

Your Ref:

Quote in reply: Direct Advocacy

22 November 2010

The Hon. Karen Struthers MP
Minister for Community Services and Housing and Minister for Women
GPO Box 806
Brisbane QLD 4001

Dear Minister

FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

I write to express the interest of the Queensland Law Society in being engaged as a stakeholder in any review of structured Government funding arrangements for not-for-profit community organisations.

The Society understands that presently work is progressing toward a single piece of funding legislation to regulate arrangements between funded community organisations and the Government. We understand that such regulation would extend beyond the community sector organisations assisted by your Department.

The QLS is well placed to contribute to such a process as a significant number of our members presently volunteer on the Boards and Management Committees of not-for-profit organisations in receipt of Government funding. The Society is also uniquely placed to provide specialist comments on the drafting, interpretation and potential for unintended consequences in any legislative proposal.

The Society currently undertakes both public and confidential consultation with varying Government agencies throughout the policy development process and is very comfortable with arrangements required for both pre and post Cabinet communications.

I would be glad to receive your advice about the current progress of any reform project in this area and also for the Society to be engaged as a stakeholder.

Yours faithfully

Noela L'Estrange
Chief Executive Officer