

Queensland's first Social Benefit Bonds a step closer

Queensland's Social Benefit Bonds Pilot Program (the Program) is on track to contract Queensland's first pilot Social Benefit Bond in the first half of 2017 - with three proponents shortlisted from the Request for Proposals process, Treasurer Curtis Pitt announced in a media release today.

With strong market interest in the program across all three areas of focus – homelessness, re-offending and issues facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, 23 submissions were received at the close of Expressions of Interest in March this year. From these six submissions were invited to progress to Request for Proposals (RFP) – two in each of the three areas of focus.

At the close of RFP five proposals were submitted for evaluation. The Program will now move forward to a period of joint development with three shortlisted proponents who are proposing services to support each of the focus areas and represent target populations from both metropolitan and regional Queensland communities.

The proponents selected to progress to the final stages of procurement are:

Churches of Christ representing the focus area of Homelessness and proposing a program that seeks to complement existing programs through individualised case management and interventions to help build protective factors in young people up to 25 years exiting out-of-home-care (OOHC). The proposed number of recipients is 500 young people aged 15-25.

UnitingCare Community proposes to establish Newpin (New Parent Infant Network) which aims to increase the reunification of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children currently in out-of-home care.

Life Without Barriers, addressing Re-offending propose a program to reduce the risk of young people being held on remand. The proposed participants are young people aged 10 to 14 years.

It is important to note that the summaries provided here are representative of the submissions as they currently stand and that during the Joint Development Phase the detail around recipients, location and service description may change as a result of negotiation and consultation.

In recognition that this is a pilot program the Government has allocated \$1 million to a readiness fund which will assist qualifying shortlisted proponents with the purchase of professional services if required during the Joint Development Phase.

This milestone represents the successful culmination of intense engagement with social service providers, partner agencies, investors and intermediaries. Our agency partners have worked in close collaboration with the program through our governance framework, data collection and verification for The Hub and will continue to play an important role in the procurement and implementation processes.

See an overview of what is happening in [Social Investment nationally and internationally](#).

Contact SBBs Pilot Program by email - socialbenefitbonds@treasury.qld.gov.au

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