|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project AGreement FOR THE *Women’s Safety Package* —Technology Trials | |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| An agreement between: | |
|  | * the Commonwealth of Australia; and * the States and Territories of |
|  | * New South Wales, * Victoria, * Queensland, * Western Australia, * South Australia, * Tasmania, * Australian Capital Territory, and * Northern Territory. |
|  | |
| The output of this project will be conducting technology trials as part of the *Women’s Safety Package*. | |

Project Agreement for the *Women’s Safety Package* -   
Technology Trials

# 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

1. This Agreement will support the States’ trials of innovative technologies to keep women safe, as part of the *Women’s Safety Package*.

**Reporting Arrangements**

1. 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**

1. The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of $7,500,000, exclusive of GST in respect of this Agreement, as set out in Part 5 – Financial Arrangements.

# Part 1 — Formalities

1. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement for this project. Arrangements for agreed technology trials are set out in bilateral schedules to this Agreement.

## Parties to this Agreement

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

## Term of the Agreement

1. This Agreement will commence as soon as the Commonwealth and one other Party sign it and will expire on 30 June 2020, 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 output

## Output

1. The output of this Agreement will be a series of trials to test new technologies or innovative uses of existing technologies to improve the safety of women and children affected by family and domestic violence, as part of the *Women’s Safety Package* delivered alongside the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022*, including conduct of:
2. technology trials; and
3. evaluations of each of the trials to identify technological solutions to support future development and possible national implementation.

# Part 3 — roles and responsibilities of each party

## Role of the Commonwealth

1. The Commonwealth will be responsible for:
2. monitoring and assessing achievement against milestones in the delivery of the technology trials under this Agreement to ensure that outputs are delivered within the agreed timeframe;
3. conducting an overall evaluation of the *Women’s Safety Package —Technology Trial* measure, including incorporating findings from the States’ evaluations of the technologies trialled under this Agreement; and
4. providing a consequent financial contribution to the States, in accordance with the Schedules to the Agreement, to support the implementation of this Agreement.

## Role of the States and Territories

1. The States will be responsible for:
2. providing a matched financial contribution to support the implementation of this Agreement;
3. all aspects of delivering on the project outputs set out in this Agreement and relevant Schedules;
4. providing the Commonwealth with the results of the evaluations of each of the trials conducted under this Agreement to support the Commonwealth’s overall evaluation of the *Women’s Safety Package —Technology Trial* measure; and
5. reporting on the delivery of outputs as set out in schedules to this Agreement.

## Shared roles

1. The Commonwealth and the States will be jointly responsible for:
2. developing and agreeing bilateral Schedules which set out agreed technology trials and associated milestones, reporting and payment arrangements in accordance with clause 13 of this Agreement; and
3. participating in consultations as appropriate regarding the implementation of this Agreement, including the evaluation of the trials and the *Women’s Safety Package —Technology Trial* measure.
4. 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

## Milestones

1. Milestones, their relationship to the agreed technology trials, completion dates, relevant reporting dates and expected payments will be outlined in bilateral Schedules to this Agreement. The Commonwealth will make payments subject to performance reports demonstrating relevant milestones have been met.
2. If a milestone is met in advance of the due date and the relevant performance report demonstrates that the milestone has been met, the Commonwealth may make the associated payment earlier than scheduled, provided that it falls within the same financial year as the original payment date.

## Reporting arrangements

1. The States will provide performance reports for technology trials agreed under the relevant bilateral Schedules during the operation of this Agreement. Each performance report is to contain a description of work undertaken and completed on the technology trials in the period to date.

# Part 5 — financial arrangements

1. The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of $7,500,000 in respect of this Agreement. All payments are GST exclusive.
2. States will match the Commonwealth’s estimated funding contribution under this Agreement. State proposals for matched funding will be assessed by the Commonwealth and included in the relevant schedules.
3. If States choose not to match the Commonwealth’s funding contribution under this Agreement in full, the Commonwealth may reduce its funding to match the States’ contribution.
4. The Commonwealth’s funding contribution will not be reduced where the States secure funding from other activity partners.
5. The Commonwealth’s and the States’ estimated financial contribution 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, is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Estimated financial contributions**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **($ million)** | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | Total |
| **Estimated total budget** | **2.580** | **3.920** | **4.460** | **4.040** | **15.000** |
| Less estimated National Partnership payments(a) | 1.290 | 1.960 | 2.230 | 2.020 | 7.500 |
| Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions | 1.290 | 1.960 | 2.230 | 2.020 | 7.500 |

(a) Estimated National Partnership payments to each State are set out in bilateral schedules to this Agreement.

# Part 6 — governance arrangements

## Enforceability of the Agreement

1. 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

1. The Agreement may be amended at any time by agreement in writing by all Parties.
2. Bilateral schedules to this Agreement that have no impact on other Parties may be amended at any time by agreement in writing by the relevant Commonwealth and State portfolio ministers.
3. A Party to the Agreement may terminate their participation in the Agreement at any time by notifying all relevant Partiesin writing.

## Delegations

1. 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

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

## Interpretation

1. For the purposes of this Agreement and its Schedules:
2. The *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010‐2022*, and associated Action Plans, are an initiative of the Council of Australian Governments which provides the framework for action by the Commonwealth and the States to reduce violence against women and their children.
3. The *Women’s Safety Package* is a package of practical measures to help keep women and children safe, including delivering better frontline support and services, leveraging innovative technologies, and providing education resources to help change community attitudes to violence and abuse. The technology trials measure under the *Women’s Safety Package* aims to test the use of innovative technological solutions to keep women and their children safe from domestic violence. This may include expanding or trialling new technologies or innovative uses of existing technologies that may increase perpetrator accountability, strengthen system effectiveness and improve safety of women and their children.

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this agreement as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by    The Honourable Christian Porter MP  Minister for Social Services  February 2017 |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Signed for and on behalf of the  State of New South Wales by    The Honourable David Elliott MP  Minister for Counter Terrorism, Minister for Corrections and Minister for Veterans Affairs  [Day] [Month] [Year] |  | Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by    The Honourable Gavin Jennings MP  Special Minister of State  [Day] [Month] [Year] |
|  |  |  |
| Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by    The Honourable [insert name] MP  Minister for [insert title]  [Day] [Month] [Year] |  | Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by    The Honourable [insert name] MP  Minister for [insert title]  [Day] [Month] [Year] |
|  |  |  |
| Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by    The Honourable Zoe Bettison MP  Minister for the Status of Women  [Day] [Month] [Year] |  | Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by    The Honourable Marinus Theodoor Hidding MP  Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management  [Day] [Month] [Year] |
|  |  |  |
| Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by    The Honourable [insert name] MP  Minister for [insert title]  [Day] [Month] [Year] |  | Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by    The Honourable [insert name] MP  Minister for [insert title]  [Day] [Month] [Year] |