



20 September 2019

Dr Matthew Butlin
Chair, SA Productivity Commission
GPO Box 2343
Adelaide SA 5000
sapc@sa.gov.au

Dear Dr Butlin,

**Tutti Arts Submission
Response to Inquiry into Government Procurement Stage 2
Draft Report, 30 August 2019**

Tutti Arts is a socially inclusive, full-time South Australian NFP multi-arts hub for people with a disability and for members of the wider community. Tutti means 'everyone', and Tutti Arts works across many art forms to promote the professional and social development of artists with a learning or intellectual disability.

Tutti's vision: Taking the work of disabled artists to the World

Tutti's submission relates mainly to the procurement of services, with a particular emphasis on services which are capable of delivering strong social outcomes. We have noted references in the Stage 2 Draft Report (page 103) to 'social procurement' as it applies in other states, and as it might apply to infrastructure. We were disappointed that the government response (undated) to the Stage 1 Report made little or no mention of this. Based on our own experiences in providing human services including arts and educational programs, examples of which are set out in the appendix to this submission, we feel very strongly that the social outcomes relating to construction, infrastructure, goods and services are critically important and request that government place greater priority on social outcomes in all areas of its procurement.

Tutti is highly supportive of the establishment of a Social Procurement Framework which will ensure that all areas of procurement (infrastructure, goods and services) place adequate emphasis on the need to set and meet social objectives, in addition to economic and environmental objectives. Part of the Framework will involve the identification of suitable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which will enable service providers to measure their performance and demonstrate the delivery of social benefits and value.

To date, Tutti's own service provision has predominantly been to individuals who have applied to participate in Tutti's artistic programs on a fee-paying basis – both privately funded, and more recently through NDIS funding. In the future, due to the successes it has achieved throughout its 22-year history, and the experience and expertise within the organisation, Tutti will be well placed to deliver arts, educational and other services (particularly for people living with disability) procured both by government and by non-government enterprises. Tutti's services are holistic, going beyond technical arts skills development to include social, behavioural and life skills that equip participants with self-confidence and a sense of purpose and well-being. Participants invariably experience artistic success, have become better adjusted socially, and are well integrated within our society.

Tutti's mission: Making great art and influencing social change

Tutti's arts programs are conducted by professional artists who are experienced in working with people living with disability. The programs include:

- Weekday arts programs for adults in Film & New Media, Music, Performing Arts and Visual Arts.
- A Kids & Youth program for children and young people aged 6+ during school term.
- Singing opportunities in five community choral groups, including the renowned Tutti Choir, in which more than half of the singers identify with a disability.
- Incubation support for three disability-led initiatives (details provided in the appendix)
- International collaborations in Indonesia, Malaysia, UK, USA.

Based at Brighton, Tutti also has outreach programs in Port Adelaide, Tanunda and Nuriootpa. Overall, more than 350 people participate in Tutti's programs every week. Tutti Arts is a registered National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provider and we have an increasing number of people who choose Tutti as one of their main providers. Demand for our services is predicted to increase 70% in the next 3 years.

Tutti is guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Social Model of Disability – removing barriers that disable and exclude. Tutti is a member of Arts Access Australia, accredited under the Australian Services Excellence Standards and supported by Arts South Australia.

The quality of Tutti Artists' work has been recognised through awards, development grants, and invitations for artistic works to be presented to local, national and international audiences. In 2017, Tutti Arts was proud to win Arts South Australia's Ruby Award for Sustained Contribution by an Organisation or Group.

In the near future, SA's ageing population will require additional services to combat conditions such as loneliness, cognitive impairment and dementia. The demand for music and other arts-based activities and services will likely increase and social procurement of these services by government will become increasingly prevalent. It is vital that government establish a Social Procurement Framework. As part of this, government will need to identify KPIs that measure the social benefits derived by service recipients so that the effectiveness and efficiency of these services can be determined. In turn, these KPIs will assist service providers in tailoring their programs to better meet the social and community needs of older South Australians and others with special needs. We commend the Social Procurement Framework developed in Victoria, and similar initiatives elsewhere in Australia, as a useful starting point.

The SA government will have responsibility for the procurement of many of the services that give real meaning and purpose to the lives of South Australians, especially those who are older, disadvantaged, frail or living with disability. Aside from the obvious services associated with care, transport and accommodation, services associated with the purpose and quality of life will undoubtedly become more common and important, and their intended outcomes will be far more social in nature.

A number of these emerging services will be capable of being delivered by Tutti and other NFP providers of (arts) services in South Australia. This aligns with the 3rd of the three themes identified by government (page 3 of the response to the Stage 1 Report) "Procuring Services from the Not-For-Profit sector". Building on the current suite of creative arts programs, these services and activities could include respite, music therapy, and arts-based socialising activities. However, if they are to be effective, it is important that the aims of these services be clearly articulated and that there be appropriate associated KPIs and social benefit clauses.

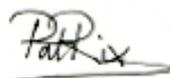
While economic factors are often the main consideration when procuring goods and services, and perhaps the most easily measured, governments need to recognise that most infrastructure, goods and services are people-oriented, intended to deliver social benefits to both the individual recipients and the community. We urge the government to develop and give effect to a clear, strong and purposeful Social Procurement Framework that will be applicable to all areas of government procurement.

Tutti Arts would welcome the opportunity to participate in discussions related to the development of a South Australian Social Procurement Framework.

Yours sincerely



Prof Andrew Downing CPEng
President



Pat Rix
CEO

Please refer to next pages for **examples of social outcomes from services delivered by Tutti Arts**

Appendix

Representative examples of social outcomes from services delivered by Tutti Arts

Through its programs, Tutti delivers a range of creative arts, education and personal development services that have had significant social impact on individuals and on society through artists' work, exhibitions, installations and performances. The examples listed below are just the tip of a large iceberg.

While Tutti's primary role is to provide a safe and supportive professional environment for emerging artists to create great art, a secondary but equally important role has been to help artists develop a wide range of social and living skills which allow them to live fuller lives more independently with confidence and joy.

- **Disability-led initiatives auspiced by Tutti**

Tutti is an incubator and support network for three disability-led collectives and several individual emerging visual artists, helping them to realise their artistic vision. All have evolved from participants in Tutti's programs. While Tutti assists in the general management and administration of these collectives, each is responsible for setting its key artistic directions and decision-making.

- ***Sit Down Shutup and Watch*** - a biennial international film and new media festival led by people with a learning disability. The 3rd festival, at Angaston in 2018, attracted over 300 submissions of short films from around the globe which had been scripted, produced or acted by persons with a disability.
- ***The Sisters of Invention*** - an extraordinary, all-original female vocal group living with learning disability who have performed nationally
- ***Company AT autistic theatre*** - an innovative theatre ensemble producing work informed by the experience of autism. Their performances have enhanced community understanding of autism and the issues faced by persons on the spectrum.

- **Empowerment of individuals**

- One Tutti participant with a learning disability has taken part in a popular ABC night-time radio show every Tuesday for the past 11 years and endeared both himself and Tutti to a large listening audience.
- Twenty six women artists living with disability from Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia came together in each country in the multicultural production ***Say No More*** to share poignant, deeply personal stories. They each described their own challenging life experiences including discrimination based on disability, gender or religion; control and disrespect; restricted opportunity; domestic violence and difficult family relationships. The show also highlighted a brighter, positive side, with the setting, art installation and performance illustrating the participants' achievements and triumphs over adversity through multiple art forms – music, movement, singing, audience engagement, visual arts and digital arts.
- Disturbingly, several artists had completed their schooling unable to read or write. Working one-on-one with Tutti's volunteer teachers, these artists can now read and write, enhancing their self-esteem and their ability to both participate in and author new artistic works.
- An indigenous Tutti artist living with disability has recently embarked on educational activities with young indigenous children
- Most participants are living at home when they commence at Tutti. Since then, many have experienced strong personal growth and developed their interpersonal and social skills to the extent that they now live away from home, often in shared housing with other artists.
- Tutti Artists have become more independent and self-assured, with a number earning income from performances or sales of their work. This is delivering both social benefits for the individuals and economic benefits to the State.

- During Tutti's formative years, a number of participants entering the programs exhibited challenging behaviours, with frequent verbal and aggressive outbursts that would cause distress and anxiety throughout the group. By focusing their attention on the generation of new work in their chosen artforms, and participation within group activities including exhibitions and performances, these individuals have gained recognition for their creative talents and remain today as valued members of the Tutti family. Behavioural outbursts are rare, and Tutti is regarded by participants and their families as a safe, happy work environment in which our artists can thrive.
- **Community and cultural engagement**
 - Collaborations between First nations arts groups in Australia and the US.
 - Ongoing cross-cultural collaborations with the local Sikh community.
 - **Stand & Deliver** is a current project aimed at increasing the economic participation and visibility of 40 artists with disability in the arts industry. The project will collaborate with local councils, arts and educational bodies, disability groups, service clubs and service providers in order to reach potential employers and raise awareness of the project. The Stand & Deliver program will support our aim of increasing visibility and participation in the arts and employment for artists with learning disability.

Further information about Tutti's current and recent activities is available on the Tutti website www.tutti.org.au and in the Tutti Arts 2018 Annual Report at <http://tutti.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Tutti-Arts-2018-Annual-Report-Web.pdf>

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