

Flexibility Principles

Context

The Department of Human Services and funded service providers work in partnership to deliver responsive, efficient, integrated and client-focused services. Within this partnership, funding flexibility and reduced administrative complexity offer opportunities to improve the delivery of services.

Principles

1. The department is committed to increase flexibility in its funding of the service sector to improve services and reduce administrative complexity where that will improve services.
2. The department encourages proposals from service providers for the flexible use of departmental funds, both current and planned, to improve service delivery. This could include opportunities to work collaboratively with other agencies or programs to achieve shared objectives.
3. The department commits to negotiate with the service provider the parameters of planned or current flexible use of DHS funds in the context of local, regional and statewide considerations.
4. The Consultation and Collaboration Protocol and the MAV Partnership Protocol will guide the development and consideration of all flexible funding proposals.
5. The department's service contract with the service provider will incorporate agreed flexible funding arrangements.
6. The department will use evidence gathered through flexible funding negotiations to inform its ongoing reform of program funding guidelines and business processes.