# Creating a more dynamic and resilient economy inquiry

Questionnaire response 64

**Name:** Community Council for Australia

**Submission date:** 5/06/2025

## 1. Support business investment through corporate tax reform

### 1. What features of the Australian business environment have encouraged or restrained investment over the past 10 years?

The participant did not respond to this question.

### 2. What elements of the corporate tax system encourage and/or discourage investment and risk-taking?

The participant did not respond to this question.

### 3. Which parts of the corporate tax system do you find the hardest, or most time or cost-intensive to comply with? How could the compliance burden of the business/company tax system be reduced?

The participant did not respond to this question.

## 2. Reduce the impact of regulation on business dynamism

### 1. What areas of regulation do you see as enhancing business dynamism and resilience? What are the reasons for your answer?

The Not-for-Profit sector is a significant part of the economy. The charities sector alone represents 8% of GDP and over 10% of the workforce. Over 1.5 million people are employed by charities in Australia. A wide range of regulations impact the dynamism and resilience of the Not-for-Profit sector. Pillar one of Not-for-profit Sector Development Blueprint focuses on creating ‘an enabling operational and regulatory environment for the not-for-profit sector to thrive’.

### 2. How has your regulatory burden changed over time?

The participant did not respond to this question.

### 3. What regulations do you find time-consuming, overly complex or otherwise constraining business dynamism and resilience? What are the reasons for your answer?

Charities and NFPs are often subject to the same reporting requirements as businesses requiring the allocation of significant resources to ensure compliance. For instance, in areas including data privacy, OHS, gender reporting, cybersecurity and taxation, even small charities often have to spend time fulfilling compliance requirements.

This administrative burden is further complicated when charities are contracted by different government departments across the different levels of government, often requiring multiple compliance reports as well as performance reporting all of which is rarely factored into funding provision or the real costs of providing services.

Two specific areas of regulation which are complex and time-consuming are fundraising rules and working with children/vulnerable people checks, largely due to inconsistency across jurisdictions

These two issues are being taken forward within the government's existing 'productivity enhancing regulatory reforms' (the reform of State and Territory fundraising laws and the work to improve national consistency of Working with Children Checks) but progress has been slow and should be accelerated.

Pillar one of the NFP Sector Development Blueprint recommends prioritisation of harmonisation of standards and regulations that affect the not-for-profit sector (Initiative 1)

The existing Policy Impact Analysis process includes considering how 'people, community organisations and businesses' are affected by new policies, but this process lacks transparency and meaningful engagement with community organisations and the not-for-profit sector.

4. Can you share any specific examples of where you think a regulator has done a good or bad job of understanding and reducing regulatory burden on businesses and why?