



## Appendix: A stronger, more diverse and independent community sector

November 2023

Contacts:



### VAADA Vision

*A Victorian community in which the harms associated with drug use are reduced and general health and wellbeing is promoted.*

### VAADA Objectives

*To provide leadership, representation, advocacy and information to the alcohol and other drug and related sectors.*

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## About VAADA

The Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association (VAADA) is a non-governmental peak organisation representing publicly funded alcohol and other drug services. In Victoria, there are approximately 100 funded alcohol and other drug services of different sizes located across the state.

VAADA aims to support and promote strategies that prevent and reduce the harms associated with alcohol and other drug use across the Victorian community.

## Statement of support for AADC submission

VAADA supports the federal government's commitment to a stronger, more diverse and independent community sector.

VAADA is a signatory to and supports the submission made by the Australian Alcohol and other Drugs Council (**AADC**). However, as the peak body for publicly funded Alcohol and Other Drug (**AOD**) services in Victoria, there are features specific to both Victoria and AOD that are important for context.

As the Issues Paper identifies, the cost of doing business for CSOs has increased. VAADA acknowledges and welcomes the additional \$560 million over four years allocated in the 2022-23 Budget, as well as the ongoing adjustments to the indexation framework. However, the AOD sector – which provides crucial supports and services to Victorians experiencing AOD-related harms – faces additional challenges not sufficiently addressed in the Issues Paper. Our submission identifies and addresses these.

Please read our submission (submitted via the online questionnaire) together with this appendix.