

# Children, Youth and Families System Support Service Grants – Frequently asked questions

Due to probity constraints, HCSD is required to make grant-related information transparently available to all sector partners. To this end, questions or queries related to the grant opportunity and subsequent responses/clarification will be articulated within this FAQ document. If you cannot find the answer to your question here, please email us at [HCSDGrants@act.gov.au](mailto:HCSDGrants@act.gov.au)

## **Can we meet with someone from the Health and Community Services Directorate to discuss our application?**

To ensure fairness and transparency during the open grant round, we are unable to meet individually with applicants to discuss the grant. All information about the grant is made publicly available. We are hosting a briefing session, which will be recorded and shared for everyone to access. If you have questions, please submit them via [HCSDGrants@act.gov.au](mailto:HCSDGrants@act.gov.au). Answers will be published so that all applicants have equal access to the same information.

## **I missed the sector briefing session, where can I find the recording?**

The link to the recording can be found [here](#).

## **When are the other funding streams of the CYFSP including Presentative Early Support, Targeted Support and Therapeutic Services going to be released?**

All information about the CYFSP funding streams are on the [CYFSP Commissioning Website](#). You can request to be added to the CYFSP Commissioning mailing list by sending an email request to [CYFSP@act.gov.au](mailto:CYFSP@act.gov.au).

## **Can some of the activities of the System Support Service be funded through the Sector Development fund?**

Decision making in relation to the Sector Development Fund will remain with the Sector Development Fund Sub-Committee and CYFSP Directors Group. All decisions in relation to this fund will need to be made in line with the terms of reference of the groups and identified workforce development and training priorities.

### How has the grant been costed?

The costing of the CYFSP System Support service was informed by several key factors. These included input from stakeholders during the commissioning process regarding the requirements for the service, its scale, and the proportion of funding within the CYFSP envelope allocated to this function compared to others. The costing also reflects the shift from a regional model to a system-wide approach. This change has allowed more funding to be directed to frontline services, where it will have the greatest impact.

### Why has the funding changed from what was in the Strategic Investment Plan?

The transition of the Sector Development Fund has been brought forward to 1 July 2026, and the ongoing Monitoring and Evaluation, administration of the Sector Development Fund and Coordination and Connection functions have been grouped together. This refinement does not impact the scope or direction of the function but aims to strengthen the implementation by centralising expertise of system support functions.

**Section 5.1.1(c) relates to supporting organisations to develop program logics that align to the M&E. Could you please clarify if this relates to organisations that have been successful in future CYFSP commissioning grant processes (i.e. preventative early support, targeted, intensive and therapeutic, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander, CALD streams); and does NOT include current CYFSP organisations preparing to apply for grants? (Noting that the M&E Framework is intended to be available in June 2026, prior to other grants processes opening).**

Yes, it relates to organisations who are successful in future CYFSP commissioning grant processes.

**The Program Logic activities require that the provider design mechanisms and tools for collective evidence, while the Assumptions note access to digital infrastructure and tools for data integration as an assumption. Digital infrastructure enabling data integration at the program and sector levels may be a significant cost. How is this intended to be managed as part of this process?**

HCSD will work with the successful provider to define and agree on the scope of mechanisms and tools for collective evidence.



**Is it intended that existing Secretariat arrangements for functions such as the Directors Group, PLG and (future) WDT Committee be shifted outside of HCSD, to the service provider?**

HCSD will continue to hold joint responsibility for these functions and will work with successful grantee around the specifics of these functions.

However, the administration functions as outlined in the Grant Guidelines for the WDT fund will be managed by the successful grantee.

**Can you confirm if only consortia applications with a lead organisation will be eligible - will shared partnership arrangements be considered at all?**

Shared partnership arrangements are welcomed, but a single lead organisation is required to provide clear accountability for delivering the grant and managing risks and enable efficient communication and decision-making without delays from multiple approvals. Please note that how HCSD engages with consortium members and how their roles are articulated within the grant can be explored during contract negotiations.

**Will you accept referees from within HCSD, such as from teams not involved in oversight of the CYFSP?**

Yes.

**Are you able to share any further information about the forthcoming M&E Framework/Plan, such as its aim and context (e.g. will it be focused on CYFSP outcomes, and/or aligned to the detail of each CYFSP funding stream), and process of development?**

The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework will be developed in partnership with stakeholders, taking into consideration the work already undertaken as part of the commissioning process.

**Can a provider submit for a single component of the service support system functions?**

No. The applicant must address all components of the System Support Service.

**Will the successful provider/s in Phase 1 be eligible to apply for funding in Phase 2 in 2026?**

Yes. The provider delivering the CYFSP System Support Service in Phase 1 will be eligible to apply for funding to deliver services under Phase 2. Applicants should consider how their service will ensure the independence of Monitoring and Evaluation within the CYFSP System Support Service. Maintaining clear separation and transparency in governance and decision making will be important to uphold probity and avoid conflicts of interest.



**Can a consortium member both contribute to the governance and delivery of the System Support Services and enter into agreements to deliver training activities funded through the Sector Development and Training Fund, provided appropriate probity and conflict of interest measures are in place?**

Yes. A consortium member can contribute to both the governance and delivery of System Support Services and also enter into agreements to deliver training activities funded through the Sector Development and Training Fund, provided appropriate probity and conflict-of-interest measures are in place.

The Sector Development and Training Fund will maintain its existing governance framework in relation to membership and managing conflicts of interest. The provider responsible for administering the Fund is not excluded from submitting proposals to the Sector Development and Training Fund Sub-Committee for projects or training activities. However, they will be excluded from any decision-making processes where a conflict of interest is identified.

**Can HCSD confirm whether grant recipients will have flexibility to allocate funds across the four-year grant period according to project need, or whether expenditure must strictly align with annual allocations and be acquitted each financial year, with any unspent funds returned to HCSD?**

The Grant will be managed in line with HCSD's financial management process. HCSD will work with the successful grantee around the specifics of the funding management.

**Can HCSD clarify whether indexation will definitely be applied to the funding across the four-year term? The guidelines are inconsistent: page 8 states that funding is indexed, whereas page 23 indicates this is uncertain ("if indexation will be applied").**

Community Sector Indexation will apply to this funding.

**What are your expectations for Year 1 of the delivery of the System Support Service, noting that commissioned services will not commence until July 2027?**

The specifics of the delivery will be discussed and agreed on during the negotiation process based on what the successful grantee includes in their transition plan.

**Are there any agreed central systems to aggregate data collected for M&E and/or service delivery purposes? How has data been collected to date? Will we have access to those systems?**

Currently, there is no central data system. Future data collection mechanism will be discussed and agreed as part of the development of the M&E framework in 2026.



**Can you confirm its not necessary for all consortium members to be based in the ACT?  
Noting that *“The Territory is engaging a Community Organisation/s in the ACT to deliver system support services to support the connection and coordination of the CYFSP sector.”***

It is mandatory these services will all be delivered within the ACT. Any organisation in consortium which is not based in the ACT would need to demonstrate how services will be based and delivered in the ACT.

**Are you please able to confirm that an organisation that is an existing provider of the Children Young People and Families Panel is eligible to apply for the CYFSP System Support Services grant?**

Yes. Maintaining clear separation and transparency in governance and decision making will be important to uphold probity and avoid conflicts of interest.

