The primary purpose of this document is to articulate a shared vision between SWSLHD and Family and Community Services (FaCS), that links project priorities between SWSLHD and FaCS, ensures a governance structure is in place in SWS to support a more effective and comprehensive approach to service delivery across health and community and family and community services.
This partnership recognises success in the delivery of the range of health and social services across SWS and is not limited to work only between SWSLHD and FaCS. To this end, the agencies recognise the importance of working in partnership with the profit or not for profit sector to build innovative models of care. This includes an ongoing commitment to refining existing funding arrangements to ensure they reflect the strategic priorities for south western Sydney.

A Shared Vision
Collaborating to improve the health and social outcomes of south western Sydney families living with vulnerabilities.

Governance
Good governance is an essential component of a strategic approach to shared service planning and delivery, particularly when more than one agency is involved. It is acknowledged that, while a significant number of joint initiatives continue to operate between both parties, there is currently no overarching governance framework to guide current and future priorities.

The agencies commit to developing and refining a governance framework to support the partnership. Research indicates successful governance models share six common attributes:

- Identify and assemble strong executive leadership
- Create a shared vision
- Formalize governance structure
- Establish clear decision-making process
- Evaluate governance system and adapt as necessary
- Maintain transparent communications

SWSLHD Strategic Priorities to 2021
Creating systems to plan, implement and evaluate new models of care and emerging technology, with reengineering and disinvestment in current inefficient or ineffective models.

Reviewing the range of services, models of care and service delivery mechanisms of Primary and Community Health Services, identifying opportunities for community benefit from program provision in partnership with the profit or not for profit sector.

Ensuring an integrated preventative health strategy is working involving all settings of care, providers of care, tiers and agencies of government and is embedded in community action.

Closing the Gap in life expectancy for Aboriginal communities, in partnership with Aboriginal Land Councils and health organisations, with a focus on overweight and obesity and smoking related harm.
Providing children with the best start in life, through inter-agency partnerships including the provision of sustained home visiting in the first two years of life to vulnerable families.

Reducing health inequity through primary prevention and multilateral community renewal programs in areas of locational disadvantage and ensuring services address health equity.

Working with planning agencies to develop healthy urban environments promoting safety, social interaction and cohesion, connectivity, active transport and healthy food.

Strengthening access and support for high needs and vulnerable groups through the development and implementation of targeted plans and strategies, including a disability and carers plan.

**FaCS Strategic Priorities to 2019**

Family and Community Services supports residents of SWS through delivery of its own services and via direct funding provided to the non-government sector. FaCS priority is to ensure each child in NSW to has the best possible start to life and all people are empowered to live fulfilling lives and achieve their potential in inclusive communities. Our specific objectives include ensuring:

- Children and young people are protected from abuse and neglect.
- People with disability are supported to realise their potential.
- Social housing assistance is used to break disadvantage.
- People are assisted to participate in social and economic life.
- People at risk of, and experiencing, domestic and family violence are safer.
- Aboriginal people, families and communities have better outcomes.

**Common Priority Areas**

1. Closing the gap between health and social outcomes for Aboriginal families in south western Sydney, ensuring our services are culturally appropriate, tailored to community needs and protective of Aboriginal children and families.

2. Providing children with the best start in life, ensuring service responses and partnerships build the capacity of families experiencing vulnerability to meet the developmental and security needs of children in their care.

3. Focusing on developing safe, harmonious, healthy and inclusive communities, supporting children and young people in out-of-home care (OOHC), improving collaboration to meet the needs of clients requiring additional housing supports, partnering to lead strategies that reduce exposure to domestic and family violence and meeting the health and social needs of families living in social housing.

4. Supporting persons living with disability to make and realise informed decisions that matter most to their circumstance, ensuring people with disability and their carers are supported to access appropriate health care and housing support when needed and focusing on transition between hospitals and homes.
Strategy 1: The First 5 Years
Vulnerability is greatest at rapid stages of development, therefore early intervention with a focus on the early years, particularly the first 5 years for a child and their family is paramount.

Our target groups are:
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
- Families experiencing vulnerabilities, particularly relating to mental health, alcohol and other drug and/or domestic and family violence issues
- Expectant mothers experiencing or at risk of experiencing domestic and family violence

Our actions include:
1. Expanding our existing partnerships for service delivery to Aboriginal Child and Family Services with a particular focus on Waran Warin Aboriginal Child & Family Centre, Oorungah Wandarrrah MACS Centre and KARI Aboriginal Resources Incorporated
2. Designing and investing in sustained home visiting models that target families with complex vulnerabilities, including implementation of joint home visiting protocols
3. Improving the integration of antenatal and postnatal care coordination systems for families identified as experiencing multiple levels of vulnerability

Our outcomes will be:
1. Increase in Aboriginal children aged 0 – 5 years who receive regular developmental screenings through the use of evidence based tools (eg. ASQ)
2. Aboriginal children have improved access to medical and allied health services that support key developmental milestones with the end result being Aboriginal children well placed to transition to school
3. Increase in the number of families experiencing multiple levels of vulnerability who receive regular, sustained home visits, conducted jointly when needed
4. Decrease in the proportion of families experiencing multiple levels of vulnerability through weekly contact with health professionals and discussions at multidisciplinary case review meetings
5. Decrease in the number of Risk Of Serious Harm (ROSH) reports in south western Sydney
Strategy 2: Creating Healthy and Safe Environments
Focusing on developing safe, harmonious and inclusive communities that promote health and wellbeing.

Our target groups are:

- Young people transitioning from out-of-home-care (OOHC) to adult services, particularly those in need of housing support
- Children and families experiencing or at risk of experiencing domestic and family violence, mental illness, drug and alcohol issues and disabilities
- Children and families where children have had a verified ROSH report related to a parent/carer’s Mental Illness and/or drug and alcohol use
- Social housing estates experiencing the greatest disadvantage

Our actions include:

1. Provide a comprehensive health assessment and health planning with young people exiting from OOHC to assist them with transitioning to adult / mainstream health services
2. Provide intensive specialist assessment and treatment for children in OOHC
3. Provide family functioning assessments and individual assessments of parents and carers and provide specialist interventions to improve family functioning, parenting, caring and attachment issues
4. Establishing a Domestic and Family Violence Alliance in partnership with key government, non-government and private sector partners to implement evidence-based priorities and actions to reduce the incidence of violence impacting on women and children in south western Sydney
5. Increasing jointly coordinated service delivery for residents of Claymore
6. Jointly reviewing the Miller 2168 Project and implementing agreed service priorities
7. Undertaking a high level analysis of the social and health needs of residents living within the Fairfield postcode and designing a joint response to meet these needs
8. Jointly working, including with the Land and Housing Corporation, to improve housing conditions for Aboriginal and vulnerable families
9. Review of ‘Housing for Health’ initiatives for Aboriginal families in Western Sydney and application in South Western Sydney
Our outcomes will be:

1. Hosting of a Domestic and Family Violence Summit that delivers a clear blueprint to reduce the incidence of such violence for south western Sydney families

2. Implementation and evaluation of a Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy for south western Sydney

3. Increasing the number and breadth of SWSLHD and FaCS services delivered directly to residents of Claymore

4. Improving family relationships and functioning in order to reduce the risk of children being placed in OOHC

5. A new vision and plan for residents living in and around the Miller 2168 precinct

6. A population level health and social needs analysis to guide service development for residents of the Fairfield postcode

7. Increased integration between SWSLHD and FaCS services delivered in Claymore, Miller and Fairfield
Strategy 3: Realising the Potential of Persons with Disability
Focus on supporting persons living with a disability to make and realise informed decisions that matter most to their circumstance.

Our target groups will be:

- Eligible National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants who have an interface with both agencies
- Persons with disability who require alternative discharge options
- Persons with disability who live in social housing but are not eligible for NDIS

Our actions are:

1. Develop referral and care pathways for shared NDIS clients
2. Implementation of a local Admission to Discharge Project

Our outcomes will be:

1. Shared NDIS clients will know and be able to access the care that they are entitled to
2. 100% Residents of Supported Accommodation Residences have relevant appropriate and accurate clinical handover at all points of care
3. Health needs for clients living in social housing are assessed and all relevant information is provided to housing in assist in developing safe accommodation spaces
What success looks like for us

1 Children and young people are protected from abuse and neglect.

2 People with disability are supported to realise their potential.

3 People at risk of and experiencing domestic and family violence are safer.

4 Aboriginal people, families and communities have better outcomes.

5 People living in social housing are supported to maximise life opportunities.

6 Our partnership is fruitful and accountable.

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