

Stronger Places, Stronger People (SPSP) National Leadership Group (NLG) - Communique – June 2025

The *Stronger Places, Stronger People* (SPSP) National Leadership Group (NLG) met in Canberra and virtually, on Thursday 26 June 2025.

The SPSP National Leadership Group held its second meeting for 2025 in Canberra at the Department of Social Services, Enid Lyons Building as well as virtually. This meeting was the 21st meeting of NLG since it commenced in 2020.

Members discussed the role and purpose of the NLG focussing on the following key themes:

- The purpose/role of the NLG
- Role of PLACE and other placed-based governance bodies
- SPSP Evaluation
- Importance of community
- Jurisdictional involvement

Ms Deanna Hutchinson from Burnie Works provided insights into the connection between the Stronger Places Alliance (SPA) and NLG and how that connection can strengthen through collaboration and communication.

Members welcomed Mr Michael Lye, Secretary of Department of Social Services, where he provided an update on what government expects from place-based work and the role NLG can play in supporting that approach and commitment.

Professor Tim Reddel from the Institute for Social Science Research at the University of Queensland and Mr Rodney Greene, Practice Lead, Collaboration for Impact, provided members with an update on consultations with communities and stakeholders regarding the SPSP enhanced model development. Members agreed to provide feedback on the deliverables that had been developed as well as reporting templates.

The Group also participated in a plenary discussion which had a strong focus on defining the role of NLG over the next 5 years.

Members agreed the next meeting will be held in September 2025.