

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## CopperString 2032 Supplier Capability Development Program

### Who is eligible to join the program?

The first round of program workshops will be held in Hughenden and Richmond in line with stage one of CopperString 2032 delivery.

The program is currently open to:

- local businesses in the Flinders Shire, McKinlay Shire and Richmond Shire local government areas
- Indigenous businesses in local government areas along the project corridor
- new and established businesses, including people who are considering starting a new business
- small to medium sized businesses
- businesses that work on-site, off-site and those in the local area who provide support services e.g. motels, hardware providers, professional services, vehicle servicing and parts, real estate etc.

Note, the program will also run in other local government areas as the project progresses. Further details and timing will be shared in due course.

### What will the program help my business with?

The program will help local suppliers to:

- understand what major project buyers want from suppliers
- be more visible to buyers through quality capability statements and better information on supplier platforms (ICN Gateway and others)
- be compliant with major project requirements
- understand prequalification requirements for major projects and supply chains
- be prepared for tendering and contract management
- build confidence to bid on major project and supply chain work, and network and collaborate with other local suppliers.

### How long will the program run?

The program will run for nine to 10 months. Suppliers are encouraged to sign up for all five workshops to experience the full benefits of the program, including one-on-one support.

## How much does it cost?

This Supplier Capability Development Program is being offered free of charge in line with Powerlink’s commitment to helping build business capability in communities along the CopperString 2032 corridor.

## Is the program running in Hughenden and Richmond only?

The program will launch in late July 2024 with workshops held in Hughenden and Richmond in line with stage one of project delivery. These workshops will also be open to businesses in the McKinlay Shire.

The program will run in other areas along the CopperString 2032 corridor as the project progresses. Further details and timing will be shared in due course.

## What supply chain opportunities will the program support?

The program will help suppliers build their capability to target a wide range of opportunities including local council, Queensland Government (QBuild, Department of Transport and Main Roads, Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works), the agricultural sector, large businesses in the region and major projects (current and planned), including CopperString 2032.

## How many workshops are there and what will they cover?

There are five workshops in total, plus one-on-one support. These include:

Workshop	Topic	What will be covered
1	<b>Be visible and be compliant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how to build a high-quality capability statement</li> <li>• how to create a business profile on ICN Gateway</li> <li>• WHS compliance for council, Queensland Government and major projects, and other key compliance requirements</li> </ul>
2	<b>Be prepared for tendering</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• questions suppliers will be asked in tenders</li> <li>• key policies suppliers need</li> <li>• tips on how to prepare core information for tenders</li> </ul>
3	<b>Meeting buyer requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understanding modern slavery, sustainability and ESG (environment, social and governance) requirements</li> <li>• what costs to include in tendering e.g. inductions, supplier onboarding, other costs.</li> </ul>
4	<b>Be prepared for contract management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understanding how suppliers are evaluated</li> <li>• common contract management terms and what they mean</li> </ul>

Workshop	Topic	What will be covered
5	<b>Meet the buyer event</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>managing a contract and avoiding the pitfalls</li> <li>suppliers will hear about buyers' expectations and opportunities</li> <li>interactive sessions (25-30 minutes) during which buyers sit at the table with suppliers and answer their questions</li> <li>all suppliers meet and talk with all buyers in an informal workshop</li> </ul>

Each workshop combines easy to understand information and advice from expert facilitators, a meet the buyer session, and interactive small group sessions to answer supplier questions.

Workshop handouts and information toolkits are provided at each workshop.

### When are the workshops?

The workshop schedule for round one of the program is as follows.

Workshop	Date	Location
1 – Be visible and be compliant	23 July 2024	Hughenden
	24 July 2024	Hughenden (First Nations only)
	25 July 2024	Richmond
2 – Be prepared for tendering*	3 September 2024	Hughenden
	4 September 2024	Richmond
3 – Meeting buyer requirements*	22 October 2024	Hughenden
	23 October 2024	Richmond
4 – Be prepared for contract management*	4 March 2025	Hughenden
	5 March 2025	Richmond
5 – Meet the buyer event*	7 May 2025	Richmond
	8 May 2025	Hughenden

\*Please note dates for Workshops 2 to 5 are proposed and will be confirmed.

### Where can I find out more information?

If you have questions or would like to know more, please contact your local project engagement representative, call 1800 635 369 or email [copperstring2032@powerlink.com.au](mailto:copperstring2032@powerlink.com.au).