IPAA WA

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2025

RECOGNISING INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE



AWARDS PRESENTATION

12 DECEMBER 2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

IPAA WA acknowledges the Whadjuk people whose land we meet on today, and we pay our respects to all Noongar people and elders, past and present. It is a privilege to be on Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar for our celebration today.

WELCOME

The Institute of Public Administration Australia WA is delighted to welcome you to the 2025 IPAA WA Achievement Awards.

This booklet features the summaries of all the incredible nominations we received this year and provides an inspiring look at some of the wonderful accomplishments of the public service in WA.

Established in 2012, the Achievement Awards recognise and reward excellence, celebrate the achievements and share in the successes of public service workers throughout Western Australia.

The Awards celebrate both individual and organisational achievement across a number of areas. Receiving an Achievement Award has grown to become an annual recognition which many in the public service aspire to.

We continue to receive remarkable nominations across all award categories, a testament to the great work being done by the dedicated public service across the state of Western Australia.

This year we received a large number of nominations, and the judging process has been extremely rigorous. We thank all judges for their time. Our judges include some of Western Australia's most prominent leaders,and they are listed on page 4 of this booklet.

We encourage you to nominate suitable individuals and organisations for the Awards in 2026 which will be opening next year.

IPAA WESTERN AUSTRALIA
INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AUSTRALIA

PROGRAM

WELCOME ON BEHALF OF IPAA WA
Morgan Marsh MIPAA, IPAA WA Vice President

WELCOME TO COUNTRY
Isaiah Walley Stack, Representative of the Noongar Nation

OPENING REMARKS
Morgan Marsh MIPAA, IPAA WA Vice President

IPAA NATIONAL FELLOW PRESENTATION

REMARKS BY IPAA WA CO-VICE PATRON
Basil Zempilas MLA, IPAA WA Co-Vice Patron and Leader of the Opposition

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
> Policy Practitioner of the Year
> Information Technology Practitioner of the Year
> Human Resource Management Practitioner of the Year
> Best Practice in Social Values
> Best Practice in Innovation

MAIN COURSE
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
> Commissioner for Children and Young People Award for Best Practice in Child–Focused Complaints Handling
> Department of Health Award for Best Practice in Health and Wellbeing
> Award for Excellence in the Not-for-Profit Sector
> Australian Evaluation Society Award for Best Practice in Public Sector Evaluation
> Office of Digital Government Award for Best Practice in Digital Transformation
> Department of Treasury and Finance Award for Best Practice in Procurement
> Lotterywest Award for Best Practice in LGBTQIA+ Inclusion
> Award for Best Practice in Collaboration Across Government Agencies
> Commissioner for Children and Young People Award for Best Practice in Children's Consultation
> Moore Australia (WA) Award for Best Practice in Collaboration between Government and any other Organisation

DESSERT
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
> Department of Treasury and Finance Award for Finance Practitioner of Year
> Public Sector Commission Award for Young Achiever of the Year
> Leader of the Year Working within a Division/Team/Organisation
> Leader of the Year in the Not-for-Profit Sector
> Leader of the Year in Local Government
> Murdoch University Award for Leader of the Year in State or Federal Government
> Institute of Public Administration Australia WA Patron's Award

CLOSING REMARKS

AWARD SPONSORS

Commissioner for Children and Young People Western Australia

Government of Western Australia

Department of Treasury and Finance

Department of Health

Department of the Premier and Cabinet Office of Digital Government

Lotterywest

MOORE

Murdoch University

Public Sector Commission
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY

Please note that the order of proceedings and program is subject to change.

2025 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS JUDGES

IPAA WA would like to thank this year's Achievement Awards Judges for the significant contributions that they have made to the 2025 Awards by generously giving up their time.

MAIN JUDGING PANEL

Jenness Gardner
President, IPAA WA;
Chief Executive Officer, Economic Regulation Authority
Co-Chair of the Judging Panel

Sharyn O'Neill PSM FIPAA
Public Sector Commissioner, Public Sector Commission
Co-Chair of the Judging Panel

Karen Ho
Former Director General, Department of Training and Workforce Development

Michelle Reynolds
Chief Executive Officer, City of Perth

JUDGES

Alan Barrett
Managing Director, Pelican Advisory

Janis Carren
Chief Executive Officer, Arts and Culture Trust

Prof. Rick Cummings
Fellow, Australian Evaluation Society; Emeritus Professor, Murdoch University

Rob Delane PSM

Chris Hall AM FIPAAWA
Former Chief Executive Officer, Juniper

Elizabeth MacLeod PSM FIPAA
Former Chief Executive, East Metropolitan Health Service

Jacqueline McGowan-Jones
Commissioner for Children and Young People

Susannah Nichols
Lecturer, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Murdoch University

Duncan Ord OAM

Prof. John Phillimore
Executive Director, John Curtin Institute of Public Policy, Curtin University

Andrew Robertson CSC PSM
Chief Health Officer; Assistant Director General, Public and Aboriginal Health Division, Department of Health

Antonella Segre
Chief Executive Officer, ADHD WA

Debra Zanella
Chief Executive Officer, Ruah Community Services

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

PATRON'S AWARD

> IPAA WA Patron's Award

Nominated by the IPAA WA Council, this Award is the highest accolade in public administration in WA awarded to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the State.

LEADER OF THE YEAR (FIVE AWARDS)

> Murdoch University Leader of the Year in State or Federal Government
> Leader of the Year in Local Government
> Leader of the Year in the Not for Profit Sector
> Leader of the Year working within a Division, Team or Organisation
> Public Sector Commission Young Achiever of the Year

BEST PRACTITIONER IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE (FOUR AWARDS)

> Human Resource Management Practitioner of the Year
> Information Technology Practitioner of the Year
> Policy Practitioner of the Year
> Department of Treasury and Finance Award for Finance Practitioner of the Year

SPONSORS OF INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Government of Western Australia
Department of Treasury and Finance

Murdoch University

Government of Western Australia

Public Sector Commission

SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

Support the achievements of the public service by sponsoring an IPAA WA Achievement Award.
Phone (08) 9360 1400 for more information.

Jodi Cant
Director General, Department of Finance

Jodi Cant, former Director General, Department of Finance, is a courageous and authentic leader in the Western Australian public service. Focused on achieving the best outcomes for the WA Government and community, she is passionate about the public sector's power to drive change and aims to leverage collective wisdom to improve performance. Jodi applies commercial business acumen and community focus, while thinking creatively and managing risk. Her leadership is based on values of empathy, collaboration, growth, and clarity. She inspires others with her belief that anything is possible through teamwork and collaboration, driving the public sector to achieve remarkable outcomes.

Dr. Mia Carbon
Deputy Director General Biosecurity and Emergency Management, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Dr. Mia Carbon is the Deputy Director General of Biosecurity and Emergency Management at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. With over 15 years' experience in government trade and biosecurity roles across the United Kingdom and Australia, she has held several senior leadership positions, including Chief Veterinary Officer of Western Australia. Dr. Carbon has been instrumental in strengthening WA's biosecurity system and emergency response capabilities through the delivery of policy, science, operational, and regulatory programs. She is passionate about protecting WA's biosecurity status and reputation as a reliable producer of safe and biosecure agrifood and seafood products.

John Clifton
Manager Strategy and Innovation, DevelopmentWA



John Clifton, Manager Strategy and Innovation with DevelopmentWA, has dedicated more than four decades of service in helping support and advance the State's economic, social, and environmental priorities. His in-depth understanding of complex public policy ensures practical application for future-focused outcomes, benefiting industry, housing, infrastructure, environment and Aboriginal Reconciliation. He contributed to WA's early COVID stimulus efforts, pioneered and championed climate-aligned projects, supported emerging industries, and embedded reconciliation in DevelopmentWA processes and projects.
A trusted adviser across government and industry, he never seeks the spotlight, but his work is everywhere.

Joelle Durant
Manager Human Resources, Legal Aid WA



In order to achieve Legal Aid WA's mission to provide quality, timely and holistic help to those who need our legal assistance, support our hardworking staff and achieve positive outcomes for our clients, exceptional HR management is essential. Joelle Durant exemplifies all of the qualities we need. Joelle is intelligent, approachable, compassionate, highly principled, and ethical, and has an exceptional knowledge of all facets of Human Resources in our agency and the Public Sector. Joelle sets an example to her team as a hard- working, and innovative leader who remains calm under pressure and empowers her team to achieve greatness.

Jeremy Edwards
Chief Executive Officer, City of Bayswater



Since his appointment as City of Bayswater CEO in 2022, Jeremy Edwards has transformed the organisation through his values-led leadership. He fosters a culture of accountability, safety and continuous improvement, empowering staff and building trust across all levels. Jeremy has delivered significant strategic outcomes, Including Investment initiatives, Council-led business planning processes and long-term financial and capital works planning. His commitment to public administration excellence is evident through his delivery of new governance systems, digital transformation and leadership development programs.

Allison Fitzpatrick
General Manager – Law and Order, Buildings and Contracts, Department of Finance



Allison Fitzpatrick exemplifies compassionate and strategic leadership, fostering a high-performing, inclusive team culture. She has significantly enhanced service delivery and organisational effectiveness through transparent communication, staff empowerment, and a strong focus on professional development. Allison's leadership has driven award-winning project outcomes, strengthened client relationships, and promoted best practices in public administration. Her initiatives, including mentoring programs and sector-wide contributions, reflect her commitment to building capability and integrity across the public sector.

A/Prof Bonnie Furzer PhD
Chief Executive Officer, Thriving in Motion



A/Prof Bonnie Furzer is the CEO and founder of Thriving in Motion, a NFP dedicated to using exercise to improve health outcomes in young people who experience additional barriers to being active.
She is also a teaching and research-based academic in clinical exercise physiology and health at UWA. As a practicing AEP she is a service lead for Exercise Physiology at Fremantle Hospital supporting thriving bodies and minds.

Keith Garven
Group Financial Controller, Synergy

This nomination recognises Keith Garven's outstanding contribution to Western Australia's energy sector and his steady-handed approach to strategic financial leadership during a time of unprecedented scale and complexity. Keith Garven joined Synergy during the height of the Covid-19 Pandemic response, unaware he would soon play a pivotal role in supporting the organisation's capital delivery as part of the State Government's historic investment in Western Australian's energy transition.

Sanjeev Gupta
Acting Manager Project Development and Delivery, Main Roads WA



As the senior member of Wheatbelt Region's leadership team at Main Roads WA, Sanjeev Gupta has consistently strengthened service delivery through effective program, project, and branch management, delivering tangible outcomes aligned with both community needs and organisational goals. Sanjeev Gupta has led large-scale program, delivered through multi-contract programs that have significantly improved regional road safety and public value.

2025 IPAA WA ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
INDIVIDUAL AWARDS' NOMINEES

Nathan Harrison
Executive Director Fisheries & Sustainability, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Nathan Harrison is the Executive Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. A respected leader in sustainable resource management, Nathan is known for his evidence-based policy reform, strategic oversight of fisheries and aquaculture development, and commitment to preserving Western Australia's aquatic resources. He has played a pivotal role in major initiatives, including the recovery plan for the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Resource.

Ludisha Kalasopatan
Chief Financial Officer, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Since October 2022, Ludisha Kalasopatan has served as Chief Financial Officer at the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, tasked with transforming the finance function into a high performing, strategic partner. She has significantly reduced audit findings, strengthened financial controls and processes, and improved the Department's financial governance and risk management. Supporting five Ministerial portfolios, four Ministers, multiple cultural statutory authorities, satellite entities and over 30 related entities, she provides strategic, accurate financial advice and leadership.Drawing on more than a decade of senior public-sector finance experience, Ludisha has reshaped the perception of finance from transactional to strategic, enhanced capability and reputation, and embedded strong foundations for ongoing integrity, transparency and compliance.

Dr Ross Kelly
Executive Director Policy, Planning and Innovation, Department of Training and Workforce Development

Dr Ross Kelly, Executive Director of Policy, Planning and Innovation at the Department of Training and Workforce Development, has delivered transformative policy leadership in vocational education and training. His work securing landmark national funding, launching innovative programs like the Career Taster Program and the Clean Energy Skills Centre of Excellence, and driving strategic reforms has shaped Western Australia's workforce strategy. Ross's visionary leadership, collaborative approach, and commitment to delivering better outcomes continue to strengthen skills development and public value across the State.

Dr Nicole Leggett
Executive Director, Office of Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence, Department of Communities



Dr Nicole Leggett is a dedicated policy professional who has spent her career advancing the safety and wellbeing of women and children in Western Australia. She has led major initiatives within the Department of Communities, including child protection and prevention of family and domestic violence.Since 2022, she has lead the Office of Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence, driving strategic reforms and collaborative efforts across sectors. Nicole's compassionate leadership, deep expertise, and commitment to innovation have significantly improved outcomes for victim-survivors.

Joel Lewis
A/Finance and Contracts Officer, Public Sector Commission



Joel's passion for delivering high quality services, striving for excellence an delivering results demonstrates his embodiment of spirit of the public service. Through collaboration and teamwork he achieves common goals of the Commission and public sector. He acknowledges others' competing priorities and delivers his services expeditiously, with empathy, compassion and the utmost integrity. His behaviour positively influences those around him to act with integrity, personally contributing to and maintaining the good reputation of the agency and sector.

Celia Loot
Manager, Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development



Celia is a humble and dedicated public servant who has spent 40 years improving the lives of people across Western Australia. Her commitment to the state is matched by her genuine care for her team, creating a supportive environment where others are empowered to grow.
Celia leads with integrity, kindness and vision, always placing community outcomes at the centre of her work. She is best known for her transformational leadership of the Community Resource Centre Program, which continues to make a lasting difference in regional and remote WA.

Jorgen Mackie
General Manager Licensing System Reform, Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety



Jorgen is an outstanding leader whose commitment to service Improvement and digital transformation exemplifies excellence and best practice. With a leadership style grounded in emotional intelligence, integrity, and collaboration, he consistently inspires and supports his team to achieve exceptional outcomes. His relentless dedication to service delivery and continuous improvement has driven impactful, innovative results across complex projects in LGIRS and previously in Landgate.

David MacLennan
Chief Executive Officer, City of Vincent



Excellence in leadership doesn't happen by accident. It takes clarity, trust and discipline – qualities David MacLennan brings to every part of the City of Vincent. As CEO, he has quietly transformed Vincent into a Benchmark for high performance in local government. His Organisational Performance Program – one of the most mature reporting systems in WA – has embedded strategy into everyday service delivery. The results? Innovation with intent, continuous focus on improvement and smarter ways of working. David empowers others to lead. His leadership is proof that when people are trusted and purpose is clear – great outcomes follow.

Nelson Mauricio
Chief Financial Officer, City of Cockburn



Nelson Mauricio is a visionary finance leader whose innovative thinking has reshaped local government practice. His steady guidance during COVID ensured community support without compromising financial stability. Nelson's passion for equity is evident in his leadership in social procurement, empowering Aboriginal businesses and promoting inclusion. He leads with integrity and compassion, aligning strongly with the City's values. Nelson builds community trust through transparent financial reporting. His commitment to continuous learning, including an MBA and CPA, reflects his pursuit of excellence.

Alison McCubbin
Director of Education, Engagement and Business Services, Office of the Information Commissioner



Alison McCubbin is the Director of Education, Engagement and Business Services at the Office of the Information Commissioner, where she has worked since 2011. Alison has been nominated for her extraordinary dedication and tireless efforts over many years to establish excellence in governance and all areas of service delivery at the OIC, ensuring it is well placed to take on new PRIS functions from 1 July 2025.

2025 IPAA WA ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
INDIVIDUAL AWARDS' NOMINEES

Sue McCarrey FIPAA FIPAAWA



Sue McCarrey has made an impact on public administration in Australia through her leadership in transport safety, regulatory reform, and governance.
As Chief Executive of the National Rail Safety Regulator, she drove the implementation of a nationally consistent rail safety framework and a single national rail safety regulator on behalf of all States and Territories, strengthening collaboration across jurisdictions and industry. In Western Australia, she shaped long-term transport policy and investment strategies, including freight and port governance reforms. More recently, as CEO of NOPSEMA, she has applied her expertise to offshore petroleum safety and environmental regulation. Recognised as a National Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration Australia in 2019, McCarrey is also a strong advocate for diversity and leadership development, mentoring future public sector leaders and promoting inclusion in transport and operations. She has been a previous Council Member and President of the Institute of Public Administration in WA.

Shiv Meka

Chief Data Scientist, East Metropolitan Health Service

Shiv Meka, Chief Data Scientist at EMHS, exemplifies visionary leadership and innovation through transformative AI-driven healthcare solutions. His groundbreaking work includes HIVE, a predictive remote monitoring service reducing hospital and ICU usage; "Sensibles," pioneering contactless patient monitoring; intelligent wearable devices; and AI-driven clinical documentation tools . Shiv's innovative projects, including the Synthetic Data Generator and no-code development platform "Kimchi,"have significantly advanced clinical workflows, improved patient safety, operational efficiency, and fostered a culture of innovation.

Selina Metternick-Jones

Director, Science and Technology Plan, Department of Energy and Economic Diversification



Selina is a public sector leader with over a decade of experience working across science, research and health portfolios in the public sector.
She is an expert in stakeholder consultation and engagement and has utilised these skills in development of local, state and national policies and strategies. She is currently the Director of the Science and Technology Plan within the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification where she leads the implementation of the State's 10 year science and technology strategy.
She previous held leadership positions within the Department of Health and the South Metropolitan Health Service.

Vicky-Lea Munro

Manager Human Resources, Arts & Culture Trust



Vicky-Lea is a Human Resource professional with experience in delivering Corporate Services. She is passionate about creating workplace environments that help others succeed.

In little over a year, Vicky-Lea Munro has redefined the HR function at the Arts & Culture Trust. From strategic workforce reform to policy innovation and operational execution, her contributions have been bold, meaningful, and deeply impactful. Her ability to manage a high volume of complex, concurrent initiatives, while leading with empathy and professionalism, exemplifies outstanding HR practice.

Jing Ning RN MNurs(Res)

Manager Policy Governance, North Metropolitan Health Service



Jing (Cherry) Ning is the Manager leading the Policy Unit at NMHS. Cherry has implemented numerous improvement initiatives, leveraging her tech-savviness to design innovative solutions.

Cherry understands that organisational change is complex and requires a compassionate approach. She leads with empathy, engaging stakeholders with a shared sense of purpose, building trust through transparency and collaboration. Cherry's contributions have improved organisational processes and end-user experience ultimately supporting safer, high-quality care. Her passion for policy is infectious, and her ability to turn complex governance into engaging conversations is rare and valued. Cherry is setting a new benchmark for policy leadership in healthcare.

Melissa Pexton

Deputy Commissioner Strategy and Emergency Management, Department of Fire and Emergency Services



A driving force behind a once-in-a-decade transformation of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Melissa Pexton is an inspiring and high-performing leader whose inclusive approach is motivating others to join her on a journey of structural and cultural change. In charge of over 300 staff, Deputy Commissioner Pexton is at the forefront of efforts to reposition DFES into a more inclusive and service-oriented organisation with a stronger focus on recovery capability. Responsible for the delivery of a record-breaking Disaster Recovery Funding package, she has worked tirelessly to see WA communities recover from the devastation of many natural disasters.

Paul Pillai

Manager Reporting, Insights and Analytics, Department of Communities

When Paul Pillai joined the Department, he inherited a fragmented workforce system with unclear data and outdated processes. Where others saw complexity, Paul saw opportunity. With exceptional technical acumen and strategic foresight, he rapidly diagnosed the issues and delivered a practical, future-focused solution.
His ability to balance visionary thinking with hands-on execution set him apart. Rather than waiting for ideal conditions, Paul maximised existing tools to drive meaningful change. His work not only transformed workforce visibility and planning but also laid the foundation for long-term capability uplift — demonstrating outstanding leadership, innovation, and impact in a highly complex environment.

Shelli Richards

Operations Manager, Hillary's Out Of School Club Incorporated



Shelli Richards is a strong, confident and passionate leader. Having taken on the leadership role during a time of turbulence for the Not-For-Profit she quickly established a supportive culture for her staff and an open working relationship with her management committee. Her successful implementation of leadership development and long-term workforce planning within the Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) organisation has lead to a workforce retention much higher than like service providers.

Shelli has embedded quality improvement within the service and which is rooted in the core value of providing high-quality education and care in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Matthew Sapsworth
Manager Information Technology, Economic Regulation Authority

Matt is a passionate and dedicated IT professional who joined the ERA in February 2024. Matt's vision and commitment has resulted in significant improvements for IT across the agency. His work has helped to create an integrated systems and data environment, improved our cybersecurity and provided staff with an optimised IT service. He has initiated new and monitored existing IT projects in a structured way through developing the IT Systems and Data Strategy.

Dr. Cara Sheppard
Senior Medical Officer, Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service

Dr. Sheppard's leadership transcends clinical excellence; she embodies a holistic, culturally safe, and community-driven approach to healthcare. Serving Communities in the Pilbara, she leads PAMS in delivering comprehensive primary healthcare services across five remote communities. Coming on as a junior GP more than eight years ago, her determination, resilience and positive energy has propelled her as a dependable and reliable Senior Medical Officer for PAMS. Dr. Sheppard exemplifies the qualities of a transformative leader: vision, cultural competence, innovation, and advocacy.

Hamulinda Simuchoba
Chief Financial Officer, South Metropolitan TAFE

As Chief Financial Officer of South Metropolitan TAFE, Hamulinda Simuchoba provides strategic financial leadership that directly supports the organisation's training and workforce development objectives, including the delivery of over 8.3 million student curriculum hours to more than 25,000 students. Hamulinda has embedded zero-based budgeting, exceeded Treasury and financial sustainability KPIs, and strengthened partnerships with government and internal stakeholders to enhance decision making and support Western Australia's economic growth. Under Hamulinda's leadership, South Metropolitan TAFE has maintained unqualified OAG audit opinions and achieved recognition as a Better Practice Agency recognition. Hamulinda has led the implementation of advanced tools, which has resulted in improved the accuracy and timeliness of statutory Treasury quarterly reports, the ability to provide real-time insights for the TAFE's stakeholders, streamlined business workflows, reduced manual tasks, and improved data accuracy.

Dean Unsworth
Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Murray



Dean Unsworth, CEO of the Shire of Murray, leads with a collaborative, sustainable, and community-focused philosophy. With over 20 years in public administration, he has consistently demonstrated strategic leadership, balancing economic growth with social and environmental responsibility.Dean has delivered major outcomes in economic development, tourism,environmental sustainability, and organisational transformation. Since 2016, his advocacy has helped secure over $500 million in government investment, driving one of the most transformative growth periods in the Shire's history.

Keith Wilks
Chief Executive Officer, Southern Ports



As Southern Ports CEO, Keith Wilks leads the strategic and operational management of WA's southern regional ports. With 30 years' maritime and ports experience, he offers a rare combination of executive leadership, commercial acumen and deep operational insight and is widely recognised for his ability to successfully lead complex reform projects and strategic growth initiatives. Keith's leadership, which extends beyond Southern Ports into the regions and sector, is grounded in strong governance, authentic engagement and a commitment to delivering value.

ORGANISATIONAL AWARDS

BEST PRACTICE IN COLLABORATION (TWO AWARDS)

> Moore Australia (WA) Award for Best Practice in Collaboration Between Government and any other Organisation (NFPs, Private, Corporate etc.)

> Best Practice in Collaboration Across Government Agencies

ORGANISATION DEMONSTRATING BEST PRACTICE (TEN AWARDS)

> Best Practice in Innovation
> Lotterywest Award for Best Practice in LGBTQIA+ Inclusion
> Best Practice in Social Values
> Department of Health Award for Best Practice in Health and Wellbeing
> Australian Evaluation Society Award for Best Practice in Public Sector Evaluation
> Office of Digital Government Award for Best Practice in Digital Transformation
> Commissioner for Children and Young People Award for Best Practice in Children's Consultation
> Excellence in the Not-for-Profit Sector
> Department of Treasury and Finance Award for Best Practice in Procurement
> Commissioner for Children and Young People Award for Best Practice in Child-focused Complaints Handling

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Government of Western Australia
Department of Treasury and Finance
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Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Office of Digital Government

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Support the achievements of the public service by sponsoring an IPAA WA Achievement Award.
Phone (08) 9360 1400 for more information.

1800 4 Choice

Sexual Health Quarters, Women and Newborn Health Service

1800 4 Choice is a free, confidential helpline and website offering non-judgemental, evidence-based information on abortion and reproductive healthcare in Western Australia. Led by experienced nurses, it helps people understand their options, connect with providers, and make informed decisions. Accessible by phone, webchat, and an interactive provider map, the service is user-friendly and supportive. Developed by Sexual Health Quarters (SHQ) in partnership with the Women and Newborn Health Service (WNHS), 1800 4 Choice was launched in line with the Abortion Legislation Reform Act 2023 (WA) to improve access and promote reproductive autonomy across the state.

40 km/h Speed Zone Project

City of Vincent; Main Roads Western Australia; Road Safety Commission



The City of Vincent's 40km/h Speed Zone Project significantly enhanced road safety and community liveability through effective stakeholder coordination, comprehensive data analysis, and strategic planning. Jointly delivered with Main Roads WA and the Road Safety Commission, the initiative has led to a notable increase in pedestrian and cyclist activity, along with improved community perceptions of safety and neighbourhood amenity. The project exemplifies excellence in inter-agency collaboration and community engagement, setting a benchmark for future urban safety initiatives and demonstrating the power of coordinated action in creating safer, more liveable streets across metropolitan areas.

Aboriginal Cultural Framework 2024–2034

Department of Communities

In November 2024, the Department of Communities (Communities) launched the Aboriginal Cultural Framework 2024–2034 (the Framework) alongside Implementation Plan One 2024–2026, marking a significant milestone in the Department's cultural reform journey. This initiative is a key deliverable of the Aboriginal Cultural Capability Reform Program and strategically aligns with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy 2021–2029, and the Department of Communities Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Strategy 2022–2032.

Aboriginal Economic Development

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



AED is transforming government practice through innovative, culturally grounded programs that empower Aboriginal communities across Western Australia. From pioneering bushfoods enterprise support and disaster recovery models to advancing native title negotiations and cultural capability frameworks, AED integrates Aboriginal knowledge, leadership, and data sovereignty into every initiative.

Their work spans economic development, heritage management, cross-government collaboration, and internal reform—delivering measurable outcomes and setting new standards for culturally responsive service delivery. AED's commitment to co-design, respect, and systemic change is reshaping how government partners with Aboriginal people to create lasting, community-led impact.

Aboriginal Justice Open Days

Aboriginal Justice Unit - Department of Justice, Department of Transport, Department of Communities, Services Australia, Australian Electoral Commission, Curtin University (Tax Clinic), Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Sheriff's Office, Fines Enforcement Registry, Aboriginal Legal Services WA, Aboriginal Family Legal Services WA, South Metropolitan TAFE, Waalitj Foundation, Wunan Foundation, Marra Worra Worra, NG Lands Council, a range of Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and job network providers across Western Australia.



Since its inception in 2011, the Open Days have relied on the strong working relationships between WA government agencies, federal agencies, community service providers and host communities across WA. Key partners in Open Days include Department of Transport, Department of Communities, Services Australia, the Australian Electoral Commission, Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RBDM), the Sheriff's Office and a range of place-based community service providers and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs). From a humble 37 Open Days held in 2011-12, the Open Days have grown to a tremendous 141 held in 2023-24 and continue to grow.

Active in the Park

City of Melville

Active in the Park is the City of Melville's outdoor fitness initiative, offering free and low-cost classes to support healthy, active lifestyles in a welcoming, inclusive setting. Delivered year-round in local parks and now self-funded through the City's Leisure Fit service, the program caters to all ages and abilities, including a seated class for people with mobility challenges.

With strong participation, demonstrated community impact, and expanding partnerships with organisations such as Mentally Healthy WA, LiveLighter, and the Blue Tree Project, this initiative is a best-practice model in local government health promotion and sustainable community well-being.

Annual Forum

Financial Counsellors' Association of Western Australia (FCAWA)



FCAWA is drawing upon its proven methodology of bringing decision-makers and service providers directly into communities to hear from locals face-to-face and a deliberate opportunity for stakeholders to witness firsthand the geographic and infrastructural barriers faced by remote residents, fostering long-term, systemic change.

2025 IPAA WA ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
ORGANISATIONAL AWARDS' NOMINEES

Armadale Line Active Travel project

Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure; METRONET; Public Transport Authority (PTA); Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery (OMTID)



The Armadale Line Active Travel project was a collaborative initiative that supported people to walk, wheel and ride around their local area during the Armadale line shutdown. The Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure (DTMI) managed the project in partnership with METRONET, Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery, Public Transport Authority and project delivery alliances. Intensive school and parent engagement and community activation were delivered between 2023 and 2025 in collaboration with four local governments and 14 schools.

Australian Automation and Robotics Precinct

DevelopmentWA



The Australian Automation and Robotics Precinct (AARP) is Australia's largest research, development, testing, training and demonstration ground for automation, robotics and zero emissions technology. The AARP is a pioneering example of innovation infrastructure in Australia, playing a critical role in supporting the acceleration of technology development. Developed by DevelopmentWA and operated by CORE Innovation Hub, in 2024 there were 21 companies valued at $33.9 million with 152 employees on site from mining companies, energy and digital, AI and robotics using the AARP. Early estimates predict between $450 million and $600 million in economic benefits for Western Australia by 2030.

Broome Residential College - 'My place, my future' project

Department of Education

Broome Residential College's 'My place, my future' project has demonstrated excellence in cultural responsiveness through deep listening and consultation. The campaign insight 'My place, my future' was identified as strength-based language that enabled student voice and provided a new and authentic creative platform.

The marketing campaign has successfully raised the College's profile as an attractive boarding option for secondary students in Broome, among prospective residents and their families in the regional and remote communities of northwest Western Australia - and continues to significantly drive enrolments today.

Building an Age-Friendly WA

Local Government Professionals WA; Department of Communities

Building an Age-Friendly WA exemplifies best practice in cross-sector collaboration, bringing together state government leadership, local government networks, and community expertise to improve outcomes for older Western Australians. Led by LG Professionals WA in partnership with the Department of Communities, the initiative delivered a conference with the World Health Organization, a practical webinar series, and a grants program supporting 17 local governments, Aboriginal corporations, and not-for-profits.

This multi-faceted program has helped embed age-friendly principles across WA, supporting inclusive, accessible communities and advancing WA's strategic response to our ageing population.

Building resilience to counter foreign interference in WA

CFI Partnerships WA, Counter Foreign Interference Coordination Centre, Department of Home Affairs

The Counter Foreign Interference Coordination Centre brings together whole-of-government efforts to strengthen resilience to counter foreign interference across Australian society. CFI Partnerships WA, together with their WA Government and Commonwealth partners are building resilience to counter foreign interference in WA, across government, universities, industry and our communities.

CFI Partnerships WA ensures WA perspectives inform national counter foreign interference policy development and initiatives.

CDS SET and GO

Child Development Service, Child and Adolescent Community Health

The Child Development Service (CDS) developed the SET and GO, an innovative nine-item caregiver self-efficacy tool, to measure caregiver outcomes and the effectiveness of services for children with developmental needs. Validated with 204 caregivers across various disciplines, the tool demonstrates strong reliability and validity.

Early results show positive outcomes for caregivers. Ongoing research will expand the tool's validation, particularly for Aboriginal caregivers. This initiative enhances CDS service evaluation by focusing on caregiver empowerment, providing meaningful insights into the impact of interventions.

Central Great Southern Dental Health Project

Department of Health; Department of Communities; Department of Education; Minderoo Foundation



The Early Years Partnership Dental Health Project in Central Great Southern region of Western Australia exemplifies best practice in collaborative partnerships for health and wellbeing, particularly within rural and Aboriginal communities.

Through this community-led place-based approach, the project offers an example of how dental services can be culturally safe and responsive to the needs of families, while also supporting long-term workforce development through student placements.

City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Anti-social Behaviour and Transitional Aboriginal Homelessness Study Project

City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder



The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's (CKB) Anti-social Behaviour and Transitional Aboriginal Homelessness Study Project Report is a landmark report significant not only locally but at a regional, state and national level. The six-month in-depth, innovative research project emphasises that culturally-informed, locally-driven solutions are the key to achieving real and lasting change, and highlights the disconnect between Federal and State policies and what is happening on the ground. A range of report actions are already being implemented and a national think tank is being scheduled. CKB is proud to be leading work to meet Closing the Gap priorities through local government leadership.

This project has been nominated for two different awards.

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Community Ambassador Program

Child and Adolescent Health Service, Consumer Engagement Team

Children, young people, and families from multicultural, refugee, and low English proficiency backgrounds face significant barriers to accessing equitable healthcare, including language challenges, limited health literacy, and systemic discrimination. These issues contribute to poor health outcomes and reduced trust in services.

To address this, the Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) launched the Community Ambassadors Program (multicultural), connecting with trusted community leaders to foster culturally safe, two-way communication. In 2024/25, eight Ambassadors received training to identify concerns, facilitate consultations and co-develop initiatives.

Complaints Management Improvement Project

Child and Adolescent Health Service



A continued focus at CAHS has been to identify pathways to better understand the needs of our children and young people, particularly those from diverse backgrounds who access our services. CAHS identified that it receives limited feedback from children and young people, and subsequently undertook a Complaints Management Improvement Project, working in partnership with young people and caregivers of various backgrounds through a co-designed approach to develop engaging resources, improve complaint handling processes and access to support, and strengthen staff training and investigation procedures.

Complaints Management Policy for Children and Young People

Department of Fire and Emergency Services



The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) has implemented a child-focused complaints system that empowers children and young people to speak up and be heard. Developed in consultation with cadets and instructors, the system includes clear policy, accessible procedures, and multiple safe reporting pathways. Recognised by the Commissioner for Children and Young People as meeting all elements of National Principle Six, the system is supported by a range of initiatives, including regular cadet debriefs, co-designed child-friendly resources, and promotion through youth programs.

Complaints Management Unit

Complaints Management Unit

The Department of Communities (Communities) Complaints Management Unit (CMU) is responsible for managing the response to complaints received from the public about the services provided by Communities.

To encourage children and young people to feel comfortable in speaking up, CMU introduced a specific child and young person complaint handling process, that recognises the importance Communities places on hearing and valuing the voice of the children that are provided care, protection and a service from Communities.
CMU is committed to being a child safe organisation and understands their voice is of upmost importance in developing and providing safe and appropriate services.

CRC Champions Program (WA Digital Inclusion Project)

Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS)

The CRC Champions Program is a collaborative initiative between the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Linkwest, and the WA Digital Inclusion Project. It empowers trusted community members, Community Resource Centres, to uplift digital capability in regional and remote areas.

Through tailored training, peer support, and local engagement, the program builds digital confidence and inclusion from the ground up. By collaborating across sectors and leveraging existing community networks, it fosters sustainable digital skills development and strengthens social cohesion.

Digital Medical Record Project

Part of the Electronic Medical Record Program, Department of Health, Electronic Medical Record Program, Digital Medical Record Project, Health Support Services

The DMR Project is has been rolled out by WA Health as Part of the Electronic Medical Record Program. The Digital Medical Record (DMR) system digitises the paper medical records of WA Health consumers across WA. It uses a combination of scanned paper records, electronic forms, and integrations with other WA Health applications.

Converting paper records to a DMR improves patient safety, care quality and continuity. It supports fast decision making by clinicians, reduces cost, improves efficiency and increases security compliance.

Disability Employment Pathways Initiative

The Shire of Carnarvon

The Shire of Carnarvon has developed and piloted the Disability Employment Pathways Initiative—a locally driven, person-centred program that creates meaningful and inclusive employment opportunities for people living with disability in the Carnarvon community.

The initiative was a collaboration between the Shire's with Sandy Turtle Support Services and Blue Flax Support Services. It reenvisages the way job roles are constructed and fitted to individuals but also the way vulnerable people are supported to be inducted and safe in organisations.

DTMI's Pride Reach Out group

Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure



The Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure's (DTMI) Pride Reach Out group was established in 2021 to foster an inclusive and supportive environment for LGBTQIA+ employees.
Starting with just three members, the group has grown to more than 70 proud, passionate and enthusiastic employees representing the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies.

The group collaborates with Transport Portfolio partners and external stakeholders to organise and participate in events and initiatives to promote DTMI as a safe and welcoming organisation.
Through passionate advocacy and consistent efforts, the group continues to make a meaningful difference within DTMI and across the wider community.

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Early Years Partnership - Dental Health Project

Department of Communities; Department of Health; Department of Education; Minderoo Foundation



The Early Years Partnership Dental Health Project in Central Great Southern region of Western Australia exemplifies best practice in collaborative partnerships for health and wellbeing, particularly within rural and Aboriginal communities.

Through this community-led place-based approach, the project offers an example of how dental services can be culturally safe and responsive to the needs of families, while also supporting long-term workforce development through student placements.

Emergency WA App

Department of Fire and Emergency Services



The Next Generation Warnings project has delivered the greatest reform of emergency public information in the State's history including the first-ever Emergency WA app, new website and implementation of the Australian Warning System (AWS). The Department of Fire and Emergency Services Public Information team has embraced innovation to deliver nation-leading features informed by extensive research and community feedback. Significant engagement has boosted awareness and acceptance of the AWS, while Emergency WA cements its place as WA's trusted, official source for emergency information.

Energy Ahead - helping customers take control of their energy use and bills through free energy coaching and workshops

Financial Wellbeing Collective; Synergy; Horizon; Energy Policy WA

Energy Ahead is a Western Australian Climate Policy initiative, in partnership with Energy Policy WA, Synergy and delivered by the Financial Wellbeing Collective (FWC). The FWC is a unique collaboration of 12 not-for-profit community organisations and local government, delivering integrated, person-centred support to Western Australians experiencing financial hardship.

As at 30 April 2025, 4661 people received assistance with free energy coaching, to improve energy literacy, reduce energy costs and encourage energy efficient behaviours.

Establishment of the State Health Operations Centre

Department of Health, WA Country Health Service, St John WA, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Health Support Services, East Metropolitan Health Service, Telestroke

The State Health Operations Centre (SHOC) is a multi-agency state-of-the-art operations hub designed to enhance emergency care access across WA. Key health and emergency services co-locate within SHOC to provide oversight and coordination of essential and emergency medical care, to ease pressure on our critical health services.

With visibility of patient movements across 2.5 million square kilometres, SHOC works to ensure the right care is provided, in the right place, at the right time. Co-locating partner agencies include WA Country Health Service, St John WA, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Health Support Services, East Metropolitan Health Service and Telestroke.

Exchange Hotel, Pinjarra

Shire of Murray



The Exchange Hotel project is a landmark redevelopment project, profoundly impacting the local community and WA's heritage.
Originally built in 1866 as a doctor's residence, the building was converted into a tavern and hotel in 1871. The Hotel is one of Peel's oldest buildings and resides in one of WA's first European settlements - Pinjarra.
Today, the stunning venue combines the best of modern architecture with Pinjarra's local heritage. It is widely accepted as one of WA's finest heritage buildings and is known as a regionally iconic hospitality venue boasting a rich history and superb customer experiences.

Find My Way – Online Homelessness Services Portal

Department of Communities, Infoxchange, Third Story, Anthologie, Anglicare WA and Centrecare

Launched on 31 March 2025, Find My Way – Online Homelessness Services Portal (Find My Way) is an innovative approach to supporting people experiencing or at risk of homelessness by assisting them with finding information on accommodation and support services that meet their individual circumstances.

Find My Way is a world first. There is, to the best of our knowledge, no other English speaking self-service directory for homelessness anywhere else in the world. Find My Way is a free online service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

First Responder Thrive at Work Prevent Harm Toolkit project

Mental Health Commission; Future of Work Institute, Curtin University;
Department of Fire and Emergency Services; Western Australia Police Force; Department of Justice;
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; St John WA

The First Responder Working Group (FRWG) developed the First Responder Thrive at Work Prevent Harm Toolkit project to improve the mental health and wellbeing of first responders through evidence-based prevention and system-level work design strategies. This involved the FRWG partnering with Curtin University's Future of Work Institute to co-design customised toolkits and training packages to mitigate psychosocial risks and foster safe and supportive workplaces.

The FRWG is chaired by the Mental Health Commission and includes membership from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, WA Police Force, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Department of Justice and St John WA.

Friends of Fremantle Ports volunteer program

Fremantle Ports

Our Friends of Fremantle Ports volunteering program was launched in October 2020. The program has assisted Fremantle Ports to further strengthen transformative relationships with local communities, build awareness and understanding of the Inner Harbour and Kwinana Port, create a cohort of in-community 'ambassadors' for Fremantle Ports and utilise volunteering in a strategic manner to amplify our current social licence capability.

The program has been an outstanding success and embraced by our community increasing from twelve volunteers to 16 in 2023.

Generic grant agreement – digital first, not digital only

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



DPIRD embarked on a program of digital transformation for grant schemes in 2023-24. A review of agreements in use uncovered issues best mitigated by creating an innovative and modern generic grant agreement that is clear, concise and allows grant managers to choose their own path. This approach means agreements suit the scheme purpose and meet governance and transparency requirements. The generic agreement provides an exciting digital option, currently being used completely within DPIRD's SmartyGrants (totally digital), an interactive pdf document (partially digital), and a traditional hard copy document (not digital) – it is digital first, not digital only.

Guidelines for the safer storing and charging of electric rideable devices within end-of-trip facilities

Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure



In 2025, the Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure proactively led development of guidelines for the safer storing and charging of eRideable devices in end-of-trip facilities at workplaces. eRideables contribute to transport equity and mode choice and have become increasingly popular in recent years, including for commuting. Initially targeted for state government owned buildings, the guidelines are also of value to wider industry, offering facilities managers flexible risk management options to suit different offices. The guidelines encourage safer and more consistent practices and allow workplaces to better support travel mode choice for employees who bring eRideables to work premises.

Health Justice Partnership

Department of Health; Women's Legal Service Western Australia

The Department of Health, in collaboration with the Women's Legal Service WA (WLSWA), has launched a Health Justice Partnership Pilot (HJP), an innovative initiative aimed at addressing women's interconnected social, legal, and health needs. The WLSWA HJP reaches women who may otherwise not have access to legal services, by embedding a lawyer in women's health care centres, which innovatively addresses their health harming legal needs.

The WLSWA HJP fosters relationship-based service agreements, supports innovation, and ensures culturally appropriate, sustainable service delivery through genuine stakeholder engagement to reach women who may otherwise not have access to meet their health-harming legal needs.

Health Navigator Pilot Program

Department of Health; Child and Adolescent Health Services; WA Country Health Service; Department of Communities; Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations

The Health Navigator Pilot Program (HNPP) is a collaboration between the Departments of Health and Communities, Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS), WA Country Health Service (WACHS), Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHs) and community service partners to better meet the health needs of at-risk children by delivering timely access to health assessments, services, and supports.

The HNPP originally commenced in response to the Sustainable Health Review, aiming to achieve equitable health outcomes for children in out of home care (OOHC) through a whole-of-government approach.

HSS Peel Health Campus Transition Project

Health Support Services



In September 2022, Health Support Services (HSS) established a project team to support South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) with the transition of the Peel Health Campus (PHC) from being privately managed to be integrated with the public health system. The HSS PHC project team were responsible for delivering all ICT components of the hospital, including infrastructure, computers, printers, applications and ICT systems, network access and more. HSS' approach supported the safe and seamless transition for patients, staff, volunteers and the community, and allowed PHC to continue to provide safe, high-quality healthcare without any impact to patient services or hospital operations.

Hybrid Procurement Model

South Metropolitan Health Service



The South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) Hybrid Procurement Model (HPM) launched July 2023, revolutionised procurement and contract management by blending centralised oversight with decentralised execution. Addressing low staff capability and budget constraints, HPM introduced mandatory Procurement Initiation Document reviews, a centralised advisory function, and strategic contract management, ensuring compliance with WA Procurement Rules. It delivered millions in potential savings, enhanced portfolio visibility, actively engages Aboriginal businesses, aligning with social procurement goals. Stakeholder roadshows, tailored training, and a resource library boosted capability and trust, earning high satisfaction.

Individual Advocacy Program

Health Consumers' Council WA



Health Consumers' Council WA's Individual Advocacy Program is a free, independent service supporting people across Western Australia to access, navigate and resolve problems within our complex healthcare system. As the only one of its kind in Australia, covering the entire healthcare sector, including public and private systems, our skilled advocates provide one-on-one support to people facing barriers to care, particularly those who are vulnerable, marginalised or disadvantaged. We help consumers understand their rights, access essential services and resolve serious issues. Grounded in empathy, cultural sensitivity and practical problem-solving, the program empowers individuals and promotes a more equitable, responsive healthcare system.

Inforeels

Child and Adolescent Health Service, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

The Inforeels project is a youth-led initiative tackling the uncertainty and anxiety many young people face when accessing mental health support. A series of short videos, known as Inforeels, have been developed by an advisory group of young people aged 14-19, including those with past experience of Child and Adolescent Mental health Services (CAMHS).

The Inforeels are intended to demystify community CAMHS services by giving newly referred young people an insight into the experience of treatment and recovery at CAMHS.

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Integrated Leadership Initiative
Hillarys Out of School Care Inc

The Integrated Leadership Initiative focuses on maximising leadership opportunities within all level of Out of School Hours Care. This regenerative leadership model highlights sustainable leadership development that adds value to the organisation, the NFP sector and the Padbury community through family friend practices, staff mentoring frameworks and junior employment pathways.

This initiative achieved exceptional results for children, families, and educators whilst establishing a replicable model for sustainable leadership and innovation in the OSHC sector.

Interagency Collaboration to support the Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Care
Department of Health; Child and Adolescent Health Service; WA Country Health Service; Department of Communities

Children-in-care (CiC) are among the most vulnerable due to exposure to trauma, abuse, neglect, and family violence, factors that significantly increase the risk of mental health issues. Early identification and timely support are critical to improving long-term outcomes.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed, October 2022 between the Departments of Health and Communities guides collaboration in supporting and protecting children at risk, responding to abuse, neglect, and addressing systemic issues affecting CiC.

JTCESC Disability Expo
John Tonkin College Education Support Centre

John Tonkin College Education Support Centre (JTCESC) hosts an annual Disability Expo, a transformative initiative connecting students with disabilities, their families, and the community to vital support services, education, and employment pathways. Since its modest beginnings six years ago, the Expo has grown to feature over 90 stallholders, thanks to strong partnerships with the City of Mandurah and local organisations.

The event fosters inclusion, advocacy, and lifelong learning, reflecting JTCESC's commitment to equity and empowerment. It stands as a leading example of community collaboration and excellence in inclusive education and public service innovation.

Kings Park Plant Development
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority



The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA), a statutory authority within DBCA, has led conservation and horticultural innovation in Western Australia for over 60 years. Situated in the globally significant plant biodiversity centre of Kings Park, BGPA's Plant Development program harnesses the resilience of local flora to produce ornamental cultivars with extended flowering and drought tolerance.

With the world's largest collection of WA native plant material, BGPA integrates scientific research, horticultural expertise, and novel techniques to promote sustainable and climate-resilient landscapes. Its work inspires global appreciation of WA's unique flora while addressing environmental challenges through innovation and collaboration.

Life Support and Outage Management Project
Horizon Power



Horizon Power has successfully modernised its outage notification process through implementation of the Life Support and Outage Management (LSOM) project, a top 7 strategic priority. The project integrated OT SCADA systems with corporate IT applications, automating the outage planning and notification service. It provides real-time visibility of the low voltage network, enhances coordination and communication, and reduces manual steps in outage planning. The alert system provides advance warning to our life support and critical load customers such as hospitals and aged care facilities that rely on life saving equipment, allowing them to be fully prepared for outages ahead of time.

METRONET
METRONET

METRONET is the single largest investment in public transport that Perth has seen, with a vision of a well-connected Perth with more transport, housing and employment choices.

With approximately 72 kilometres of new passenger rail and 23 new stations, METRONET is a catalyst to turn more than 8,000 hectares of land around new stations into desirable places to live, work and play. More than a transport program of projects, METRONET also provides long-term legacies for the community by implementing program strategies through Gnarla Biddi Aboriginal Engagement, Sustainability and Public Art.

METRONET Program Strategies
METRONET

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More than a transport program of projects, METRONET also provides long-term legacies for the community by implementing program strategies through Gnarla Biddi Aboriginal Engagement, Sustainability and Public Art.

Midwest Targeted Teaching Program
Department of Education - Midwest Education Regional Office

The Midwest Targeted Teaching program is a region-wide initiative focused on improving educational outcomes through data-driven practices, ongoing professional development, and strategic resource management. It provides comprehensive training to hundreds of teachers and instructional coaches, fostering sustainable capacity building in diverse learning environments, including remote and under-resourced schools.

The program's effective administration includes meticulous financial oversight of an annual budget and expansion across multiple networks. Its evidenced success is reflected in improved instructional models and student achievement, demonstrating its strong management, impactful professional growth, and dedication to enhancing education quality across the Midwest.

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ORGANISATIONAL AWARDS' NOMINEES

Monitoring and Evaluation of Boorloo Bidee Mia

Department of Communities

Boorloo Bidee Mia (BBM) provides low-threshold accommodation for people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping, combined with tailored and responsive support.

The Department of Communities (Communities) in collaboration with the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute and Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre at Curtin University led a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, Process and Summative Evaluation of BBM from 2021 to 2024. Communities worked collaboratively with BBM's Service Providers - Wungening Aboriginal Corporation and Noongar Mia Mia to deliver the work.

Multi-Agency Investigation and Support Team (MIST)

Parkerville Children and Youth Care; Western Australian Police Force

Parkerville Children and Youth Care, in partnership with the WA Police Force, has pioneered the Multi-Agency Investigation and Support Team (MIST) - a trauma-informed, co-located model that integrates criminal investigation with therapeutic care for children affected by sexual abuse.

MIST has transformed service delivery across WA, demonstrating excellence in collaboration, stakeholder engagement, and scalable innovation. Its impact spans improved outcomes, reduced trauma, and systemic reform, positioning Parkerville/WAPOL as leaders in best practice and child-centred care.

Navigate Wellbeing at Fremantle Ports

Fremantle Ports



As part of an intentional step-change towards improved health and wellbeing for our people, we internally designed and launched a program branded 'Navigate Wellbeing at Fremantle Ports' (Navigate Wellbeing).

We recognise that dealing with compromised physical and/or psychological health can be difficult for anyone to navigate. Aligning with our corporate values that form the acronym CARE and underpinning our 2027 Strategic Plan's People and Culture pillar, the premise of Navigate Wellbeing is a modern, total-care approach covering both physical and psychological wellbeing.

Network Lidar Project

Main Roads

The Network LiDAR Project has achieved significant industry recognition by utilizing AI and machine learning to automatically extract and code road features, winning the Geospatial Council of Australia's Regional award for Geospatial Excellence in Innovation 2024 and being shortlisted for Technology and Innovation Award as part of the International Road Federation World Congress for which the winners will be announced on Thursday 17th October in Istanbul.

Ngooninup Project (Mt Eliza Scarp)

Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority; Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



Through collaboration between the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, the Ngooninup Project, sought to combat Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (PSHB) within Kings Park and Botanic Gardens. The crisis response project provided valuable insights into effective strategies in responding to environmental issues and managing invasive species. The project raised community awareness about PSHB, its detrimental effects on local flora and mobilised community support in eradication efforts.

NMTAFE's Digital Transformation Project

North Metropolitan TAFE

North Metropolitan TAFE's digital transformation is driven by a clear vision and strategic roadmap aligned with the WA Government Digital Strategy. By integrating advanced technologies with educational goals, we're reshaping training and student support to be more agile, inclusive, and future ready. Strong governance ensures transparent, impactful decisions, while a culture of innovation fuels collaboration and the adoption of emerging tools.

Targeted investment in digital infrastructure and workforce capability has embedded sustainable, people-centred solutions that equip staff and students with the skills to thrive in tomorrow's workplaces.

Office of the Public Advocate Service Agreement Project

Office of the Public Advocate

The Public Advocate represents some 4000 West Australians with decision making disability as guardian of last resort. Of these, 62% are under the age of 65 and most are NDIS participants. The Office of the Public Advocate has developed their own system of service agreements for NDIS participants to support a greater shared understanding between guardians and service providers.

The Project involved significant collaboration with NDIS service provider marketplace, industry peak bodies, Commonwealth and State departments.

Orrong Connect Project

Main Roads

Orrong Road serves as a crucial connection for many people travelling across Perth. However, rising congestion is increasingly impacting the public, industry, and commuters.

In response, the Orrong Connect Planning Study adopted an innovative approach - shifting from a traditional approach that sees solutions designed first. The study prioritised engaging with affected communities from the outset. This included what's believed to be an Australian first: a deliberative panel process that empowered community members to help define solutions for a major transport corridor.

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Out of Home Care Reform

Department of Communities

The Out of Home Care (OOHC) reform is a $217 million investment in the child protection system, improving stability for children, keeping siblings together, supporting early reunification, and maintaining cultural and family connections. Led by the Priority Initiatives project team, 16 service providers, including five Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, were contracted on 11 October 2023.

The reform transitioned 1,050 children into a culturally grounded, strengths-based model that upholds Aboriginal self-determination and cultural authority, aligning with Closing the Gap, the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy, Communities' ACCO Strategy, and the Aboriginal Cultural Framework.

People, Capability and Culture Division

Child and Adolescent Health Service



The People Capability and Culture Division developed a People and Culture Strategy Framework to support the workforce navigate change, grow, connect and deliver high-quality healthcare in a safe, positive and productive environment with 4 guiding pillars: Leadership and Purpose, Learning and Growth, Belonging and Wellbeing and Future Fit and Agile. Since its release, a number of initiatives has been delivered, including: a new Performance Development approach, creation of a Culture Network, a senior leadership development program to support change and build resilience, a Safe and Positive Workplace Behaviours program, CAHS Learning Academy, and a refreshed Reward and Recognition Program.

Plateful of Personality Project

Child and Adolescent Health Service

The Plateful of Personality Project was implemented to address an identified need from children and young people at Perth Children's Hospital relating to their experience of receiving food in hospital.

After a day of waiting and undergoing treatment, receiving a meal should be a highlight of a patient's hospital stay; however many fed back that plates used at PCH were plain and off-putting. Hence the Plateful of Personality Project was born, enabling a collaborative approach between PCH, patients and local artists to develop bright and enticing bowl and plate designs, with children making their choice through the Golden Plate Awards.

Port of Esperance Stormwater Treatment System

Southern Ports



Southern Ports has not only renewed a multi-million-dollar supporting infrastructure for one of its berths at the Port of Esperance which is a once-in-a-25-year opportunity but took the opportunity to include a major environmental element to the project – the creation of an innovative stormwater solution that stops contaminants reaching the ocean.

The $10.4 million project has been recognised nationally for its innovation and is one of only two stormwater systems implemented at Australian ports that remove dissolved contaminants from stormwater before it enters the ocean.

Prevention of surface injury burns to children in early childhood education and care services

Education and Care Regulatory Unit, Department of Communities



The Education and Care Regulatory Unit (ECRU) investigated a case at an early childhood education and care (ECEC) where a child sustained burns to the back of their legs on a slide. Despite surface temperature checks being conducted prior to the incident, the child still sustained burns. ECRU identified that serious burn injuries to children were increasing in ECEC settings and engaged other stakeholders to form a working group. ECRU engaged a materials expert to conduct tests and deliver findings. The findings were significant, and ECRU delivered the results on burns prevention to the ECEC sector.

Roebourne District High School Redevelopment Co-design Project

Department of Education; Department of Housing and Works; Roebourne District High School Community; Redevelopment Co-design project



This project is a powerful example of genuine co-design and stakeholder engagement with the Roebourne Aboriginal community. Built on sustained trust and respect, the project involved ongoing consultation with Elders, families, service providers and local partners to shape a school that reflects cultural identity and community aspirations.

With over $93 million invested, the redevelopment delivers more than upgraded facilities—it represents a shared healing journey, restoring community confidence in government-led projects, listening deeply, and embedding local voices into every stage of design and delivery.

Ruah

Ruah Community Services

Ruah Community Services has supported vulnerable Western Australians for over 65 years through integrated, trauma-informed, and culturally safe care. With a workforce of 500+ and accreditation across multiple national standards, Ruah delivers high-quality services addressing homelessness, family and domestic violence, and mental health.

In 2024, Ruah assisted over 15,000 people through innovative programs like the Ruah Centre for Women and Children, underpinned by lived experience, partnerships, and evidence-based practice.

Ruby's: A Youth Homelessness Prevention Program

Parkerville Children and Youth Care



Ruby's WA, delivered by Parkerville Children and Youth Care, is a pioneering early intervention program addressing youth homelessness through therapeutic accommodation and intensive family counselling. Launched in 2024, it challenges traditional crisis models by focusing on safe family reunification and long-term wellbeing.

Grounded in trauma-informed care and supported by rigorous evaluation, Ruby's WA has already demonstrated measurable outcomes in family restoration, emotional resilience, and school engagement. Its innovative, evidence-based approach is transforming service delivery in Western Australia and setting a new benchmark for youth homelessness prevention.

2025 IPAA WA ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
ORGANISATIONAL AWARDS' NOMINEES

Safe Active Streets Pilot Program Evaluation

Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure



The Safe Active Streets Pilot Program was delivered by the then-Department of Transport from 2015 to 2023. The program included developing, trialling and evaluating nine safe active streets: multimodal travel routes on quiet local streets, where speeds have been reduced to 30 km/h. Several traffic calming measures were applied in each case, to create a safer shared street space for people of all ages and abilities to walk, wheel and ride, while remaining accessible for people driving. Evaluation of the program was comprehensive, focussing on the effectiveness of the pilot rollout, as well as user behaviour and community sentiment.

SaferWA

Department of Fire and Emergency Services; Department of Tresury; Department of Health; Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; Department of Premier and Cabinet; Department of Transport; Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety; Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development; WA Police; WALGA; Main Roads WA

SaferWA is the result of strong commitment and collaboration across the Western Australia (WA) Emergency Management (EM) sector for both private and public organisations. Led by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) and supported by Ernst & Young (EY), the SaferWA initiative aimed to deliver the world's first digital strategy and roadmap for EM. It seeks to bridge the gap between current agency-level digital strategies; support both state and national policies; draw on current solutions and investments; and pioneer global excellence in EM through digital innovation, empowering safer and more resilient communities.

Smart Drainage Initiative for Flood Mitigation

City of Gosnells



The City of Gosnells is leading proactive flood mitigation in Australia, harnessing smart drainage solutions and cutting-edge technology to protect the community. From flood sensor alerts to a state-of-the-art drainage CCTV robot, in-house pipe relining to ground-penetrating radar, the City has implemented a comprehensive array of measures to mitigate blockages, repair pipes and address sinkholes with minimal disruption. These initiatives ensure that over 870km of drainage infrastructure functions efficiently, safeguarding roads and homes, and protecting lives and livelihoods.

Smith Family Dashboard

Department of Education, The Smith Family

Both The Smith Family and the Department of Education have a shared goal to support the educational needs of young people and children at risk in Western Australia. This shared goal has led to key individuals from the Department of Education and The Smith Family collaborating and forming a partnership.

This partnership has established a data sharing agreement, and a purpose built Smith Family student data dashboard that provides real time, relevant data to support the coordinators of The Smith Family's Learning for Life program and its various components.

Spoilbank Marina Project

Pilbara Ports (Lead and Nominator); Department of Transport; Town of Port Hedland; Pilbara Development Commission; DevelopmentWA

The Spoilbank Marina (Pirra Pirra) in Port Hedland is a major community infrastructure initiative managed and delivered by Pilbara Ports on behalf of the Western Australian State Government, in collaboration with the Department of Transport, Town of Port Hedland, Pilbara Development Commission, and DevelopmentWA.

The Marina was funded by the State Government, ToPH and BHP. The delivery of the $187.5 million Marina has created a new amenity for the community and visitors to enjoy. It provides the Hedland community and visitors with a vibrant new space, as well as enhancing safety for recreational boaters.

State Disaster Contingency

Warehouse, Uplift Implementation, Disaster Preparedness and Management Directorate, Public and Aboriginal Health Division, Department of Health

The WA Department of Health's Disaster Preparedness and Management Directorate (DPMD) is recognised for its innovative implementation of 'Uplift'—a bespoke, state-of-the-art warehouse management system. Developed in response to COVID-19 challenges, Uplift replaced outdated manual processes with a scalable, digital platform that ensures real-time visibility, traceability, and rapid deployment of critical medical resources.

Entirely led by DPMD, the initiative showcases sector-leading innovation, co-design, and governance, transforming logistics into a high-performing, resilient capability.

State Disaster Contingency warehouse, Uplift Implementation

Disaster Preparedness and Management Directorate, Public and Aboriginal Health Division, Department of Health

The WA Department of Health's Disaster Preparedness and Management Directorate (DPMD) is nominated for its transformative implementation of 'Uplift'—a bespoke digital warehouse management system revolutionising emergency logistics.

Replacing outdated manual processes, Uplift delivers real-time stock visibility, rapid deployment capability, and robust audit trails.Aligned with whole-of-government digital priorities, it enhances cybersecurity, data analytics, and operational resilience. Developed through co-design and rigorous testing, Uplift empowers frontline teams and ensures equitable, accountable health support across Western Australia.

Tanami Road Project

Main Roads

The Tanami Road Upgrade project aims to progressively upgrade and seal the road, improve drainage, construct bridges and provide roadside facilities like rest areas.

Following community consultation, it was agreed that a long-term delivery plan for the project would benefit the local community as it would give local people employed on the project time to gain qualifications and experience in road construction. A 10-year timeline was developed for the project, which will also provide adequate time to work around the region's wet season, during which construction on most road projects is not possible.

Target 120
Department of Communities

Target 120 is a 2017 election commitment to keep communities safe by providing 12 months of targeted supports to young people between 10-14 years who are at risk of becoming repeat offenders. Target 120 aims to address issues that increase a young person's likelihood of offending, including substance misuse, housing challenges, health issues, poor school attendance and more.

IIt aims to support system-wide changes to improve how agencies and service providers respond to the risk of juvenile offending. Target 120 utilises a whole of government commitment and response. Collaboration across government agencies enables prioritisation of services for at risk youth.

The Bidi Wungen Kaat Centre (Transitional Care Unit)
East Metropolitan Health Service; Mind Australia; Palmerston

The Bidi Wungen Kaat Centre (Transitional Care Unit) is an innovative, evidence-based mental health initiative delivered by East Metropolitan Health Service in partnership with Mind Australia and Palmerston. Commenced in 2022, the service fills a critical gap between hospital and community care, supporting recovery through a staged, person-centred model.

The 40-bed facility includes Prevention and Recovery and Rehabilitation and Recovery Units, providing intensive clinical and psychosocial support to reduce hospital admissions and promote long-term recovery.

The Department of Communities' Neurodevelopmental Disability Assessment Service (NDAS)
Department of Communities

The Department of Communities' Neurodevelopmental Disability Assessment Service (NDAS) provides diagnostic assessment services across the State for individuals to determine if they have Intellectual Disability (ID), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Comprehensive Neurodevelopmental Disability.

To provide the best opportunity to source from as wide a field as possible, the Department, in consultation with Department of Finance, developed the Request for Tender for a Panel arrangement. The outcome for the department was demonstrated with realising an increase in capacity to meet the high demand for this service for the community.

The Next Generation Warnings Project
Department of Fire and Emergency Services



The Next Generation Warnings project has delivered the greatest reform of emergency public information in the State's history including the first-ever Emergency WA app, new website and implementation of the Australian Warning System (AWS).

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services Public Information team has embraced collaboration to deliver nation-leading features informed by extensive research and community feedback. Significant engagement has boosted awareness and acceptance of the AWS, while Emergency WA cements its place as WA's trusted, official source for emergency information. This project has delivered faster and more accurate warnings, empowering people to make life-saving decisions when it counts.

The process in defining the evaluation of aged accommodation to support seniors to age in place
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

In 2024, DPIRD led a consultative evaluation to assess whether regional housing investments supported seniors to age in place. The process began with a department-wide prioritisation framework and continued through collaboration with shires, Regional Development Commissions, Country Health, and senior residents.

The evaluation examined three major programs across six regions and engaged 76 stakeholders. It identified critical success factors for delivering affordable, accessible aged accommodation and informed future investment decisions.

The Tenancy Advice and Education Services (TAES) Program
Circle Green Community Legal; Fremantle Community Legal Centre; Goldfields Community Legal Centre; Great Southern Community Legal Services; Kimberley Community Legal Services; Midlas; Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre; Peel Community Legal Services; Pilbara Community Legal Services; Redgum Justice; Regional Alliance West; SCALES Community Legal Centre; South West Community Legal Centre; Sussex Street Community Legal Services; Welfare Rights and Advocacy Service; Wheatbelt Community Legal Centre



The Tenancy Advice and Education Services (TAES) Program provides accessible advice, education, and advocacy services to the 700,000+ West Australians who rent their homes – services which, in the current housing crisis, have never been more vital. Operating through a coordinated hub-and-spoke model, the TAES Program combines local expertise with centralised support to ensure tenants can access free, independent support to uphold their rights and maintain secure housing.

Third Party Certified Integrated Management System
Main Roads

The Quality Management Team at Main ROads have undertaken an intensive and strategic effort to review and improve Main Roads' Third Party Certified Integrated Management System (IMS). Their dedication and enhancements to Main Roads' systems and procedures culminated in a strong endorsement from the auditor, who recommended recertification and commended the agency's exceptional commitment to continuous improvement and operational excellence.

The team have been approached by PTA, Westport and other Transport Portfolio agencies for guidance, documentation, and support in their agency's endeavours to implement a Quality Management System.

Threading Success: A strategic program to preserve a critical service
South Metropolitan Health Service

The South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) successfully extended a critical hospital linen supply contract, achieving over $30M in savings for WA Health. Facing an immature market and a failed procurement process, SMHS negotiated a five-year extension with the incumbent vendor, maintaining pricing while implementing enhanced KPIs, site-specific requirements, and improved reporting. This strategic pivot ensured service continuity and enhanced operational efficiencies.

Through robust stakeholder engagement and co-design, SMHS delivered value for money, transparency, and high-quality outcomes, aligning with government objectives and reinforcing public confidence in WA's health sector.

2025 IPAA WA ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
ORGANISATIONAL AWARDS' NOMINEES

Thriving Families

Department of Health; Ngala; Women and Newborn Health Service; Child and Adolescent Health Service

A partnership between Ngala and the Department of Health, Thriving Families is a two-year pilot program that provides community-based, clinically led developmental, behavioural, and parenting interventions for families who are considered at risk and/or vulnerable and who would not otherwise be able to access Ngala's services due to financial and referral pathway barriers.

Thriving Families provides support for families who are seeking parenting support and/or have concerns for themselves or their babies that do not require acute health system treatments.

Thriving in Motion

Thriving in Motion



Thriving in Motion improves health outcomes for vulnerable young people through inclusive, evidence-based exercise programs, education courses and research. In 2024, Thriving delivered over 6,400 hours of services to 900+ participants across 33 locations, empowering young people living with disability, complex health conditions, neurodivergence, mental health challenges, and social disadvantage. Grounded in research and community collaboration, Thriving's programs build confidence, wellbeing, and physical literacy. Supported by strong leadership, robust governance, Thriving delivers scalable impact while fostering staff excellence and continuous improvement. Our innovative, person-first approach fills a critical service gap, setting a benchmark in inclusive health promotion and youth engagement.

WA Digital Inclusion Project

Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS)



The WA Digital Inclusion Project is transforming communities by addressing the digital divide through a strategic focus on Access, Ability, and Affordability. This cross-sector initiative partners with government agencies and community service organisations, including housing, disability, aged care, multicultural, youth, and Aboriginal community-controlled services, to reach those most at risk of digital exclusion. By building digital confidence and capability, the project empowers individuals to participate fully in an increasingly digital society. Its community-led model demonstrates best practice in digital transformation. The project is led by WACOSS and funded by Lotterywest.

WA Health Data Platform

Health Support Services, Department of Health



The WA Health Data Platform (WA HDP) is a foundational digital transformation initiative modernising the way data is managed, governed, and shared across the Western Australian public health system. It delivers a secure, scalable enterprise data platform that provides structured, governed, and interoperable data to support clinical care, operational efficiency, research, and system-wide decision-making.

The WA HDP reshapes how data is accessed, governed, and used across the WA public health system. It reduces duplication and modernises infrastructure. HDP supports enhanced service delivery by enabling timely, trusted access to real-time data that underpins frontline decision-making across the WA health system.

WA Vegetation Extent (WAVE) Pilot: Pilbara Vegetation Surveys

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions ; Terrestrial Ecosystems Research Network Australia



The WA Vegetation Extent (WAVE) Pilot is an innovative project led by The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, using AI to map and monitor vegetation in WA. In need of high-quality ground-data to verify AI results, WAVE partnered with TERN to conduct vegetation surveys in collaboration with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Pastoralists, and Traditional Owners. The survey project fosters engagement, enhances long-term ecological monitoring capacity, and builds on publicly accessible datasets that benefit diverse stakeholders.

WA Virtual Emergency Department

WA Virtual Emergency Department, State Health Operations Centre; St John WA



The WA Virtual Emergency Department (WAVED) connects patients with experienced emergency clinicians for virtual medical assessments and referrals to the care they need in the community, at home, or hospital rather than waiting in an emergency department (ED). By providing clinically appropriate alternative care options, WAVED eases system pressures by reducing the use of ambulances and EDs without compromising care. WAVED falls within the State Health Operations Centre (SHOC), a state-of-the-art, multi-agency hub designed to enhance emergency care coordination across WA. WAVED works towards achieving SHOC's mission of delivering the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

Wadjemup Wirin Bidi

Rottnest Island Authority & Wadjemup Wirin Bidi



Wadjemup Wirin Bidi was a Cultural Ceremony for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to gather together to facilitate healing and commemorate all those affected by the incarceration of Aboriginal men and boys on Wadjemup. It was a key milestone of the Aboriginal-led Wadjemup Project, facilitated by Rottnest Island Authority (RIA) and supported by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. RIA worked closely with the Wadjemup Project Steering Group and Aboriginal people to facilitate large-scale, statewide consultation and implement the week-long ceremonial event in November 2024.

Western Australia Wastewater Surveillance Program

Communicable Disease Control Directorate and Environmental Health (WA Department of Health), PathWest, Water Corporation, Boorloo Public Health Unit (North Metropolitan Health Service) and WA Country Health Service (WACHS)



WA was the first jurisdiction in Australia to develop and implement wastewater-based genomic sequencing for SARS-CoV-2 variants during the COVID-19 pandemic. This allowed the detection of emerging strains—such as Omicron sub-lineages—before widespread clinical confirmation. The WA wastewater surveillance program has since expanded to include influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and other reemerging pathogens and emerging pathogens such as poliovirus, measles, Japanese encephalitis virus and monkeypox virus.

This project has been nominated for two different awards.

2025 IPAA WA ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
ORGANISATIONAL AWARDS' NOMINEES

Wilman Wadandi Highway Local Content Program

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development; Main Roads Western Australia

The Wilman Wadandi local content program is the collaboration between the MRWA and DPIRD's Local Content Adviser Network to deliver WA's first local content inter-agency model through a large-scale infrastructure project.

The program concluded in 2025 and is now widely recognised as a key contributor to South West region's economy. These include total spending of $628.4 million through South West suppliers, representing 51% of construction costs. Spending through Aboriginal business suppliers reached $61.7 million.

Workplace Respect Project

Circle Green Community Legal

The Workplace Respect Project is a bold, state-wide initiative led by Circle Green Community Legal, that has achieved outstanding outcomes through innovation and innovative strategies to tackle the structural and cultural drivers of workplace sexual harassment.

The Workplace Respect Project has helped to reduce stigma, promote help-seeking, and shifted social norms relating to sexual harassment at the workplace. It reflects best practice as outlined in Respect@Work, Change the Story, and World Health Organisation's public health framework—recognising that lasting change requires coordinated action across all levels. It is a leading example of innovation in community legal service design.

Youth Moves

Thriving in Motion



Thriving in Motion's Youth Moves program champions LGBTQIA+ inclusion (specifically trans and gender diverse young folk) through gender-affirming physical activity for at-risk youth aged 15–25. Co-designed with LGBTQIA+ young people, families, and partners like TransFolk WA and PICYS, it fosters safe, empowering spaces for movement.

Supported by inclusive policies, LGBTQIA+ and ally staff, and our Inclusive Movement Practices course, the program builds lasting impact. With 100% of participants feeling safe and 98% motivated to return, Youth Moves is a proven, community-led model promoting wellbeing, inclusion, and physical literacy for LGBTQIA+ youth.

NOMINATE FOR THE 2026 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

THE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS RECOGNISE INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Current Individual and Corporate members of the Institute of Public Administration Australia WA (IPAA WA) can nominate any individual or organisation per the nomination criteria.

These Awards are open to any employee or organisation working in the Western Australian public service including: Local, State, or Federal Government, the Not-for-Profit and Academic sectors.

Nominating provides you with the opportunity to:

> Showcase a project, initiative, program or organisation that has contributed significantly to the public service or broader community

> Recognise outstanding individual performance

> Celebrate your team's achievements

> Highlight your commitment to best practice in public service in WA

> Increase awareness of 'best practice' across the public service and the broader community.

HOW TO NOMINATE

1. Choose the Award Category you wish to enter
2. Download and complete the Award Assessment Criteria (from the Award Category page)
3. Upload the completed Assessment Criteria with a brief summary statement to the Online Entry Form

MORE INFORMATION

Nominations will open in early 2026.
Visit www.wa.ipaa.org.au/event/achievement-awards/ or email awards@ipaawa.org.au for more information.

IPAA WA is very grateful to all the sponsors of the Achievement Awards and members who have nominated. Without their commitment to public administration, these awards would not be possible.



2026 IPAA WA Young Professionals Conference

APRIL
30

Each year the IPAA WA Public Service Young Professionals Conference provides a platform to discuss the important issues affecting young professionals and those who are early in their journey serving citizens.

The theme and program are developed by the IPAA WA Young Professional Committee, and features a provide its trademark diverse range of relevant perspectives. They have developed it for their fellow young professionals who are working every day serving citizens across this vast state.

The Committee is drawn from across all areas of public service, with members working across local, state, and commonwealth government and the community sector in Western Australia. Whether you are a graduate, early or mid-career YP, the conference will help you navigate the journey of a professional career serving citizens.

Registrations are open. Scan the QR below for more details.



How to Receive Feedback and Flourish

This practical workshop focuses on the skills needed for receiving feedback effectively. You will learn how to approach feedback in a way that promotes personal growth, strengthens relationships, and improves performance.

You will learn how to recognise typical reactions to feedback, shift them towards constructive engagement, and turn every piece of feedback into a valuable opportunity. The course includes practical exercises and a set of notes for you to refer to after the course.



AI in Action: Navigating the Future of AI in the Workplace

This practical course is designed to equip participants with the tools and knowledge to effectively use artificial intelligence in modern work settings. Suitable for all experience levels, it covers key concepts such as generative AI, machine learning, and natural language processing.

Through case studies and group discussions, participants explore how AI can enhance productivity, support decision-making, and complement human strengths.



The Neurodiversity Advantage: Supporting, Harnessing, and Leading Neurodivergent Talent

This practical workshop equips participants with the skills to support, lead, and advocate for neurodivergent individuals in the workplace. Through research, lived experience, and hands-on activities, participants learn to challenge biases, understand common neurodivergent conditions, and implement inclusive, neuro-affirming practices.

The course highlights the strengths neurodivergent people bring—such as innovation and creativity—and aligns with relevant legal and departmental frameworks.



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