

## Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Assessment Summary

*The Triple Bottom Line Assessment is required to be published in accordance with Part 4, section 23 (1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2016*

### 20/396 – Funding increase for community organisations

#### Summary of impacts:

- The *Funding Increase for Community Organisations* package provides significant positive impacts to enhance the wellbeing of Canberra's most vulnerable children, young people, and families.
- Adequately funding community services will enable early intervention and prevention. This investment will help prevent families from escalating into crisis and entering the tertiary system.
- The proposed package will have positive social impacts and does not have negative environmental impacts. While in the short term the package will have a negative impact on the ACT budget, the package offers long term economic benefits to the Territory through reduced future demand on statutory and crisis services.

Level of impact	Positive	Negative	Neutral
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Social		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Positive	Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nearly 80% of workers in the SACS sector are women. Continuation of the ERO supplementation funding is essential to recognise this highly skilled and indispensable workforce and to ensure the ACT continues to reduce its gender pay gap.</li> </ul>
Positive	Health (Community and mental health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the ACT Government does not adequately fund community organisations to deliver primary mainstream and early intervention supports, demand on Government crisis and statutory services such as acute mental health services will increase. This will have significant community and financial costs.</li> </ul>
Positive	Access to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequately funding community organisations supports them to implement programs and services that create social connectivity, especially for structurally marginalised cohorts of people.</li> </ul>
Positive	Housing and Affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By adequately funding the Specialist Homelessness Service Delivery (SHSD) program, and ending homelessness for an individual, at an approximate cost of \$25,615 per person, per annum, significant savings are generated for government by the reduction in the use of public services such as health and justice.</li> </ul>

Positive	Homelessness support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whilst the number of homeless people in the ACT remains small, the costs of long-term homelessness is estimated at between 0.9 million to 5 million dollars in services for each person over their lifetime.</li> </ul>
Positive	Access to social inclusion/participation and community activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately funding community organisations supports them to implement programs and services that create social connectivity, especially for structurally marginalised cohorts of people.</li> </ul>
Positive	Human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately funding community organisations enables them to ensure the basic human rights of the most vulnerable children, young people and families in the Canberra community are met.</li> </ul>
Positive	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are overrepresented in out of home care. They are also the least likely to access quality Early Childhood Education and Care Services.</li> <li>Adequately funding community organisations to deliver mainstream and early intervention supports to this priority cohort is critical.</li> </ul>
Positive	Multicultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community organisations have noted a significant increase in families from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Approximately 46 per cent of the population growth by 2022 is anticipated to be driven by overseas migration, with the number of humanitarian arrivals and asylum seekers arriving after 2016 increasing. Adequate funding to enable the sector to provide mainstream and early intervention supports to this priority cohort is critical.</li> </ul>
Positive	Impacts on different age groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the ACT Government does not adequately fund community organisations to deliver primary mainstream and early intervention supports, demand on Government crisis and statutory services such as Child Protection (intensive family support services, out of home care services) will increase. This will have significant community and financial costs.</li> </ul>
Positive	Justice and Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the ACT Government does not adequately fund community organisations to deliver primary mainstream and early intervention supports, demand on Government crisis and statutory services such as, Justice (community corrections, prison) and Youth Justice (community-based corrections, detention-based supervision) will increase. This will have significant community and financial costs.</li> </ul>

Economic		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Negative	ACT Government Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While in the short-term the package will have a negative impact on the ACT Budget, the package offers long-term economic benefits to the Territory through reduced future demand on statutory and crisis services.</li> </ul>
Positive	Productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately funding community organisations will prevent restructure and downsizing, which will enhance productivity.</li> </ul>
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Positive	Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately funding community organisations will support the Human Service Cluster's commitment to working with stakeholders, including service users, to ensure investment is managed strategically and delivers the greatest positive impact on the wellbeing of Canberrans. This will enable government to partner with the non-government sector to drive flexible, responsive and innovative approaches to investment through community led planning that is tailored to respond to emerging needs of individuals and communities.</li> </ul>
Positive	Employment and labour force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nearly 80% of workers in the SACS sector are women. Continuation of the ERO supplementation funding is essential to recognise this highly skilled and indispensable workforce and to ensure the ACT continues to reduce its gender pay gap.</li> <li>Adequately funding community organisations will prevent them from needing to restructure and downsize, and potentially close, resulting in significant job losses.</li> </ul>
Positive	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately funding the CSP will ensure that vulnerable children have access to quality Early Childhood Education and Care.</li> </ul>
Positive	Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Without ACT government intervention regarding ERO supplementation and an increase to baseline program funding, the procurement associated with establishing these new contracts will be undertaken within a significantly reduced budget.</li> </ul>

Economic	Nil
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