

**Submission  
No 34**

**INQUIRY INTO PROCUREMENT PRACTICES OF  
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN NEW SOUTH WALES AND  
ITS IMPACT ON THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
PEOPLE OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

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Greenacres Disability Services runs a range of NDIS programs and supports one of which is our Social Enterprise which employs some 200 people with a disability. We believe better structures should be put in place to make it easier for social enterprises to provide services or goods to government and there needs to be KPIs established with Government Departments to evaluate if they are taking serious their social procurement obligations. We have had a very good experience with the SES in Wollongong where they facilitate Greenacres running our Brewing Up A Storm cafe. More recently we have had a good experience with Illawarra Shoalhaven Health District agreeing to purchase our manufactured body bags. We have had a not so good experience understanding the complexities around what we would need to do to be a supplier of body bags in NSW. At the moment all of NSW Health use a Chinese imported product with the exception of the Illawarra which we hope to supply shortly . Securing a proportion of the NSW supply of Body Bags would help guarantee the employment of up to 20 people with a disability and 4 support staff. Greenacres currently supplies body bags to Qld and Victorian Health In terms of Social Procurement more broadly, in our view an Office of Social Procurement should be established to -Monitor the implementation of social procurement policy. -Advise Government of changes to Policy where necessary and -Deal with disputes between social enterprises and Departments in terms of access to provide goods and services. Conversely we also believe that Social Enterprises must be able to operate within the law by abiding by all their legal obligations including paying the employees correctly and having good governance practices in their businesses. Further they should be able to demonstrate to Government that they are achieving the social impact they exist for. This a very short and late submission but I would be happy to elaborate on any points if requested.