



## Next phases of the Try, Test and Learn Fund

In case you need reminding, ideas submissions for the first tranche of the Try, Test and Learn Fund close at 5pm, Australian Eastern Daylight-Saving Time, on 24 February, 2017. Once the submission period ends, we will assess all eligible ideas and shortlist those that will progress to the co-development phase. By mid-March we are aiming to email all ideas submitters regarding the outcome of their idea. Co-development of shortlisted ideas is expected to run through to mid-April, and by May we will move into a funding process for those ideas chosen to go forward.

We understand that the Fund's staged approach to developing and funding projects is somewhat new and may seem unfamiliar if you are accustomed to conventional Government funding processes.

When you submit an idea you are agreeing to the terms and conditions contained in the [Try, Test Learn Fund Handbook](#). The Terms and Conditions provide that you retain ownership of the intellectual property in the idea you submitted at all times. You also agree to providing a licence to the Department to use the intellectual property in the idea in the following circumstances:

At the **assessment phase** you grant the Department a licence to use the intellectual property in the idea for the purpose of assessment, and to communicate the idea through publication on DSS Engage. At the assessment phase, the Department cannot use the intellectual property in the idea you submitted for purposes outside of the Fund.

If your idea is selected as suitable for **co-development**, the Department will have a licence to use the idea for any purpose consistent with the Department's functions. We will also invite you to be closely involved in the co-development activities for the idea. The co-development process will build on initial ideas to create detailed project proposals. This may require changes to the initial idea.

If a project is co-developed from your idea and is then selected for funding, and your organisation is capable of delivering it, then it is anticipated that you will be solely approached through a direct selection process. This process would test your capacity to deliver the project. In some cases, it may become apparent during co-development that a different delivery partner would be more appropriate; however, as far as is practicable the original idea submitter will be closely consulted.

If you have any questions or concerns we encourage you to get in touch via [InvestmentApproach@dss.gov.au](mailto:InvestmentApproach@dss.gov.au).

## Policy Hack

Participant feedback on the Policy Hack held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Friday 10 February 2017 was overwhelmingly positive. The Hack saw 93 participants—with roughly a 30/70 split of government to non-government attendees—work across 10 teams to create targeted responses aimed at improving workplace participation for the Fund's priority groups.

Each team pitched a proposal to a mentoring panel that identified four proposals as worthy of special merit, and one was identified by popular vote on the day. Certificates were awarded to all five proposals. Ideas produced at the Hack are being submitted through DSS Engage alongside all other submissions; and they will be assessed for shortlisting for co-development alongside all other ideas.

The Hack participants' handbook and a key outcomes document for the Hack are available on [DSS Engage](#).

## Data access

Australian Government researchers can now apply for access to a de-identified subset of Priority Investment Approach data through a password protected online research gateway. The gateway allows researchers to access the data remotely. Strict security and confidentiality protocols apply. This gateway allows accredited researchers to analyse the data in a Secure Unified Research Environment.

Over coming months, access to this data will open up to state government and then other eligible researchers. This gateway is being managed by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). Please email the AIHW at [pia.dataset@aihw.gov.au](mailto:pia.dataset@aihw.gov.au) if you have any queries about arrangements for accessing the dataset. Information about the dataset will be posted on the AIHW website in the near future.

We also expect that from late February 2017, access will be provided to a subset of aggregate Priority Investment Approach data. This data will be publically available online, and accessible through a TableBuilder program—a simple tool that allows users to put variables together with point-and-click technology.

By the middle of 2017 we will have a more sophisticated set of unit record data that is a synthetic version of the true data. This will allow researchers to do more analytical work outside of the secure data environment but not the sort of detailed analysis that requires access to the true dataset.

We will let you know more details about these data projects, as it becomes available; information will also be provided at [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au).

## Finally

Until the next update, please feel free to distribute this newsletter to your networks, and encourage them to [sign up for updates](#). You can also contact us at [InvestmentApproach@dss.gov.au](mailto:InvestmentApproach@dss.gov.au).