

Social Investment Fund Assessment Framework for Pathway Two: Contract Consolidation



Criteria	Description	Low (1)	Medium (2)	High (3)
Benefit / value	<p>What is the likely level of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefit to the cohort an organisation works with (will there be greater flexibility to respond to need? Does it reduce complexity in accessing services?) Benefit to the organisation (potential saving in personnel time, financial savings, opportunity for better practice) 	<p>The proposal includes high level statements about the benefit to the organisation of contract consolidation but does not articulate any benefit to the individuals supported by the service.</p> <p>The benefits presented in the proposal are minimal.</p>	<p>The proposal outlines some benefit to individuals based on changes to practice (e.g. redesigned referral pathways, changes to the scope of services provided).</p> <p>The proposal also outlines some benefit to the organisation, likely savings in personnel time or financial resources, due to improved practices or operational efficiency which are grounded in reasonable changes to service delivery / ways of working.</p>	<p>The proposal outlines significant benefit to individuals based on the organisations ability to engage in tailored and adaptive services, reduced complexity of referral pathways, and enhanced flexibility within the agreement.</p> <p>The proposal also outlines reasonable benefits to the organisation, likely savings in personnel time or financial resources, due to improved practices or operational efficiency.</p>
Outcomes	Is there a clear, defined outcome or outcomes that are aligned with the priority outcomes agreed by Social Investment Ministers?	The proposal includes high-level statements on outcomes. There is an opportunity to build on this foundation by identifying specific, measurable outcomes.	The proposal outlines specific, measurable outcomes that are well aligned with one priority outcome or reasonably aligned with multiple priority outcomes.	The proposal identifies specific, measurable outcomes that align strongly with several priority outcomes, as well as other outcomes participants value.
Cohorts	Is there a clear, defined, and evaluable cohort(s)?	<p>The proposal demonstrates limited understanding of what population group that will be supported by the initiative, OR</p> <p>The proposal is to offer a universal service which makes comparison not feasible, OR</p> <p>The proposal is to work with a population group which the organisation does not currently support and limited information has been provided on how the organisation will engage the new group.</p> <p>It is unclear how the initiative will reach more than 250 participants over the course of the programme.</p>	<p>The proposal is clear on the priority cohort(s) the organisation intends to reach and there is a credible plan for reaching and working with a priority cohort(s).</p> <p>It is likely that the initiative will reach more than 250 participants over the course of the programme.</p>	<p>The proposal demonstrates the organisation's track record of working with the cohort(s) they specify and includes referral pathways agreed with partners.</p> <p>The initiative will likely easily reach enough of the cohort(s) to enable a robust evaluation.</p>

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Risk	<p>How likely is it that an organisation is capable of managing risks of disruption to service continuity or delivery? Does it have the resources and processes to manage engagement with the contract consolidation process?</p> <p>Does the proposed contract consolidation pose challenges to SIA by featuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high number of distinct agencies. • A high number of contracts. • Multiple distinct cohorts being supported across contracts. • Multiple outcomes sought across contracts. • Service delivery in area of potential serious high harm to the cohort supported. • Service delivery in an area highly governed or regulated by law. 	<p>The organisation has articulated a clear understanding of the potential risks of consolidation and a set of mitigations or plans to manage those risks. These plans include robust resources, systems, and processes in place to effectively handle engagement in the contract consolidation process.</p> <p>The proposed consolidation also involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lower number of distinct agencies. • Contracts covering a narrow range of outcomes and cohorts. • Service delivery in areas with minimal risk of serious harm to clients. • Service delivery in areas with low levels of governance or legal regulation, reducing complexity and risk. 	<p>The organisation has identified some high-level risks and mitigations, however these lack detail and do not cover all potential areas of risk. There is limited detail provided on the organisations resourcing and processes to manage these risks during the consolidation.</p> <p>The proposed consolidation involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A moderate number of distinct agencies. • Contracts covering a broader range of outcomes and / or cohorts. • Service delivery in areas with moderate risk of serious harm to clients. • Service delivery in areas subject to moderate governance or legal regulation, requiring careful management to mitigate risks. 	<p>The organisation has not identified any meaningful risks or mitigations. No information has been provided on the organisations resourcing or processes to manage risks during the consolidation.</p> <p>The proposed consolidation involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high number of distinct agencies, creating significant logistical challenges. • Contracts covering multiple outcomes and diverse cohorts, making consolidation highly complex. • Service delivery in areas with high potential for serious harm to clients, requiring careful and sensitive management. • Service delivery in areas highly governed or regulated by law, adding layers of complexity and risk that may be difficult to navigate.