COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR AUSTRALIA

BUILDING FLOURISHING COMMUNITIES BY ENHANCING THE EXTRAORDINARY WORK OF AUSTRALIA'S NOT-FOR-PROFIT SECTOR.

18 September 2026

Submission to:

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616
occupation@abs.gov.au

Consultation draft: Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA)

The Community Council for Australia (CCA) supports the changes proposed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to the 2027 Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA) consultation draft. In particular, we support inclusion of the occupation of '**221232 Fundraising Manager**' under the amended category '**2212 Communications and Fundraising Professionals**.'

The ABS is an important source of information on the charity and not-for-profit sector, and the changes will allow a more accurate depiction of the sector's workforce. The CCA notes that there is scope to further improve the OSCA by including specialised occupations from the charity and not-for-profit sector, such as in philanthropy and grant-making, social impact, community development, advocacy, and volunteer management.

We also note that the charity and not-for-profit sector remains underserved by ABS datasets, and the addition of a new non-profit-related occupation does not address the pressing data needs of the sector.

According to the ABS Non-Profit Institutions Satellite Account – when it was last measured, in 2012-13 – the not-for-profit sector added $54.8bn to the Australian economy. The sector employs 1.6 million people, according to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. The ABS already measures workforce data across all industries – but does not generally link the data it publishes to organisations identified as charities and non-profit organisations. This leads to a significant epistemic weakness for the sector: it cannot argue its policy case on the same data available to other industries and sectors.

While the CCA strongly supports the inclusion of the Fundraising Manager occupation in the OSCA, with its focus on fundraising for the non-profit sector, it would be of considerable value if the ABS were able to provide more relevant data on the charity and non-profit sector. This could be done relatively straightforwardly, by:

- Reinstating the Non-Profit Institutions Satellite Account
- Enabling published workforce data to identify the employing sector alongside occupation, including whether workers are employed by a charity or not-for-profit organisation, government or for-profit organisation
- Including a consistent charity or non-profit indicator across relevant ABS workforce statistics, publications and datasets, enabling the sector to be identified and analysed and its contribution to employment and economic activity to be better understood.

Please contact Director of Policy, **David Hofierka** at davidh@communitycouncil.com.au or Research Manager, **Stuart Barrow** at stuartb@communitycouncil.com.au at Community Council for Australia or on 02 6198 3435 if you have any questions about this submission.

Yours sincerely



David Crosbie

CEO, Community Council for Australia

About Community Council for Australia (CCA)

The Community Council for Australia (CCA) is an independent non-political member-based organisation dedicated to building flourishing communities by enhancing the extraordinary work undertaken by the charities and not-for-profit sector in Australia. CCA seeks to change the way governments, communities and not-for-profits relate to one another by providing a national voice and facilitation for sector leaders to act on common and shared issues affecting the contribution, performance, and viability of NFPs in Australia. This includes:

- promoting the values of the sector and the need for reform
- influencing and shaping relevant policy agendas
- improving the way people invest in the sector
- measuring and reporting success in a way that clearly articulates value
- building collaboration and sector efficiency
- informing, educating, and assisting organisations to build sustainable futures

Our success will drive a more sustainable and effective charities and not-for-profit sector in Australia making an increased contribution to the well-being and resilience of all our communities.

Community Council for Australia

Current Membership:

Adult Learning Australia

Alannah and Madeline Foundation

Alliance for Gambling Reform

AMP Foundation

Arab Council Australia

Australian Communications Consumer Action Network

Australian Conservation Foundation

Australian Council for International Development

Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network

Australians Investing in Women

Australian Red Cross

Barnardos Australia

Benefolk Foundation

Camp Quality

Carers Australia

Centre for Social Impact

Chain Reaction Foundation

Churches of Christ Community Care Vic/Tas

Community Broadcasting Association of Australia

Community Education Australia

Connecting Up

Drug Arm Australia

Ethical Jobs

Everyman

Fitted for Work

For Purpose Alliance

Fragile X Association of Australia

Good Samaritan Foundation

Hope Economy

InfoXchange

Justice Connect

Kilfinan Australia

Life Without Barriers

McGrath Foundation

Menslink

Missions Interlink

Our Community

OzHarvest

Philanthropy Australia

Physical Disability Australia

Queensland Water & Land Carers

Regional Arts Australia

RSPCA Australia

Saba Rose Button Foundation

Safe Places Australia

Save the Children Australia

Settlement Services International

Smith Family

Social Ventures Australia

St John Ambulance Australia

Social Leadership Foundation

Starlight Foundation

Tanarra Social Purpose

The Centre for Volunteering

Variety – the Children's Charity of Victoria

Volunteering Australia

Wesley Mission

WWF Australia