

SPSP National Leadership Group Communiqué – 27 June 2023

The *Stronger Places, Stronger People* (SPSP) National Leadership Group met in Bourke and virtually on 27 June 2023.

The National Leadership Group (NLG) held its June meeting in Bourke, NSW, at the invitation of Maranguka Ltd and the Bourke Tribal Council. The NLG meeting in Bourke was part of the Group's second SPSP community visit.

Early in the meeting, a Collaboration Agreement was jointly signed between Maranguka Ltd and the New South Wales Office of the Children's Guardian, which will ensure appropriate support is provided to Aboriginal community members from Bourke at key stages of the Working with Children Check process.

The Group thanked Mr Alister Ferguson and Maranguka for hosting the meeting and community visit. A spotlight session on Maranguka provided an opportunity for Mr Ferguson to talk about the partnership journey that has positioned Maranguka well for systems transformation. The endorsement from the NSW Secretaries Board of the Maranguka Principles and the practical approaches and learnings enabled through Maranguka's *Growing our Kids up Safe, Smart and Strong* strategy were also noted. The Chair congratulated Maranguka on their demonstrated results in reducing youth crime and as recent runners up in the data category of the Australian Not-for-profit Technology Awards.

The Department of Social Services provided a brief update on the outcomes of the 2023-24 Budget and the Targeting Entrenched Disadvantage (TED) package, which included the extension and enhancement of funding for the SPSP initiative to 30 June 2029.

SPSP Backbone leaders updated the Group on their forming of an alliance and the development of a work plan to progress shared actions. This will include developing a practice framework for the Collective Impact work of Backbone teams. They are providing input to the work of the Foundation Partner and are also interested in helping to shape and implement the TED measures. Backbone leaders acknowledged the benefits of the SPSP leadership and learning program, including from the recent Annual Learning Event co-hosted in Eagleby, Queensland, with Logan Together.

Discussion included a session on the work being progressed by the Shared Decision-Making Working Group (comprising NLG members and SPSP Backbone leads) in the context of the extension and enhancement of the SPSP initiative. This includes a framework that will embed a phased approach to implementing shared decision-making, helping to build and ensure readiness.

The Foundation Partner for a potential National Centre for Place-Based Collaboration (Nexus Centre) provided a brief update to the Group, presenting key progress since the February meeting. NLG members were invited to continue conversations with the Foundation Partner.

The Group agreed to the next meeting being held on 1 August 2023 and expressed its thanks to the Bourke Tribal Council and Maranguka for hosting the community visit and meeting.

End.