Request for proposals issued for six Social Benefit Bonds submissions

Queensland’s Social Benefit Bonds (SBB) are a step closer with six proponents shortlisted from the first phase of the procurement process.

Strong market interest in the Program was demonstrated at close of Expressions of Interest in late March. Submissions were received across all three areas of focus - homelessness, re-offending and issues facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. All responses (23) were well considered and exceeded expectations, with proposals covering both metropolitan and regional locations invited to go forward to Request for Proposals (RFP).

The Evaluation Panel was chaired by Queensland Treasury and supported by our partner agencies. The shortlisted submissions propose services to support the areas of focus determined through the extensive market sounding process undertaken by the Program earlier this year.

They are:

**Homelessness**
- Families with young children experiencing significant housing instability
- Young people exiting statutory care at risk of homelessness

**Issues facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people**
- Indigenous disadvantage – Children in out-of-home care
- Improved Health Outcomes – Chronic illness

**Re-offending**
- Adult women exiting custodial sentences
- Young people at risk of being held on remand

Between now and September the Program will engage with shortlisted proponents during the initial RFP phase before the final selection of the three proponents who will progress to the Joint Development Phase (JDP).

As part of the JDP the Government has allocated $1 million to a readiness fund which will assist the proponents with the purchase of professional services to take forward their social benefit bond in 2017.

The Queensland Government has made available a suite of sample legal documents suitable for a SBB transaction under the Social Benefit Bonds Pilot Program. The sample documents are based on lessons learned in the Queensland context and have been developed to assist with reducing time and cost for development and implementation of a SBB transaction.