

Welcome to the first edition of the SPA newsletter!!

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Welcome to SPA

When buyers use their purchasing power to achieve social outcomes beyond the products and services they require, they are undertaking social procurement.

Welcome to the first Edition of the Social Procurement Australasia (SPA) newsletter!

We are very pleased to bring you a snapshot of activity from around Australia, New Zealand and internationally in the exciting field of social procurement. There is world-wide interest in social procurement, as we see a fast-growing number of examples of the power of procurement to achieve positive social and economic outcomes.

In Australia and New Zealand, social procurement is becoming an increasingly common and effective tool in achieving a range of important objectives across the public, private and not-for-profits sectors. Significant work has been done to support and encourage innovative and successful practice in this area, working with buyers, suppliers and supporting bodies.

Established in June 2013, SPA is building on this work, providing an Australasian Association to support the growing demand for practical guidance, networking, and development, while building awareness and encouraging and supporting the adoption of effective social procurement practice. SPA is an unincorporated association committed to increasing the social and economic impact of procurement in Australia and New Zealand, and relies on members to contribute to the finances and the implementation of the activities of the organisation.

This first edition of what will be a regular bi-monthly newsletter aims to keep you in touch with the exciting range of activity going on in the world of social procurement. The newsletter will feature case studies, articles, and links to research and good practice locally and internationally. The newsletter will also keep you updated on all

things SPA, from events and training to publications and news.

We look forward to your feedback and would love to have your input in the form of articles, case studies or blogs. More information on SPA and a wide range of resources and support can be found on our [website](#). If your organisation would like to join SPA, please complete the [Membership Form](#).

Chris Newman & Mark Daniels
Social Procurement Australasia

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Get involved with SPA

We would love to hear about the projects and case studies you are working on or alternatively let us know what you would like to have more information on. Join in the conversation by becoming a member of our [LinkedIn group](#) and stay up to date with new information or feel free to email us at info@socialprocurementaustralasia.com.au.

This month, Kelly Kirkpatrick from one of our members (City of Port Phillip) gives us an insight into why her organisation values social procurement. [More](#)

Upcoming Events

There are a number of social procurement events coming up over the next few months. Please email us at info@socialprocurementaustralasia.com.au if you would like further information. We will also post details in the Events section of our website as they become available.

- [MAV Social Procurement and Economic Development Training](#) - 26 June and 11 November

- Bendigo Social Procurement Forum - September 11
- Central Coast-Newcastle Social Procurement and Economic Development Forum - Date TBC
- Queensland Local Government Social Procurement Forum - Date TBC.

Toowoomba and the Darling Downs join forces to grow social procurement



A multi-agency group from Darling Downs and South West Queensland have come together to form the Toowoomba Social Procurement Group, in order to create interest in social procurement across the Darling Downs and South West Queensland. They have already had some great wins, and the momentum is growing! [More](#)

Salvos Legal gives the green light to social procurement in NSW



Click [here](#) to read the legal opinion from Salvos Legal in the *Social Procurement in NSW: A Guide to Achieving Social Value through Public Sector Procurement*.

Breaking News



Research commissioned by Social Traders into Corporate Social Procurement has just been released. The report takes a pulse check of social procurement for 31 of Australia's top 400 companies, identifying the opportunities and constraints for corporate social procurement. If you're interested in understanding success stories and challenges in social procurement, take a look at this [report](#).

Buy Social Award



The winner of the 'Buy Social Award' will be announced on

June 12 at the 2014 Social Enterprise Awards. The finalists are the South Australian Government Department for Communities and Social Inclusion and the City of Gold Coast. [More](#)

Social Enterprise Masters Conference



A full day [Masters conference for social enterprises](#) is being held on 12 June to coincide with the Social Enterprise Awards ceremony. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn from the collective experience and knowledge of two key

international sector experts, and gain insights into the successes and failures of their Australian peers. [Limited tickets](#) are available - get in early to avoid disappointment.

Greater Western Sydney Social Procurement and Economic Development Forum



The Greater Western Sydney Social Procurement & Economic Development Forum was recently held on 1 May. It was a great success with 125 people attending from across all levels of Government and the not-for-profit and private sectors. Speaker presentations, photos and a full report on the day are available [here](#).

SPA in New Zealand



A recent New Zealand conference on strategic procurement - *Strategic Procurement as a Driver for Change* - demonstrated that the social procurement agenda and interest is growing in NZ as well. The conference attracted a large number of procurement leaders and gave us some fantastic insights into how social procurement is developing in NZ. [More](#)

Western Sydney Parklands Trust



The Western Sydney Parklands Trust has produced this fantastic [video](#) about its social procurement project.

The US government is a world leader in social procurement



Did you know that the US government is a world leader in social procurement? Its approach to social procurement is driven by mandatory policies and supported by targets. [More](#)

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