

Queensland Equal and Together Alliance

Terms of Reference

1. TERM

This Terms of Reference is effective from 20/02/2023 and will be ongoing until terminated by agreement between the parties.

2. CONTEXT

Gender-based violence (GBV) continues to be a pervasive experience in Queensland. There is a growing acceptance of the evidence that gender inequality underpins all GBV. A commitment to better understand and address GBV is reflected in the following:

- [The National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022-2032 \(Australian Commonwealth Govt.\)](#)
- [Not Now, Not Ever: Putting An End To Domestic and Family Violence Report 2015 \(Queensland Govt\)](#)
- [Queensland Women's strategy 2022–27 \(DJAG, Queensland Govt\)](#)
- [Drivers of Gender-Based Violence \(Our Watch\)](#)

Within the existing and emerging evidence-base is a focus on investing efforts and resources across the whole system, from primary, secondary through to tertiary responses. Alongside the evidence-base, the current policy context in Queensland provides for a growing awareness and appreciation of primary prevention approaches. An opportunity exists to harness collective efforts, in order to build capacity and capability for primary prevention across Queensland.

3. OBJECTIVE

The Queensland Equal and Together Alliance (*'The Alliance'*) acts as a collective to **eliminate GBV by making gender equity and inclusion more widely understood and practiced across Queensland.**

As a collective *'The Alliance'* focuses on the primary prevention of gender-based violence by engaging in a range of activities, including but not limited to:

- Sharing best practices and resources among members including information on primary prevention initiatives being undertaken in Queensland and other jurisdictions, funding/grants, and legal/policy reform;
- Leveraging collective wisdom and efforts to contribute to research and advocacy efforts;
- Collaborating on events, workshops and campaigns to educate and engage members and the broader community; *and*
- Partnering with other organisations and initiatives working towards gender equity and inclusion.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- Membership of *'The Alliance'* is open to individuals or entities such as companies, government, businesses, associations, clubs, societies or the like that are committed to promoting gender equity and is based in Queensland.
- *'The Alliance'* will have no limitation on Membership numbers.
- Prospective members may submit membership enquiries to Women's Health and Equality Queensland (WHEQ) via a nominated email.
- A membership register will be maintained by WHEQ. It will include member details such as individual, entity or representative name, postal address, contact email and phone number.
- A list of *'The Alliance'* member organisations, individuals will be published publicly on the *'The Alliance'* webpage via the WHEQ website.

5. MEETINGS

- *'The Alliance'* will hold hybrid meetings (in-person and online) bi-monthly.
- Any additional meetings including professional development opportunities will be arranged at the agreement of *'The Alliance'* membership.

6. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Members of *'The Alliance'* may at times have potential conflicts of interest (or the likely perception of a conflict) in relation to activities of *'The Alliance'*. Members of *'The Alliance'* are required to declare to *'The Alliance'* membership a potential or actual conflict of interest as soon as they are aware of its likelihood, and their involvement in any communication or work related to that activity will cease immediately (e.g. Funding/grant applications sought from government departments where the staff member of that government department is a member of *'The Alliance'*).

7. GOVERNANCE

- The Terms of Reference does not represent a binding agreement. The Terms of reference does not create any legal rights or obligations between signatories to the Terms of Reference.
- All *'The Alliance'* members are required to agree to the Terms of Reference.
- Women's Health and Equality Qld (WHEQ) will coordinate meetings and membership of *'The Alliance'*.
- Decision making and processes in relation to activities of *'The Alliance'* will be decided by the members on a case-by-case basis. Individuals and entities reserve the right to decide if they will actively participate in any decision made by *'The Alliance'*.
- *'The Alliance'* is an unfunded initiative that is run through in-kind support from members and member organisations.
- Any grants or funding sought for *'The Alliance'* as part of its activities will be auspiced by the member organisation deemed most appropriate by the membership.

8. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION OR VARIATION

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by *'The Alliance'* members.