Project Agreement for the Expansion of the BreastScreen Australia Program

PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE BREASTSCREEN AUSTRALIA PROGRAM

An agreement between:

- n the Commonwealth of Australia; and
- n the States and Territories, being:
 - t New South Wales,
 - t Victoria,
 - t Queensland,
 - t Western Australia,
 - t South Australia,
 - t Tasmania,
 - t the Australian Capital Territory, and
 - t the Northern Territory.

The outputs of this project will be the ongoing delivery of BreastScreen Australia services to women 70-74 years of age and increase of the participation of women 70-74 years of age.

Project Agreement for the Expansion of the BreastScreen Australia Program

OVERVIEW

1. This Project Agreement (the Agreement) is created subject to the provisions of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations (IGA FFR) and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement and its Schedules, which provide information in relation to performance reporting and payment arrangements under the IGA FFR.

Purpose

2. This Agreement will support the continued delivery of accredited BreastScreen Australia services to women 70-74 years of age to increase the current participation of women 70- 74 years of age, including through the delivery of recruitment activities to increase participation of additional women 70- 74 years of age and by under-screened groups.

Reporting Arrangements

3. The States will report against the agreed milestones during the operation of this Agreement, as set out in Part 4 – Project Milestones, Reporting and Payments.

Financial Arrangements

4. The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$60.17 million (exclusive of GST) in respect of this Agreement, as set out in Part 5 – Financial Arrangements.

PART 1 - FORMALITIES

5. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement for this project.

Parties to this Agreement

6. This Agreement is between the Commonwealth of Australia (the Commonwealth) and the States and Territories (the States).

Term of the Agreement

7. This Agreement will commence as soon as the Commonwealth and one other Party sign it and will expire on 30 June 2021 or on completion of the project, including final performance reporting and processing of final payments against milestones, unless terminated earlier or extended as agreed in writing by the Parties.

PART 2 - PROJECT OUTPUTS

Outputs

- 8. The outputs of this Agreement will be the delivery of:
 - (a) BreastScreen Australia services for women 70-74 years of age in line with national BreastScreen Australia policy and the requirements of the BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards;
 - (b) recruitment activities to increase the current participation for women aged 70 to 74, including activities to increase participation by under-screened groups, such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse women, and women in remote and very remote areas; and
 - (c) activities to support BreastScreen Australia services, registries, accreditation and reporting functions in line with the requirements of the BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation standards.

PART 3 - ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY

Role of the Commonwealth

- 9. The Commonwealth will be responsible for:
 - (a) monitoring and assessing achievement against milestones in the delivery of the BreastScreen Australia program expansion under this Agreement to ensure that outputs are delivered within the agreed timeframe;
 - (b) providing a consequent financial contribution to the States to support the implementation of this Agreement, and
 - (c) Separate to this Agreement, the Commonwealth will fund an evaluation of the BreastScreen Australia expansion, in consultation with the States to inform the impact of the BreastScreen Australia expansion on women aged 70 to 74 years.
 - (d) The Commonwealth will engage with the States on input to the BreastScreen Australia expansion evaluation, including but not limited to:
 - (i) the draft and final evaluation methodology;
 - (ii) the BreastScreen Australia stakeholder engagement strategy including consumer interviews; and
 - (iii) the final evaluation report.

Role of the States and Territories

- 10. The States will be responsible for:
 - (a) all aspects of delivering on the project outputs set out in this Agreement; and
 - (b) reporting on the delivery of outputs as set out in Part 4 Project Milestones, Reporting and Payments; and
 - (c) covering costs associated with their participation in interviews and reviewing the methodology for the BreastScreen Australia expansion evaluation.

Shared roles

- 11. The Commonwealth and the States agree to be jointly responsible for, within one month of the execution of this Agreement, agreeing Project Plans using the template at Attachment A that will set out each State's strategy for delivering the outputs of this Agreement.
 - (a) Project Plans will be flexible documents that may be varied to accommodate changed circumstances. Other variations or updates to Project Plans are subject to the agreement of senior Commonwealth and State officials;
 - (b) Using the template at Attachment A, Project Plans will include:
 - (i) strategies to encourage women aged 70-74 years to participate in the BreastScreen Australia program;
 - (ii) strategies to increase service delivery and system capacity to screen women aged 70 to 74 years;
 - (iii) recruitment and support activities to increase participation of women aged 70 to 74 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse women, and women in remote and very remote areas; and
 - (iv) activities to support BreastScreen Australia services, registries, accreditation and reporting functions in line with the requirements of the BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards.
- 12. The Commonwealth and the States also agree to be jointly responsible for:
 - (a) participating in consultations as appropriate regarding the implementation of this Agreement; and
 - (b) undertaking evaluations and reviews of services and outputs delivered under this Agreement.
- 13. The Parties will meet the requirements of Schedule E, Clause 26 of the IGA FFR, by ensuring that prior agreement is reached on the nature and content of any events, announcements, promotional material or publicity relating to activities under this Agreement, and that the roles of both Parties will be acknowledged and recognised appropriately.

PART 4 - PROJECT MILESTONES, REPORTING AND PAYMENTS

Table 1 summarises the milestones for the project, their relationship to the outputs, expected completion dates, relevant reporting dates and expected payments to be made. The Commonwealth will make payments subject to the performance report demonstrating the relevant milestone has been met.

Outputs	Performance requirements	Report Due	Reporting Period	Annual payment
Screening, recruitment and support services in accordance with clause 8 of this Agreement	 Increase in the level of screening activity for women aged 70-74 years, above the baseline in Table 2. Delivery of recruitment and support activities for: (a) women aged 70 to 74; and (b) women in underscreened groups. 	31 May 2018	 July 2017 to 30 April 2018 - actuals¹ May 2018 to 30 June 2018 - estimates² 	NSW - \$ 4,713,984 Vic - \$ 3,704,055 Old - \$ 2,956,178 WA - \$ 1,595,865 SA - \$ 1,042,318 Tas - \$317,995 ACT - \$ 241,441 NT - \$ 150,164
		31 May 2019 29 May 2020	1 May 2018- 30 April 2019 – actuals 1 May 2019-30 April 2020 -	NSW - \$ 4,780,266 Vic - \$ 3,756,136 Qld - \$ 2,997,743 WA - \$ 1,618,304 SA - \$ 1,056,973 Tas - \$322,466 ACT - \$ 244,836 NT - \$ 152,276 NSW - \$4,851,670 Vic - \$ 3,812,243
		31 May 2021	actuals 1 May 2020-30	Qld - \$3,042,522 WA - \$ 1,642,477 SA - \$ 1,072,762 Tas - \$327,283 ACT - \$ 248,493 NT - \$ 154,550 NSW - \$4,919,553
		52	April 2021 - actuals	Vic - \$ 3,865,582 Qld - \$3,085,091 WA - \$ 1,665,458 SA - \$ 1,087,771 Tas - \$331,862 ACT - \$ 251,970 NT - \$ 156,713

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Table 1: Performance re	auromonte	renorting and	navment cummarv
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¹ The first reporting period is for 10 months, from July 17 to April 18. The States are required to provide the number of actual women screened in the 10 months and provide estimates of the numbers they will screen for the remaining 2 months (1 May 2018 – 30 June 2018).

² The actual number of women screened in the 2 month period (1 May 2018 – 30 June 2018) will be reflected in the second reporting period (1 May 2018 – 30 April 2019).

Baselines

- 14. Participation for women aged 50-69 and 70-74 years will be monitored and reported in the annual Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) *Breast Screening in Australia* report.
- 15. The total baseline figures for the number of screened women aged 70-74 is set out in Table 2 of this Agreement.

Jurisdiction	Total baseline (AIHW 2014-15 data) ^(b)		
NSW	33,280		
Vic	22,745		
Qld	23,176		
WA	11,454		
SA	9,054		
Tas	2,982		
ACT	1,414		
NT	247		
Total	104,352		

Table 2: Baselines for women aged 70-74 years to be screened (a)

(a) Includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse women, and women in remote and very remote areas.

(b) Total baseline figures are fixed over the life of the Project Agreement.

Reporting arrangements

- 16. The States will provide:
 - (a) performance reports in accordance with Table 1 and the template at Attachment B during the operation of the Agreement. Each performance report is to contain a description of:
 - i. actual performance in the period to date against the baselines in Table 2;
 - ii. recruitment and support activities delivered for women aged 70 to 74 and women in under-screened groups; and
 - iii. details of any matter(s) that have arisen which could adversely impact on the delivery of the output, and how the States propose to resolve these matters; and
 - (b) a final performance report with actual numbers for the 1 May 2021 to 30 June 2021 period, including details of recruitment and support activities on participation of women in under-screened groups, by no later than 31 July 2021.
- 17. Performance reports will inform the evaluation of the BreastScreen Australia expansion.
- 18. If performance requirements are met in advance of the due date, where the relevant performance report demonstrates that they have been met, the Commonwealth may make the associated payment earlier than scheduled provided it falls within the same financial year as the original due date.

PART 5 - FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 19. The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$60.17 million in respect of this Agreement. All payments are GST exclusive.
- 20. The Commonwealth's funding contribution will not be reduced where the States secure funding from other activity partners.
- 21. The Commonwealth's and the States' estimated financial contributions to the operation of this Agreement, including through National Partnership payments to the States paid in accordance with Schedule D Payment Arrangements of the IGA FFR, are shown in Table 3.

(\$ million)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Total
Estimated total budget	15.7	15.9	16.1	16.4	64.3 ^(a)
Less estimated National Partnership Payments					
New South Wales	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.9	19.3
Victoria	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	15.1
Queensland	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	12.1
Western Australia	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	6.5
South Australia	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	4.3
Tasmania	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.3
ACT	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.0
NT	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6
Subtotal	14.7	14.9	15.1	15.4	60.2
Commonwealth Own-Purpose Expenses	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	4.1 ^(b)
Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0.0.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 3: Estimated financial contributions

(a) Estimates may not add due to rounding.

(b) Funding for the BreastScreen Australia Expansion Evaluation and research activities to support quality improvement.

22. Having regard to the agreed estimated costs of projects specified in this Agreement, a State or Territory will not be required to pay a refund to the Commonwealth if the actual cost of the project is less than the agreed estimated cost of the project. Similarly, the States bear all risk should the costs of a project exceed the agreed estimated costs. The Parties acknowledge that this arrangement provides the maximum incentive for the States to deliver projects cost effectively and efficiently.

PART 6 - GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Enforceability of the Agreement

23. The Parties do not intend any of the provisions of this Agreement to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the Parties' commitment to this Agreement.

Variation of the Agreement

24. The Agreement may be amended at any time by agreement in writing by all the Parties.

25. A Party to the Agreement may terminate their participation in the Agreement at any time by notifying all Parties in writing.

Delegations

26. The Commonwealth Minister may delegate the assessment of performance against milestones and the authorisation of related project payments to senior Commonwealth officials, having regard to the financial and policy risks associated with those payments.

Dispute resolution

- 27. Any Party may give notice to other Parties of a dispute under this Agreement.
- 28. Officials of relevant Parties will attempt to resolve any dispute in the first instance.
- 29. If a dispute cannot be resolved by officials, it may be escalated to the relevant Ministers.

Interpretation

- 30. For the purposes of this Agreement:
 - (a) **Women 70- 74 years of age** are women in the 70-74 year old cohort who are eligible to participate in the BreastScreen Australia program. This excludes women with a previous diagnosis of breast cancer within the past five years, women who have been screened in the previous 23 months and women who are excluded due to other ineligibility criteria

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by

The Honourable Greg Hunt MP Minister for Health

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Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by

The Honourable Brad Hazzard MP Minister for Health

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