

**Organisation name**

[REDACTED]

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**1.1 What would a partnership between CSOs and the government that achieves outcomes for Australians being supported by the community sector look like?**

One of respect and competence.

**1.2 How can CSOs and government streamline the sharing of information, particularly through utilising technology to effectively engage, distribute, share, influence and inform in a timely and efficient manner?**

By keeping to agreed meeting times, by showing up on time for meetings, by delivering training that is useful and to the point, by making activity plans less cumbersome for small volunteer community groups.

**1.3 How can government ensure the community sector, including service users, and those not able to access services, have an opportunity to contribute to program design without imposing significant burdens?**

The government makes huge demands with the degree of paperwork needed for relatively small grants. If the paperwork was relative to the size of the grant it would be much better.

**2.1 What would adequate and flexible funding look like?**

The system is so paper heavy that volunteer hours outweigh the amount given to small organisations. Need to be in proportion to the grant given.

**2.2 What administrative and overhead costs are not being considered in current grant funding?**

Volunteer hours fulfilling requirements for accountability.

**2.3 How are rising operational costs impacting the delivery of community services?**

Volunteer costs are not considered and they should be.

**2.6 How can government streamline reporting requirements, including across multiple grants, to reduce administrative burden on CSOs?**

By making the reporting relevant to the amount given and take into consideration volunteer run organisations as opposed to NGO's.

**3.1 What length grants are CSOs seeking to provide certainty and stability for ongoing service delivery?**

It's is fine.

**3.2 What timeframes should the government aim for, at a minimum, to provide final outcomes on grant variations/extensions before the current grant ceases?**

To date ours is fine.

**3.4 What flexibility is required by CSOs in acquittal processes to support and encourage sector innovation?**

The system has been so frustrating that it ruins encouragement for further grants.

**3.5 How can government improve the variation process, with consideration that CSOs must demonstrate alignment with the grant agreement and provide evidence of value for money outcomes?**

All recipients should be accountable but systems must be in place to allow this to happen. Spending 2 hrs doing Dex training and having no ideas of how or what is required is not acceptable.

**4.2 What programs, supports and information are already available for smaller CSOs to help build capacity of the organisation? Are these working?**

Each CSO should have a plan for the future. The grants allow this to come to fruition.

**6.1 If any, what are the problems or challenges you think have been overlooked?**

Not understanding that volunteer time is as valuable as paid time and that systems need to work on a practical level.

**6.3 What does success look like?**

When all parties believe they have succeeded to do what the grant submission outlines in a positive and productive manner with the minimal frustration.