# NSW Police Force ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

**COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE** 

**OUR VISION:** "A workforce that encourages opportunities and enhances participation of Aboriginal people" Assistant Commissioner Carlene York APM, Commander Human Resources

# **PURPOSE**

The Aboriginal Employment Strategy will facilitate the recruitment, retention and career development opportunities of Aboriginal people in the NSW Police Force. **OBJECTIVES** 

- Promote the NSW Police Force as an employer of choice and develop a group of potential recruits through pre-employment programs.
- Guide NSW Police Force to meet its commitment to Aboriginal employment.
- The recruitment of Aboriginal people will continue to be a priority for NSW Police Force.
- Identify and address barriers that may impact on the retention of Aboriginal employees, including access to career development opportunities.

## **STAKEHOLDER ISSUES**

- NSW government agencies are required to develop Aboriginal employment strategies to ensure achievement of targets.
- NSW Police Force' commitment is to employ 1000 Aboriginal people over ten years through an Aboriginal Employment Covenant with Generation One.
- NSW Police Force is working in partnership with TAFENSW, Charles Sturt University and the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet (DPMC) to deliver the Indigenous Police Recruitment Our Way Delivery program (IPROWD) to prepare Aboriginal people for further education and employment.

# **RISK/CHALLENGES/OPPORTUNITIES**

- NSW Police Force capacity to attract 1000 Aboriginal people to meet our employment target.
- Recruitment procedures do not directly or indirectly disadvantage Aboriginal people.
- Pre-employment programs that prepare Aboriginal people for further education or employment are integral to the success of our Aboriginal employment plan.
- Retention of Aboriginal employees through the provision of support, career development and education initiatives.
- Increase knowledge, commitment and accountability of Managers / supervisors and employees for Aboriginal employment.



The NSW Police Force remains committed to employing Aboriginal people across all Commands and from 2012 we set ourselves a goal of 1,000 new Aboriginal employees over the next ten years.

Our current pre-employment partnerships have generated much interest and participation from job seekers and the broader Aboriginal community. The pathway to employment from these partnerships is gaining momentum and I am encouraged by this positive impact. In the longer term, attracting Aboriginal people from a range of backgrounds into policing, including both younger and mature age people, is key to

meeting our 10 year goal.

Increased Aboriginal employment within the NSW Police Force improves the participation of Aboriginal people across a range of policing issues and builds community relationships, cooperation and trust. Both our organisation and our Aboriginal communities benefit in a range of ways from a greater understanding by police of Aboriginal issues.

The Aboriginal Employment Strategy 2015 - 2019 reinforces the efforts required to meet our goal of 1,000 new Aboriginal employees and encourages the retention of our existing Aboriginal workforce through the provision of support, career development and education. I encourage you to promote its values at all levels of the organisation.

Mick Fuller APM

#### Commissioner of Police

## **CORPORATE SPONSORS MESSAGE**



"In my years in policing in NSW, including working in the Western Region of the State, I have become aware the issues facing NSW Police Force in recruiting, training, and retaining Aboriginal staff. I am also aware of the issues facing NSW Police Force in working with Aboriginal communities". The NSW Police Force Aboriginal Employment Strategy (AES) takes a long term strategic approach to these issues including providing career opportunities for people in Aboriginal communities who have been disadvantaged, designing appropriate Aboriginal recruitment strategies, training (and support through the training program), and support in retaining those staff by offering opportunities for up skilling and advancement.

"As Corporate Sponsor for Aboriginal Issues I am aware of a number of excellent NSW Police Force initiatives that have or are currently operating across New South Wales, to promote NSWPF as an employer of choice for Aboriginal people and to further build relationships between NSWPF and the Aboriginal community, particularly programs looking at increasing the levels of Aboriginal employment within NSW Police Force."

#### Geoff McKechnie APM

Commander, Western Region

Corporate Plan objectives	How we will achieve (Strategies)		Target
	Pre-recruitment - Promote NSW Police Force as an employer of choice and develop a group of potential recruits through pre	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders Employees	≥ 4%
Advance the professionalisation of	employment programs	Number of recruitment forums and open days held annually	6
A respectful, equitable and diverse workforce reflective of our community	Increase the number of Aboriginal people seeking employment with NSW Police Force as sworn and unsworn employees <ul> <li>Facilitate and participate in career days [AEPU, PA, PRB, Placement Services]</li> </ul>	Back to Country Program implemented	September 2015
• Promote a respectful, harassment free	Engage educational institutions to promote NSW Police Force as an employer of choice [AEPU, PRB, Youth Command, Commands]     Promote pre recruitment programs and employment opportunities to Aboriginal communities.	Number of Aboriginal employees participating in Back to	40
workplace	<ul> <li>Provide Aboriginal Recruitment Forums and Open Days at key NSW Police Force facilities and to Aboriginal communities across NSW [AEPU, PRB]</li> </ul>	Country Program	
Actively encourage workforce diversity	<ul> <li>Establish a Back to Country program for existing Aboriginal employees to promote employment in their home community [AEPU, PRB, Commanders, Managers, Aboriginal employees]</li> </ul>	Implement trial of schools based programs	February 2016
	Establish education partnerships that prepare Aboriginal people for employment with NSW Police Force.  • Continue to deliver the IPROWD program across NSWPF Commands [AEPU, Commanders, IPROWD Steering Committee / TAFE Western Institute, Aboriginal employees]	Evaluation report of schools based programs completed	February 2018
Right people, right place, right time	<ul> <li>Explore the implementation of schools based programs / partnerships targeting Aboriginal students in Years 11 and 12 as a transition to employment with NSWPF [AEPU, Department of Education &amp; Communities - TAFE Western Institute]</li> </ul>	IPROWD implemented across various NSWPF Commands	2015
Ensure recruitment and retention	Identify additional partnerships that prepare Aboriginal people for employment <ul> <li>Research pre-recruitment programs and initiatives to identify additional opportunities to prepare Aboriginal people for employment</li> </ul>	Number of Aboriginal graduate placements	2 p.a.
strategies to address emerging workforce issues	[AEPU]	Number of work experience placements filled	5 p.a.
Build an evidence based workforce     allocation model	Recruitment - Assist the NSW Police Force meet its commitment to increase Aboriginal employment participation	Enhancements made to the selection process and communicated to managers	November 2015
Balance workplace flexibility with	Improve the success rate of Aboriginal applicants <ul> <li>Review and implement changes to the selection processes for both sworn and unsworn employees to ensure that it does not</li> </ul>	Number of traineeships filled	5 p.a.
organisational capacity	<ul> <li>indirectly or directly disadvantage Aboriginal applicants [WR&amp;S, AEPU, ET&amp;C, PRB]</li> <li>Provide information sessions to Aboriginal people applying for targeted or identified positions [AEPU / ACT for ACLOs, LAMs, Managers]</li> </ul>	Number of Aboriginal cadetships offered as GASOs or other entry level positions	10 p.a.
	Create entry level employment pathways that build workplace capabilities for Aboriginal applicants [All Commanders, Managers, AEPU]	Number of Aboriginal targeted positions filled	#
Advance the professionalisation of	Increase the representation of Aboriginal women within NSW Police Force [AEPU, WRS, PRB]	Increase the percentage of Aboriginal women	4%
policing	Retention of Aboriginal Staff – Identify and address barriers that may impact upon the retention of Aboriginal employees	Aboriginal employees mentoring program implemented	October 2015
Ensure recruitment and retention strategies to address emerging workforce issues	<ul> <li>Ensure induction is conducted for new employees [Commanders, LAMs, Managers, EDOs where relevant]</li> <li>Develop a mentoring program and conduct regular reviews [ET&amp;C, AEPU]</li> </ul>	Number of Aboriginal employees provided FTAO training	10 p.a.
Build an evidence based workforce	<ul> <li>Support our Aboriginal employees</li> <li>Promote the Peer Support program - encourage and train Aboriginal employees to become Peer Support Officers [WS, AEPU, Commanders, LAMs, Managers, EDOs]</li> </ul>	Number of trained Aboriginal peer support officers	10 p.a.
Balance workplace flexibility with	Ensure education or other support measures are in place to maximise the number of Aboriginal probationary constables who are confirmed [ET&C Field Support Unit Transfers and Secondments Unit AEPU]	Each region to hold a minimum of two AEN meetings annually	2 p.a.



# 2015-2019



	Balance workplace flexibility with     organisational capacity	<ul> <li>Confirmed (ET&amp;C Field Support Ont, Transfers and Secondments Ont, AEPO]</li> <li>Ensure education or other support measures are provided for all Aboriginal employees which includes on the job training, job rotation, secondment and shadowing opportunities [ETC, Commanders, Managers, LAMs, RTCs, EDOs, AEPU]</li> <li>Encourage Aboriginal sworn officers to be trained as Field Training and Assessment Officers (FTAO) to support Aboriginal probationary constables [ET&amp;C Field Support Unit, AEPU, EDOs]</li> <li>Maintain and promote the Aboriginal Employees Network (AEN) [AEPU, Aboriginal employees, Commanders, LAMs, Managers]</li> <li>Enhance cultural resilience of Aboriginal employees through training [AEPU, ACT, ETC, Commanders, Managers, EDOs, PA, WM]</li> <li>Encourage nomination of Aboriginal employees for awards [Commanders, Managers as appropriate]</li> </ul>	Number of Aboriginal employees trained in cultural resilience Aboriginal probationary constables confirmed Aboriginal employees are nominated for and receiving Awards	50% 80% Recipients promoted in Police Monthly
Our Systems	Improved service design and delivery Innovative and effective information, communications, science and technology	<ul> <li>Develop a sound information base         <ul> <li>Ensure EEO recording on SAP to new and existing Aboriginal employees is promoted in the induction process [AEPU, Commanders, LAMs, Managers]</li> <li>Analyse exit survey data for Aboriginal employees exiting NSW Police Force to identify trends and opportunities to increase retention [WR&amp;S, AEPU]</li> <li>Develop an appropriate workforce data set to inform recruitment and retention strategies [WR&amp;S]</li> <li>Monitor Aboriginal employees attaining higher grades / ranks for comparison with non-Aboriginal employees (in ratio with population in workforce) [WR&amp;S]</li> </ul> </li> <li>Develop Aboriginal specific on line training modules         <ul> <li>Develop training for non-Aboriginal selection committee members, supervisors of Aboriginal employees, Field Training &amp; Assessment Officers and Education Development Officers [ET&amp;C, AEPU, ACT]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Analysis and reporting of exit survey data for Aboriginal employees Workforce data set is established and utilised Aboriginal employees progressing through ranks and/or grades Online training developed and completion recorded on SAP	Quarterly December 2015 4% October 2015
Leadership	Enhanced leadership, management and supervisory capabilities Reinforced supportive leadership Increased senior management diversity Clear direction, sound governance and transparent accountability	<ul> <li>Encourage Aboriginal employee participation in professional development for career advancement</li> <li>Promote the Public Sector Management Program (PSMP) to encourage Aboriginal employee participation [AEPU, ET&amp;C, EDOs]</li> <li>Establish an Executive Shadowing Program for Aboriginal employees at Clerk Grade 9/10 and Sergeant level [ET&amp;C, EDOs, Commanders &amp; Managers]</li> <li>Aboriginal Employment Strategy objectives and achievements are promoted and reported         <ul> <li>Actively promote and recognise the Aboriginal Employment Strategy [AEPU, All Commands]</li> <li>Establish regular reporting for the Aboriginal Employment Strategy using COMPASS [AEPU, PIP, All Commands]</li> </ul> </li> <li>Increase knowledge, commitment and accountability of Commanders / Managers for Aboriginal employment</li> <li>Promote the Aboriginal Employment Strategy to key senior management forums [AEPU]</li> </ul>	Number of Aboriginal employees participating in the PSMP         Number of Aboriginal employees at Clerk Grade 9/10 and         Sergeant level participating in the Executive Shadowing         program         Aboriginal Employment Strategy is promoted across NSWPF         and is uploaded onto the intranet         Aboriginal Employment Strategy reported in COMPASS	Quarterly
		- Fromote the Abongmar Employment Strategy to key senior management forums [AEPO]	Number of Senior Management Forums attended	100%