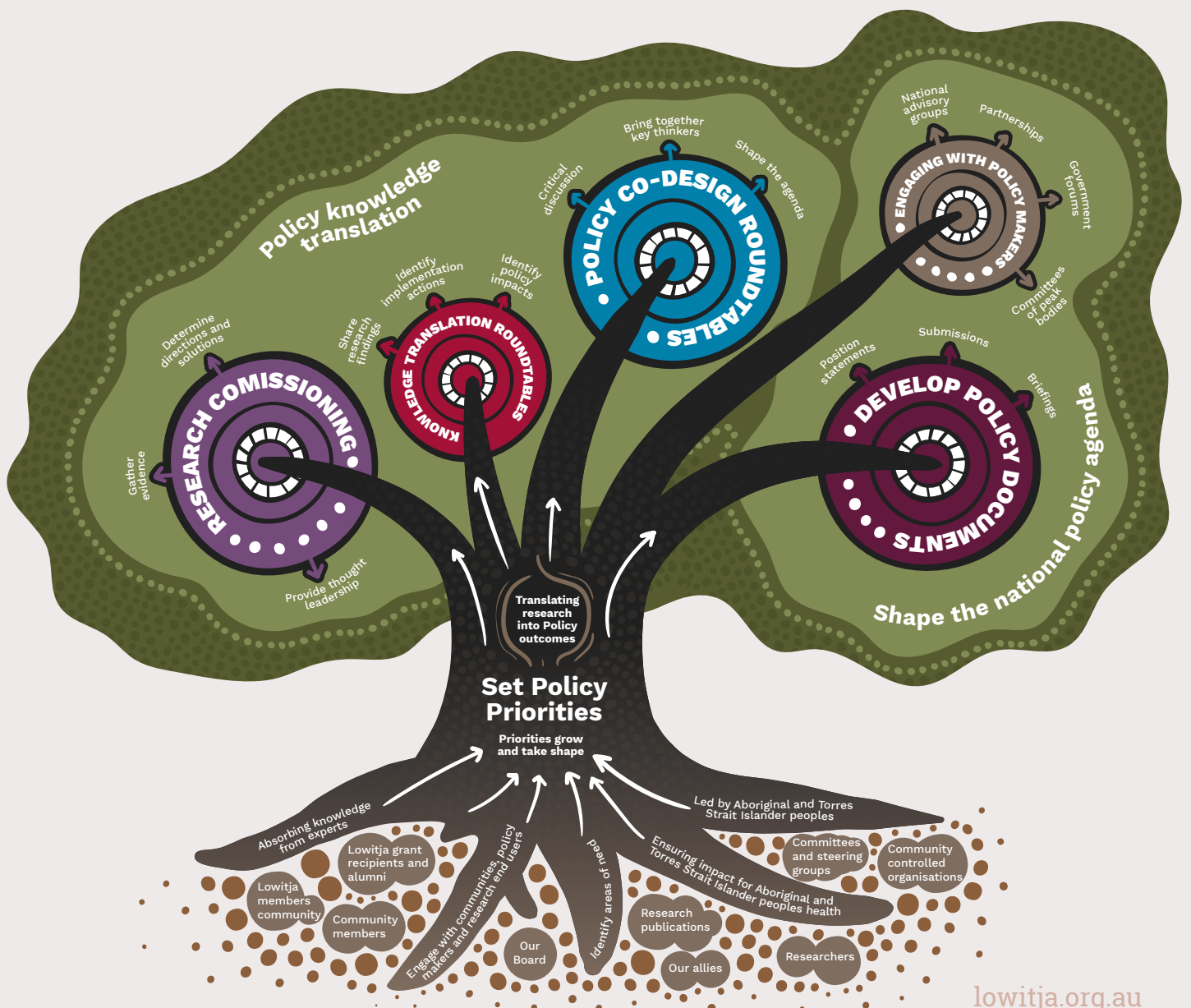


Our Process for Policy Development and Knowledge Translation



How do we translate research into policy outcomes

The Lowitja Institute is Australia's national institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research, working for the health and wellbeing of Australia's First Peoples through high impact quality research, knowledge translation, and by supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers. Our purpose is to invest in knowledge creation and translation by enhancing the capability of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research workforce.

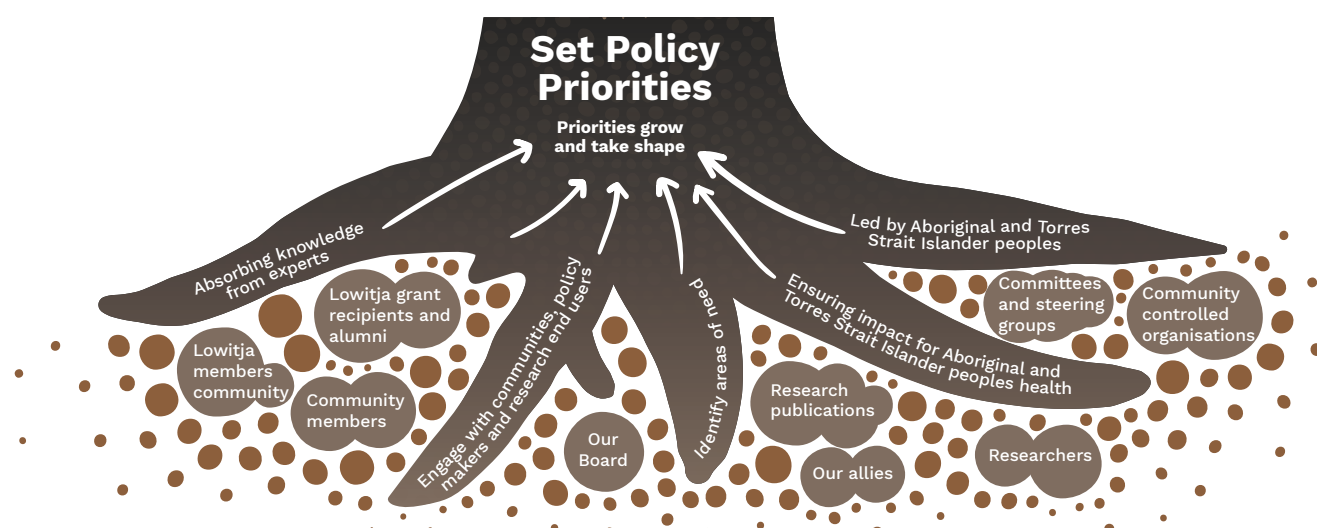
A core focus of the Lowitja Institute is to effectively influence both the national health research agenda, and health policy and programs. Through our policy advocacy work, the Lowitja Institute seeks to influence both national and state level policymakers and contribute to a range of key policy debates related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing.

See Attachment 1: Overall Policy Program Logic for more detail on how Lowitja Institutes objectives frame the direction of our policy advocacy work.

Setting our priorities

The Lowitja Institute identifies and pursues policy priorities that underpin and guide the work of the Lowitja Institute in its research commissioning, knowledge translation, policy co-design and advocacy. These priorities are determined and led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities, researchers, and experts.

Our policy priorities are developed both internally and from outcomes of commissioned research or Lowitja Institute-led roundtable discussions, and externally, as they link to current or emerging government policy contexts and topics within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector.



Building capabilities and translating knowledge



Research commissioning

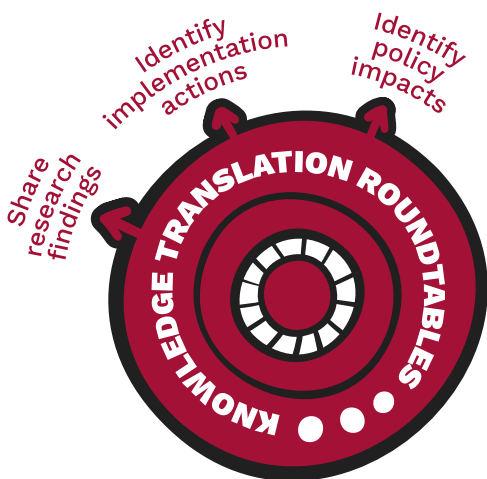
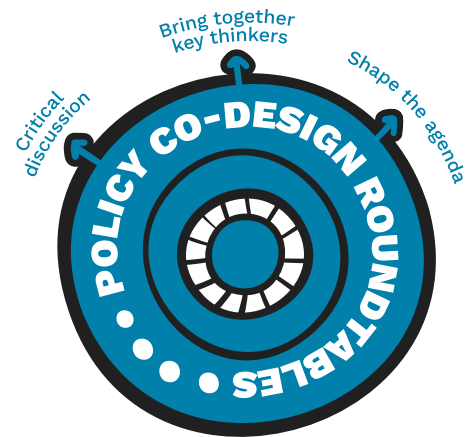
The Lowitja Institute commissions research to address identified policy priorities through the review of evidence and critical discussion. Led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers, stakeholders, and community members, our commissioned research address key and urgent policy priorities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

The Lowitja Institute’s discussion paper series gathers evidence and provides a critical analysis of key issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing.

Policy co-design

Policy co-design is a key initiating activity in our policy and knowledge translation (KT) lifecycle. It involves bringing together key thinkers and experts to engage in critical discussion and shape the agenda and direction of policy and advocacy work.

Policy co-design roundtables are a forum for these discussions. The purpose of these roundtables is to bring together key thinkers, leaders, and policy makers to shape emerging thinking and knowledge on topics critical to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research and health equity.



Knowledge translation roundtables

The Lowitja Institute recognises that knowledge translation and research impact go hand in hand. To achieve impact, beyond academia and research settings, knowledge, research outcomes and findings need to be translated, disseminated, and implemented.

Knowledge translation activities can take the form of policy and advocacy, roundtables, webinars, and forums.

Building capabilities and translating knowledge

A key priority for the Lowitja Institute is to influence both national and state level policymakers and contribute to a range of key policy debates related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing.

We aim to contribute to and influence national level policy through our collective work with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisations, and collaborative work with Government policy makers, as well as through Lowitja Institute initiated activity.



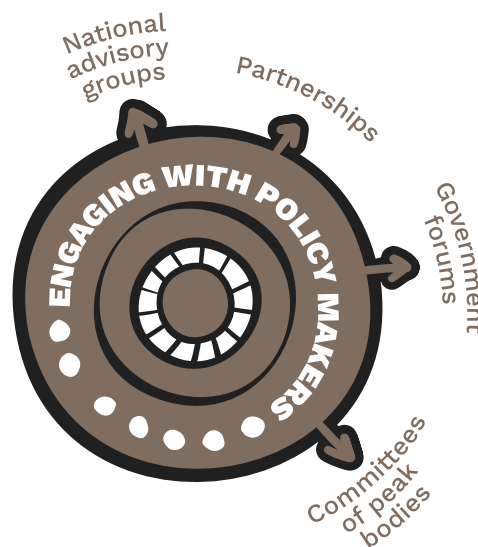
Policy documents

In response to emerging issues that are critical to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and research, or the development of government policies, strategies and programs. The Lowitja Institute will develop a range of policy documents which can be used in our ongoing policy advocacy work.

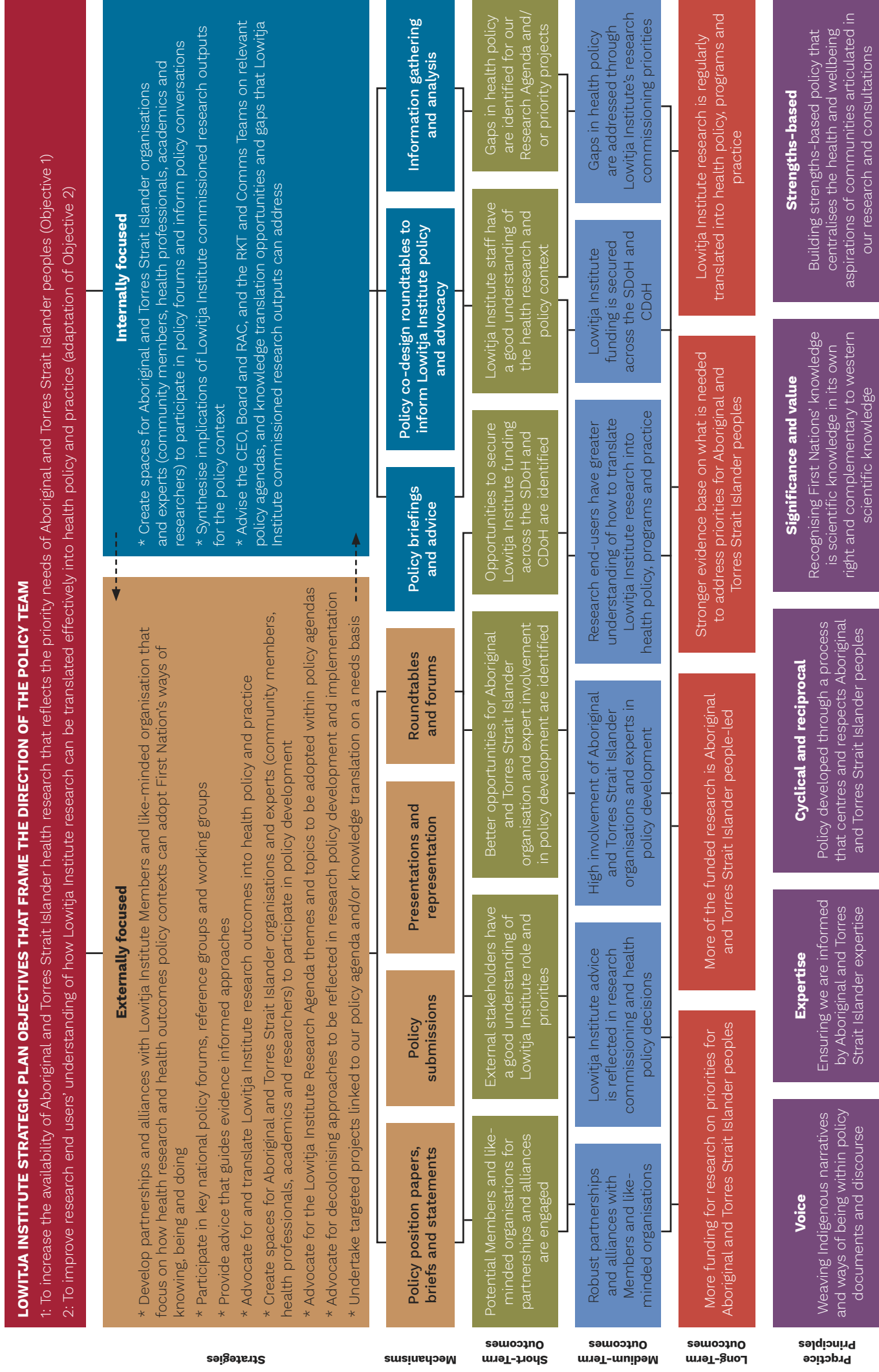
These may be proactive, addressing newly identified and emerging priorities, or responsive to new or existing public policy on Lowitja Institute priorities.

Engaging with policy makers

Lowitja Institute regularly participates in a range of committees, advisory groups and forums to provide input into a broader range of policies and programs related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing. Many of these committees, advisory groups and forums have direct input into the policy development, implementation, and review process with Government, including the Department of Health.



Attachment 1: Overall Policy Program Logic





Australia's National
Institute for Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander
Health Research

