Actions to date against audit recommendations in scope for the Inquiry into Commonwealth grants administration

Audit	Recommendation and response	Departmental actions to date
Audit into the award of funding under the Safer Communities Program	**Recommendation 3:** The Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources clearly identify in the grant opportunity guidelines for competitive selection processes how applications that achieve the same score will be ranked. **Agreed.**	• The Business Grants Hub has since implemented the recommendation in all competitive merit-based grant opportunity guidelines.
Audit into operation of grants hubs	**Recommendation 1:** Department of Finance and the hubs agree a methodology to capture and report performance information that demonstrates the efficiency and effectiveness of grants administration through the hubs. **Agreed**.	• The department has worked with Department of Finance and the Community Grants Hub to develop a Benefits Measurement Plan. The Plan is being developed following a series of consultation activities with both hubs to ensure metrics are robust, achievable, repeatable, and contribute to the overall objective of measuring the benefits delivered by the Hub model. • Internally, we have continued to undertake measurements against our internal Benefits Management Framework, which will feed into the Benefits Measurement Plan once finalised by the Department of Finance.
Audit into operation of grants hubs	**Recommendation 3:** To assist in the achievement of the intended benefits of the SGGA Program, Department of Finance and the hubs establish a whole-of-government grants administration and payments dataset and implement arrangements to assure the quality of the data. **Agreed.**	• The department is working with Department of Finance and the Community Grants Hub on potential solutions. • Internally, a grants data and reporting team was established within the department in 2021. The primary focus of this team is to improve data quality, both in legacy data and in the collection of future data.