

Develop strategic thinking and advanced problem solving abilities required of EL banded officers

5 - 6
OCTOBER
CLIFTONS CANBERRA

#### **KEY LEARNINGS**

- Applying practical outcome-driven strategic thinking and problem solving models
- ► Exploring a structured systems thinking approach to analysing problems and formulating strategy
- ► Understanding your role as an executive leader in empowering others to solve problems
- Overcoming common roadblocks to strategic thinking and problem solving

#### **EXPERT FACILITATOR**



BOOK BEFORE 21 JUNE, SAVE \$800



#### ABOUT THE EVENT

This course has been designed for EL1-2 banded leaders in the APS who are seeking to expand their existing skills to deal with problems on a strategic level. The tools applied in this course will contribute to improved strategic insight and greater confidence overall in developing evidence-solutions to problems that will bring about lasting change for the better.

# WHAT OUR DELEGATES ARE SAYING



A very engaging and worthwhile workshop that will help you with strategising new ways to problem solve and implement change to meet any form of strategic change or decision making.



Well worth doing - one of the challenges of working in the public service these days is we often become quite reactive, particularly in middle management. Taking a day or two to focus on challenging your thinking and potentially rethinking how you might tackle some of those big problems is incredibly valuable.







Well run course with some great concepts to consider, to give some structure to your thinking. Had some good tools and provides a good understanding of strategic thinking across various levels within an organisation



#### **DAY ONE**

## Strategic thinking and problem solving in the APS

- ► How the current strategic context is shaping the APS
- APS executive level leadership and the importance of strategic thinking and problem solving
- Responding to emerging strategic challenges in the APS

#### Strategic thinking skills and tools

- ► The cognitive principles, tools and strategies essential to strategic thinking
- Common limitations and challenges to strategic thinking
- Models, tools and tactics to shape strategic thinking

#### Advanced problem solving for executive leaders

- How to objectively collect and evaluate evidence
- Exploring reason-based approaches to problem solving
- Applying rational and creative problem solving tools and techniques to address strategic issues

### Leading and influencing others on strategic issues

- Effectively engaging stakeholders to understand the problem and identifying potential solutions
- ► Integrating multi-stakeholder perspectives and facilitating shared understanding
- Resolving conflict and disagreement in group problem solving



#### **DAY TWO**

#### Definition: Understanding the problem

- Reaching agreement on the problem: Defining key variables, known causes, structure, scope, stakeholder impact, interdependencies and constraints
- ► Evaluating problem impacts
- Developing solution criteria and the problem solving approach

### Analysis: Identifying and evaluating possible solutions

- Generating and evaluate solutions based on feasibility, impact and risk
- Taking stock of required skills, knowledge and resources to resolve the problem or realise the opportunity
- Leadership, management, planning and team deployment considerations

#### Implementation: from strategy to results

- ► Testing solutions: prototypes, pilots, simulations
- ► Adopting a systematic approach to solution implementation
- ► Building engagement and embedding change

### Overcoming roadblocks to strategic thinking and problem solving

- Cognitive biases, ideological paradigms and group-based
- ► The inherently challenging nature of 'wicked problems'
- Cultivating your skills and maintaining your edge as a strategic thinker and problem solver



## WHAT OUR DELEGATES ARE SAYING



Michael was a very articulate and engaging facilitator. The format and flow of the course was perfectly balanced between listening to, practicing with, responding about, and analysing the learning components.



#### YOUR FACILITATOR

Michael Collins is one of the region's leading talent, leadership and change experts with 25 years of experience in roles spanning Australia, New Zealand and Asia. He is a trusted adviser, thought leader and seasoned practitioner in the field of leadership assessment and development, in particular, he specialises in identifying and discovering high potential leaders, differentiating leadership talent, neuropsychology and organisational change.

Michael has held a number of executive-level appointments in the Australian Defence Force, with his final appointment as a Company Commander (Major) with the elite Australian Parachute Battalion. He later moved into the FMCG (fast-moving consumer goods) sector, working with Coca-Cola Amatil as Learning and Development Manager, Oceania. Following this, he held a range of organisational and capability development roles including capability development manager for the leading Australian financial services company AMP, before moving into management consulting specialising in the field of talent management and leadership.

Michael combines deep practical experience with academic qualifications including a Bachelor of Arts (with Distinction) from the University of Southern Queensland, a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Technology Sydney and a PhD of Philosophy in neurocognitive leadership at the Australian School of Business, University of New South Wales.



### EL1 & EL2 Strategic Thinking & Advanced Problem Solving Workshop

5 - 6 October 2022

#### **Cliftons Canberra**

**Pegistration Information** 

### **Booking Form**

Event Reference: ELST1022A - C Priority Code: I

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