

Implementation of the Review of Divisions

Frequently Asked Questions #3

This third FAQ document has been developed in order to share responses to questions asked by the Divisions network with responses provided by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

ADGP and SBOs will ensure that Divisions are aware of subsequent releases of FAQ documents.

Version: 4 May 2005

FUNDING ISSUES

Q1 On the financial template divisions are asked to split their OBF on to a sub-sheet. Does a Division have to split it up or can they report OBF as one lump sum? Do Divisions split the OBF up to match the program headings in the plan or would they need to split it up according to each priority area? Obviously this would be an arbitrary exercise. Could you please advise on the requirements here?

A1 Divisions must split their core funding on to a sub sheet. Significant flexibility has been provided to allow Divisions to break up core funding into programs/strategies that are most meaningful to them.

Q2 Where are Divisions to record Rural Workforce Support within the template?

A2 Divisions use the main sheets and sub-sheets for all programs funded by DoHA that are included in the new Multi Program Funding Agreements. All DoHA funding not part of the Multi-Program Agreement (i.e. is a separate agreement) or non DoHA funded programs need to go in the 'other activities' section. The Division must make sure it can completely acquit all those 'other activities' and meet all contractual obligations.

As such, while RWS is DoHA funding not part of the current Multi-Program Funding Agreement, it needs to go into the 'other activities' section of the template and the organisation still reports to the RWS program area as per that particular contract.

Q3 The Division is looking to break down its core budget into Administration (Program A), Corporate Governance (Program B), Clinical and Population Health (Program C), Integration (Program D) and Workforce and Business Support (Program E). The Division is asking if the Department wants it to communicate how these Program Budgets relate to the new Priority areas listed in the Agreement Plan. If so, how should this occur? Some activity in the priority areas will fall across several of these programs.

A3 The Division can certainly break down its core budget as outlined. Significant flexibility has been provided to allow Divisions to break up core funding into

whatever programs/strategies that are most meaningful to them. This means the Division can relate it to the priority areas or whichever breakdown is the most meaningful to them.

Q4 Nowhere on the template does it state whether to report GST exclusive or inclusive?

A4 All figures in the template should be GST exclusive.

Q5 What should be inserted on the “Other Activities” sheet, which programs should be inserted on the Annual sheet and how do we treat other sources of income, non AGDHA funded eg NPS, DMMR etc?

A5 Divisions use the main sheets and sub-sheets for all programs funded by DoHA that are included in the new Multi Program Funding Agreements (i.e. all the schedules). All DoHA funding not part of the main agreement (ie is a separate agreement) or non DoHA funded programs needs to go in the 'other activities' section.

The Division must make sure it can meet all requirements and acquit all contract obligations for those 'other activities'.

Q6 On the first budget sheet the first program after core funding is 'Aged Care Panels.' The Aged Care funding contract states that we have to account for the two aged care funding streams separately i.e. Aged Care Panels and Div of GP Support. Do we then report the Divisions of GP Support stream in a separate column or combine it under Aged Care Panels column?

A6 For those Divisions that have already submitted their Annual Budget with a particular approach on including funding for the Strengthening Medicare Aged Care GP Panels Initiative, there is no further action required. For Division yet to submit the Annual Budget, the preferred approach is to use the section 'GP Payments – non salaried' line item to record the GP remuneration stream of funding. This information can be disclosed in the 'notes' section of the template.

As previously indicated, the department will seek feedback on the planning and reporting templates in May and following this, the planning and reporting templates will be amended and re-released in July 2005. These amendments will include a correction to ensure both streams of the Strengthening Medicare Aged Care GP Panels Initiative can be incorporated in the template.

Q7 Are Divisions required to report on funding from other sources?

A7 Divisions are required to report to the department (within 14 days) anything received over \$10,000 that will go toward Programs (schedules on the Multi-Program Agreement). In addition, Divisions must record all Other Contributions (of any value) in the Annual Reports. This is supported by Clause 2.1 in the Agreement.

As such, Divisions must report all income in the appropriate line items of the financial template that include: revenue from Commonwealth – DoHA;

interest income; Commonwealth revenue – other; state government revenue; membership; sponsorship; proceeds from sales; other - all other revenue earned by the Division during the period.

When splitting this income, DoHA funding relating to schedules of the Multi Program Funding Agreement needs to be listed as programs. DoHA funding not part of the Multi Program Funding Agreement or non - DoHA funding is to be listed in the column for 'other activities'. Other than providing a break up for specified line items (to enable an assessment of fair attribution) Divisions do not need to go into detail of different streams – this can be bundled for reporting.

Disclaimer

Please note that questions posted in these FAQs generally arise from questions or enquiries from members of the Divisions network. The responses published in this document and added to or revised from time to time are provided at the discretion of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Feedback on the published FAQs or further questions can be directed in the first instance to Andrew Waters at ADGP (awaters@adgp.com.au).