Delivering quality care more efficiently inquiry

Questionnaire response 32

Name: Community Council for Australia

Submission date: 5/06/2025

Participant background

1. For the purposes of this consultation, which of the following best describes you:

   I am an industry or advocacy organisation, professional association or peak body

2. Which of the following care sectors will your feedback relate to? Please select all that apply.

   Aboriginal Community Controlled; Aged care; Disability; Early childhood education and care; Health; Veterans

3. What kind of care supports, services and programs do you have experience with, and in what jurisdictions?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

1. Reform of quality and safety regulation to support a more cohesive care economy

1. To what extent do differences in quality and safety regulation make it costly or complex to provide or access care services?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

2. What are the reasons for your answer?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

3. To what extent should quality and safety regulations be more aligned across the different care service sectors and jurisdictions?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

4. What are the reasons for your answer?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

2. Embed collaborative commissioning to increase the integration of care services

1. What is your experience with collaborative commissioning

   The participant did not respond to this question.

2. What are the benefits of pursuing greater collaborative commissioning?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

3. What are the barriers to collaborative commissioning, and do you have any suggestions for solutions that would lead to better collaboration in the commissioning of care services?

   The participant did not respond to this question.

3. A national framework to support government investment in prevention

1. What are the main barriers to governments investing in evidence-based prevention programs across the care economy?

Prevention activity is widespread across the not-for-profit sector from formal organisations delivering services (for example, supporting family relationships) through to a wide array of more informal activity (run through community-based clubs and associations) that builds community wellbeing and resilience.

Government's short-term funding arrangements for not-for-profit organisations inhibits a focus on longer-term outcomes. Prevention programs yield benefits over the long-term. Current government funding arrangements (which typically remain short-term and highly constrained) hinder the flexibility and longevity needed for much prevention activity.

The care economy covers various sectors (health, aged care, community services, veteran care), managed by different departments. Preventive services are often successful because they take a 'whole of person' approach and so siloed government funding and oversight can hinder coordinated investment.

Prevention activity, particularly undertaken by not-for-profits, often goes on unrecognised and is undervalued and typically, not-for-profits do not receive adequate funding to demonstrate the impact of their programs.

2. What are some examples of successful prevention programs (this could include discontinued programs)?

The participant did not respond to this question.

3. How can governments better support investment in prevention activities that have broad and long-term benefits for the Australian community?

A Charities Investment Fund that could provide charities reduced interest loans for impact investment or longer-term line of credit options to enable greater leverage of charity assets and capacity.

To secure the long-term sustainability of the not-for-profit sector and enable the prevention activities that many organisations undertake, the Government should implement recent recommendations from reviews into the not-for-profits, for example the Productivity Commission inquiry into philanthropy and the NFP Sector Development Blueprint.

This includes the Government progressing actions to deliver full cost funding, including the application of appropriate indexation, minimum term contracts and renewal periods in all areas of service provision.