



PERSONAL

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Biomedical Science
(University of Queensland, 2001)
Bachelor of Science, Honours Physiology
(University of Queensland, 2002)
Doctor of Philosophy, Epidemiology
(University of Queensland, 2005)



Emily is an experienced evaluator and analyst whose expertise is designing, collecting, and interpreting high quality evidence to improve outcomes. She has deep strategic knowledge of the Australian public sector, working alongside government agencies to design, implement and evaluate large, complex social policy initiatives. Emily's strengths are her ability to spot patterns, extract meaning and identify strategic responses. These strengths, alongside her interest in how social systems work, position her to help clients make evidence-informed decisions to achieve better social outcomes for individuals and human services systems. Her ability to form rapid rapport, synthesise complex evidence and balance stakeholder perspectives means she is not only an in-demand strategic facilitator, but also a trusted advisor to the executives of government agencies.



I love this work because it is intellectually stimulating and meaningful, and contributes to social policy that improves outcomes for people who have experienced disadvantage.

EMILY YORKSTON PARTNER



POLICY AND SYSTEM DESIGN

With a focus on meaningful consultation, Emily works with governments and NGOs to design systems and policies that support social change. Emily understands and is responsive to the challenges of working within dynamic socioeconomic and public health contexts to understand and influence systems to achieve social change. She has a particular interest in evaluating programs delivered through interagency partnerships.

- » **Intergenerational Perceptions of Healthy Ageing** (Healthy North Coast, ongoing). ARTD is partnering with a range of Aboriginal associates to do community research to understand how people who live on the North Coast of NSW want to age, and the services they want to support their ageing journey. This research will inform development of the Ageing Strategy for the North Coast.
- » **Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027** (Department of Communities, Housing and the Digital Economy, in progress) Working with the Institute of Social Science Research at the University of Queensland to design an evaluation framework, and to use the framework to evaluate the Department's progress against Action Plan 1. The project includes a review of the Department's Residential Tenancies Response and Homelessness Response to COVID-19.
- » **Supporting Disability Disclosure in the Public Sector** (NSW Public Service Commission, 2021) Department of Communities, Housing and the Digital Economy, in progress). Diversity and inclusion are two pillars in the NSW Premier's Priority of achieving a world class public service. The NSW Public Service Commission is taking a range of actions to support people to disclose their disability. This research project consulted with people with disability and made recommendations about structural changes required to support disclosure.

EVALUATION AND REVIEW

Emily believes evaluation processes are enormously valuable learning opportunities. Emily approaches evaluation from the perspective of service through learning, working to design evaluations that answer important questions for social policy.

- » **Evaluation of the Co-Location Pilot** (Attorney-General's Department, in progress): A systems evaluation considering the benefits of co-locating policing and child protection officers to support information sharing and improve outcomes for children in the Family Law system.
- » **Evaluation of Southport Domestic and Family Violence Court** (Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General, 2019): The evaluation will be conducted over 20 months through four overlapping phases, covering implementation, social and economic impacts and outcomes.
- » **Mental Health Lived Experiences Workforce Project** (Victorian Department of Health, ongoing): In response to the Royal Commission into Victoria's mental health system, we are working with Mental Health Reform Victoria to co-design, develop and deliver a project that captures the organisational attitudes and experiences of consumer and family-carer lived experience workforce in Victorian mental health services.