From 1 July 2011 the Funding and Contracting Services Unit (FaCS) has been operational in the Department of Finance to support both sectors implement the reforms. The first 'FaCS Bulletin' has been published to introduce the new Unit to both sectors and to provide information on the work that the Unit is doing to support implementation of the procurement reforms. The Bulletin is available on the Department of Finance's website at: <http://www.finance.wa.gov.au/cms/content.aspx?id=12912>

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## Social Innovation Grants

Nine not-for-profit organisations will share in \$2.5million from the State Government to create

innovative ways to benefit the community under the Social Innovation Grants Program.

Community Services Minister Robyn McSweeney said the unique program offered incentives to community groups to 'think outside the box' to better meet a broad range of social needs.

The first nine grant recipients are Anglicare WA; Association for the Blind WA; Brightwater Care Group; Enterprise Learning Projects; Good Samaritans; Growing Towards Wellness; Public Health Advocacy Institute; Ruah Community Services; and WA Association for Toy Libraries.

Mrs McSweeney said successful programs included improved services to aged or people with disability regardless of their culture or language and development of an alternative recovery model for people with mental illness.

Applications for round two consideration is now open and the Selection Panel has agreed to commence another round of assessments in August 2011.

For SIGs guidelines and application forms see: <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/grantsandfundin g/Grants/SocialInnovation/Pages/default.aspx>

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## Self-Directed Service Design

A self-directed service design forum, "My Life My Way: Self Directed Supports in Western Australia", will be held on 10 August 2011. Dee Roche, Senior Management Consultant, AIM-UWA Business School Executive Education, will be the facilitator for the World Cafe format. The forum's key objective is to generate discussion and interest in self-directed service design among people and consumer groups, community sector organisations and government agencies. There was an enthusiastic response and it is fully subscribed. If you missed out there will be other opportunities to learn more about or have your say concerning self-directed services.

A discussion paper will be available shortly to generate discussion and interest in self-directed services. Work has also commenced on a DVD to stimulate discussion about self-directed service design.

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### Social Enterprise

Funding of \$10 million has been allocated in the 2011-12 State Budget which will be used for a grants program to support the development of social enterprise. The social enterprise fund is currently being developed with oversight by the Partnership Forum and it is intended that it commence later in 2011.

A consultancy has commenced to prepare a short report providing an overview of social enterprise in Western Australia. The report will provide the Partnership Forum with information to support its decision making on establishing the Social Enterprise Fund and other actions that the Partnership Forum may wish to take to enhance social enterprise in Western Australia.

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### Community Sector Pre-Brief

A Community Sector Pre-Brief, hosted by the Partnership Forum, will be held on 11 August. The session will provide the community sector with the opportunity to feed issues into the Partnership Forum planning workshop to be held as part of the Partnership Forum meeting on 12 August. If you would like to attend, please visit: [http://www.wacoss.org.au/services/public\\_training\\_workshops\\_2011/wacoss\\_workshops\\_all.aspx](http://www.wacoss.org.au/services/public_training_workshops_2011/wacoss_workshops_all.aspx) or <http://www.nds.org.au/>

### Partnership Forum

The next meeting of the Partnership Forum will be held on 12 August 2011. This meeting will provide an opportunity to address ongoing issues in the Forum's current work plan, as well as develop the Forum's future agenda. It will also consider issues and ideas raised at the Self Directed Services Design Forum and the Community Sector Pre-Brief.

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## Upcoming Events

### Community Sector Pre-Brief

To register, please visit:

[http://www.wacoss.org.au/services/public\\_training\\_workshops\\_2011/wacoss\\_workshops\\_all.aspx](http://www.wacoss.org.au/services/public_training_workshops_2011/wacoss_workshops_all.aspx) or  
<http://www.nds.org.au/>

### Regional Procurement Workshops

A series of ten regional workshops on understanding the *Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy*, templates and processes are being scheduled for August with both the public and community sectors being invited to attend. Keep an eye on the Department of Finance's website for the dates:

<http://www.finance.wa.gov.au/cms/content.aspx?id=12603>

### IPAA Seminar

The Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) WA is holding a seminar entitled "Partnering with the Community Sector: the Challenge for the Public Service" on 11 August. Professor Peter Shergold AC, Chair of the Partnership Forum, together with other Forum members will be speaking at the event.