

## Organisation name

South Coastal Health and Community Services

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

State and Federal Government grants to be more sustainable, improved of length of tenure, considerate of rising costs and structured to respond to place based needs.

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

five-year contract agreements to ensure services can engage in meaningful business and workforce planning for the benefit of clients and staff and contracts that reflect the ERO decision and subsequent cost impact on salaries.

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

Only a portion of these costs are covered, it is not adequate for utilities, cost of services, IT expenses, Salaries and wages for Corporate staff, training of corporate staff and itilistmaintenance of building,

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

Rising waitlists  
Junior staff

### 2.4 What have been your experiences with and reflections on the supplementation and change to indexation?

Ongoing under-indexation of contracts in prior years does not account for the true cost of delivering community services in the current year, or deal with increases in demand.  
The exclusion of superannuation changes to the current indexation framework

### 2.5 How can CSOs and the department work together to determine where funds are needed most to ensure equitable and responsive distribution of funds?

consult with sector CFOs (or equivalent) to understand cost drivers over time and to build an evidence base

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

Streamlining of information required

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

Minimum of 5 year contracts

### 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?

6 months

### 4.1 How can the government ensure opportunities are available for new and emerging organisations to access funding?

Consider eligibility criteria especially in Aboriginal services. Not all good aboriginal services are ACCOs.

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

Small short term grants

### 5.1 What is your experience with and reflections on place-based funding approaches?

Difficult to maintain

### 5.2 What innovative approaches could be implemented to ensure the grant funding reaches trusted community organisations with strong local links?

Consider consultation with local councils

**5.4 Where there is a community-led change initiative, could shared accountability to community and funders (government) strengthen service delivery?**

Yes

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

Funding growth does not match Population growth or growing complexity of clients