



Since the 16 June 2026 CSAG quarterly meeting and CSSA member CSAG update (7 July 2026 edition), updates include:

1. Next CSAG Working Group – 21 July 2026

- Informal Working Group arrangements have been established to discuss key CSAG items between formal quarterly meetings. The next Working Group is scheduled for **21 July 2026** and will discuss:
 - Data Exchange Reporting:** DEX Provider Reporting Update (attachment available)
 - Relational Contracting (RC) Update:** Partnering for Impact Operating Manual (attachment available).
- The last Working Group meeting was held on **29 June 2026** (papers available) and discussed: Working Group Forward Plan, RC, NFP cyber uplift - Horizon 2, FWC decisions affecting SCHADS, HPSS and related awards.
- A proposed forward schedule for the Working Group includes: meetings x 2 in July, then monthly meetings from August-December 2026. Key topics include: RC, fixed term contracting with DEWR; Priority Reform 2 – ACCO Transitions; implications of SCHADS Award changes; Social Cohesion (Scanlon Report), Grant Engagement Framework – Annual Report; Digital Technology and AI in the NFP Sector.
- Members to provide queries on **Indexation**. Stand-alone WG on **SCHADS** scheduled for **31 July 2026**, if required.

2. DSS Children and Family Support (CaFS) Program

- Updated [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) posted on 26 June 2026.
- CSAG members provided with draft Grant Opportunity Guidelines (GoGS) and 'Guide to Impact Placemat' on **8 July 2026**. GoG feedback due on **28 July 2026**. Impact Placement feedback due: **1 October 2026**.
- DSS advised that draft GoGs and Impact Placement have been distributed directly to all current Families and Children (FaC) Activity providers that are eligible for recommissioning under the CaFS program from 1 July 2027. A DSS webinar on the GoGs for eligible providers was held on **15 July 2026**, recording available [HERE](#).
- ACCO Transitions** - CSSA met with DSS Group Manager, Family Wellbeing Group on **30 June 2026**. DSS advised that under new CaFS program, DSS will develop a **service mapping** web tool, focus its **targeted investment** beyond current FaC-funding service offers with focus on filling 'gaps' and develop a **draft outcomes framework** for discussion. A stand-alone CSAG WG to be scheduled to discuss ACCO transitions.
- DSS aware some providers want to be '**early adopters**' of RC, others to transfer to RC through iterative process.

3. Relational Contracting (RC)

- [Relational Contracting Consultation on Draft Documents](#) – Now **OPEN** on DSS Engage. Submissions due: **26 July 2026**. CSSA invites member contributions to the CSSA submission. Contact carmel.sefian@cssa.org.au.
- Following first-round CSAG member feedback (29 May 2026), DSS has refined key RC documentation and posted additional documentation to DSS Engage. Draft documentation now includes: Shell Agreement, Governance Framework, Decision Matrix, Readiness Checklist, Flexibility Policy, Readiness Roadmap, Glossary.
- Note: the Readiness Roadmap includes a Test and Refine phase later in 2026. DSS is seeking early interest from FaC Activity providers to participate in this activity. It will require a significant time commitment and involve simulation activities across the RC lifecycle but will help shape the final RC design for successful implementation.

4. National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032 – Second Action Plan

[Consultations](#) – Now **OPEN** on DSS Engage. Submissions due **31 July 2026**. CSSA attended CSAG member consultation on **14 July 2026** with key feedback to be reflected in CSSA's submission. CSSA invites member contributions to the CSSA submission. Contact carmel.sefian@cssa.org.au

REMINDERS:

5. Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services (SCHADS) Award Implementation

DSS seeks member feedback on i) information on the employees engaged to deliver services funded through DSS programs; and ii) details of Awards under which employees are engaged. WG scheduled for **31 July 2026 (tbc)**.

6. Data Exchange (DEX) Quality Review

DSS has engaged the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) to improve Data Exchange data through review of the SCORE guidance materials.

7. Monitoring and Demand for Emergency Relief (ER)

DSS overviewed increased demand and demographic trends for its ER program delivered through the Financial Wellbeing and Capability Activity. Please contact admin@cssa.org.au for a written summary of the data.

8. Australian CyberSecurity Strategy 2023-2030 - Not-for-profit cyber uplift under Horizon 2

CSAG members updated by Department of Home Affairs on 'Horizon 2' work under the Cyber Security Strategy, focused on cyber resilience in vulnerable parts of the community. NFP cybersecurity CoP from August 2026.

AusAlert and Disaster Ready Fund – Round Four

National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) representatives informed CSAG of nationwide testing of new **AusAlert system** on **27 July 2026**, to be fully operational in **October 2026**.

9. Non-for-Profit Sector Development Blueprint

CSSA seeking to present at 22 September 2026 CSAG meeting on a 'Program of Work' under the Blueprint - **Pillar 4** focusing on the '[Real Costs, Real Impacts: a path to social services sustainability](#)' research undertaken by UWA.