

Mr Romlie Mokak
Commissioner
Productivity Commission

23 August 2019

Dear Mr Mokak,

Re: Indigenous Evaluation Strategy

On behalf of the *Indigenous engagement and leadership in the evaluation of Indigenous health and wellbeing programs: Taking steps to improve government and non-government commissioning practices* research team, please accept this submission to the Indigenous Evaluation Strategy. The project is also known as *Commissioning Stronger Evaluations of Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Programs*.

The project aims to identify how government (i.e., federal, state/ territory) and non-government (e.g., not-for-profit, corporate) commissioning practices can better support Indigenous engagement and leadership in the evaluation of health and wellbeing programs in Australia. The research project commenced in April 2019 and is in the very early stages. As such, our submission is the project brief. The brief outlines the background to the project aim, objective and details of the research phases.

We appreciate that there will be some overlap between our project and the Indigenous Evaluation Strategy; specifically, when and how to engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the evaluations to ensure the findings are of benefit to communities and organisations. We recognise that our timeline does not align with the development of the Indigenous Evaluation Strategy; however, we would be pleased to meet with you to discuss the findings as they emerge.

We look forward to engaging with you over the course of the development of the Strategy.

Warm regards,

Associate Professor Margaret Cargo
Faculty of Health
University of Canberra

Attachments:

- A. Project Brief: Commissioning Stronger Evaluations of Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Programs