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To improve economic participation outcomes for Noongar people in the South West the State will apply and promote the following principles:

f **gag** people and businesses are a valued part of the local and regional economy particularly in the South West.

f **gag** to ensure Noongar businesses and corporations are provided with information regarding Government contracting and tendering opportunities.

f **A thnto p b** and appropriate structures.

The State will apply these principles in partnership and consultation with the Noongar Economic Participation Steering Group.

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A Noongar Economic Participation Steering Group will be established to oversee implementation of this Framework.

The Group will consist of Senior Government Representatives from agencies that may include:

- Department of the Premier and Cabinet;

- evaluation tools.

It is anticipated the initial Terms of Reference for the Noongar Economic Participation Steering Group would include:

- f* Facilitate early engagement with Noongar representatives on government land use and development activities planned in the South West;
- f* Identify opportunities for greater Noongar participation in South West development, including specific employment, contracting and investment opportunities, upcoming projects and tenders;
- f* Build the capacity and facilitate the ability of Noongar interests to take advantage of those opportunities and provide Noongar businesses with a strategic opportunity to plan for involvement in land and other development; and
- f* Ensure government Aboriginal training and education programs are responsive to local Noongar community needs and priorities to increase Noongar employment.

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- f* Intensive capacity building in year one of the implementation of the Settlement, and ongoing support thereafter, in government tendering and contracting policies as well as the development and submission of tender documentation;
- f* Promote early engagement between State Government agencies through Early Tender Advice for all Noongar businesses registered with Tenders WA;
- f* Exemption from competitive tendering processes that allows for the direct engagement of a registered Noongar business for works, goods and services procurements valued at less than

- ¾ How to get pre-qualification status;
- ¾ Establishing new businesses;

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provide a basis on which to review and evaluate the progress and impact of the Framework across the South West.

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The Tenders WA website is a central portal for all Government tender processes. This website

Noongar membership on tender evaluation panels will support the development of knowledge of the tendering process as well as an understanding of successful tendering in the Government sector which can be applied across the corporate/non-Government sectors.

Tenders are evaluated in isolation and therefore no rolling membership would occur. Where a tender is released to market and it is appropriate to include a Noongar representative on the panel as a non-voting member of the panel, a government agency would make contact. The Department of Finance, through the Funding and Contracting Services Unit have offered to provide training sessions as to how evaluation processes are undertaken to provide knowledge for the Noongar community to be familiar with the processes before undertaking such obligations. Noongar representatives would not be permitted to vote as non-public servants cannot be held accountable for the spending of public funds. However, a Noongar representative may have technical advice that will value add to the procurement evaluation process that assists with the value for money assessment.

The knowledge gained by being part of these processes will assist the Noongar community to structure tender submissions in a meaningful and competitive way, therefore capacity building Noongar business' ability to extend competitiveness for government contracts and become aware of existing Policy preferences.