

NSW Health NGO Program Review Issues Paper Submission Guide October 2009

NSW Health is currently undertaking a review of the NSW Health NGO Grant Program. The review undertakes to:

- Describe the NSW Health NGO Program
- Investigate good practice in NGO sector grant administration and support – NSW, nationally and internationally
- Evaluate the NSW Health NGO Program
- Make recommendation on the best way forward for the NSW Health NGO Program.

An Issues Paper has been developed and NSW Health is now accepting submissions from stakeholders on matters raised in the Paper. Members are encouraged by NADA to consider the questions in the Issues Paper and respond in one of two ways:

- Make an independent submission to NSW Health by **Friday 30 October 2009** (Further details on making a submission are detailed in the Issues Paper)
- Provide input to inform NADA's submission to the Issues Paper based on the 7 areas in the *Issues for consideration* section detailed below. In order to allow NADA to finalise its submission, input provided by this method is required to be sent to NADA by **Monday 26 October 2009**.

24 questions are posed throughout the Issues paper to guide the consultation. These questions relate to the following areas:

1. **Strategic directions** – Alignment with the NSW State Health Plan; The administration of continuing/'historical' grants.
2. **Services provided by NGOs** – How Ministerial grants are distributed across program areas; The type of NGO service provision funded.
3. **NSW Health governance procedures** – Performance, reporting and monitoring structures; Funding and Performance Agreements; Reporting requirements; Key Performance Indicators; Processes for establishing and renewing NGO grants.
4. **NGO Sector governance structures** – Financial management practices; Quality Improvement and the NGO program; NGO infrastructure capacity.
5. **Building partnerships** – NGO Advisory Committee; NGO Peak bodies; Strengthening communication between NSW Health and NGOs that are not affiliated with Peak bodies.
6. **Reducing the administrative burden for NGOs** – Delegations for approval; Information communication technology solutions to cut down on red tape and improve transparency.
7. **Further matters** – Other relevant matters not identified in the Issues Paper.

A Recommendations Report informed by submissions received is expected to be released by NSW Health in December 2009, following which, submissions on the recommendations report will be subsequently requested. **If providing input through NADA please send an electronic copy of your comments to Jo Khoo on jo@nada.org.au or 02 8113 1315. Additionally, please contact Jo if you have any questions.**