

## **Prime Provider Position Statement**

### **Volunteering Victoria**

Through this position statement Volunteering Victoria seeks to support members and stakeholders in addressing any optics concerning our transparency and accountability by establishing clearly how Volunteering Victoria will operate both as a peak and as a provider of the federal Volunteer Management Activity (VMA) funding stream. We have addressed concerns by adopting a Prime Provider model for service delivery.

#### **Prime Provider Model**

Volunteering Victoria has become a Prime Provider due to changes to the design of VMA funding. A prime or lead provider model, involves a commissioning approach whereby a government contract is awarded to a high-level organisation (e.g., Volunteering Victoria) that has the responsibility of organising and managing a group of providers.

Being an effective Prime Provider means ensuring funded services are delivered effectively and working with funders to meet the grant expectations. At times, these new responsibilities have the potential to create conflict with our responsibility as a peak body. Accordingly, the organisation has taken steps to ensure that these new responsibilities do not prevent Volunteering Victoria from fulfilling its organisational duty to be an effective peak body for its members.

#### **In practice**

Volunteering Victoria is committed to achieving the aims of the [VMA](#) through continued investment in volunteering across the state and will act in accordance with its values of:

- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Accountability

Volunteering Victoria recognises the importance of its role as an independent member-based peak body and continues this work through funding sources external to VMA. Volunteering Victoria has separated the team managing the VMA to any advocacy work to ensure this independence is maintained.

Volunteering Victoria is committed to providing impartial and best practice funding of services and have aligned our funding model with the Department of Social Services requirements.

Volunteering Victoria are happy to be contacted by individuals wishing for further detail about steps undertaken internally to ensure Volunteering Victoria is simultaneously able to deliver the VMA, while fulfil its organisational duty as a peak body for volunteering.

