

South West HHS Research Strategy 2026 – 2030

Vision

Our Home Fire exemplifies the South West HHS Research Strategy.

Research at South West HHS is best understood through the metaphor of the Home Fire or Campfire. Inspired by Indigenous traditions, the campfire is a place of gathering, sharing, learning, and connection. It is where stories are told, knowledge is passed on, and communities are strengthened.

The campfire metaphor highlights the warmth, connection, and transformative power of research.

It reinforces the importance of collaboration, cultural respect, and community engagement in building a vibrant research culture at South West HHS.



The Value of Research

Research is a cornerstone of high-quality healthcare. It drives innovation, informs evidence-based practice, and when translated into practice leads to improved health outcomes for individuals and communities.

For South West HHS, research is especially critical in addressing the unique challenges faced by rural and remote populations.

Investing in research will enable South West HHS to:

- 🔥 Develop and implement locally relevant solutions to health challenges.
- 🔥 Build workforce capability and attract skilled professionals.
- 🔥 Participate in state and national research initiatives that bring resources and recognition.
- 🔥 Ensure that healthcare delivery is informed by the latest evidence and best practices.
- 🔥 Empower staff to undertake and lead research.

“Every question we ask in research is a spark that can light a fire of change”

Each strategic action is reflected in the life of the campfire

Collaborate

Collaborate in State and National Research Programs

South West HHS participates in state and national research programs, learning from others, contributing to shared knowledge, and building partnerships. Collaboration is about gathering around the fires of others, respecting their wisdom, and sharing our own.



Generate

Lead and Undertake Local Research

South West HHS leads and conducts research grounded in local needs and priorities, creating a space for innovation and evidence generation. This is the act of kindling our own fire, nurturing it, and ensuring it burns brightly for our community.



Participate

Expand Access and engagement in Research for Consumers, Communities and Clinicians

South West HHS enables access to research for consumers, communities and clinicians – fostering inclusion, collaboration and shared learning. Participation is about making space at the fire for all, so that everyone’s voice is heard and valued.



Innovate

Through the synergy of the other three objectives, support and foster innovation

Just as controlled fire (cool burning) renews the land, innovation clears away what no longer serves, making space for new growth. It is the spark that regenerates, transforms and connects—honouring tradition as each new fire is lit from the last.

