

21 November 2018

Senator Catryna Bilyk  
Chair, Select Committee on Charity Fundraising in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 6100

**Response to questions on notice from the Select Committee  
on Charity Fundraising in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Dear Senator,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Select Committee on Charity Fundraising in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Please find below our responses to questions taken on notice, as well as further information on an issue we discussed with the Committee.

**Cost of fundraising in medical research institutes**

Every two years AAMRI undertakes a comprehensive financial and workforce survey of its members. Further details and a report on this survey can be found on our website. Within the survey we ask questions about revenue and expenditure relating to fundraising and philanthropy. The latest survey was published earlier this year and contains financial and workforce data from 2016.

With respect to data on fundraising and philanthropy we received data from 43 of our members. This represents near complete coverage of the medical research institute sector. Revenue and expenditure relating to fundraising and philanthropy activities were as follows:

- Revenue from fundraising and philanthropy – \$259.6 million
- Expenditure on fundraising and philanthropy – \$56.7 million

**Cost of complying with multiple different fundraising regulatory regimes**

In the time available it has not been possible to undertake a comprehensive survey to calculate the cost of complying with multiple different fundraising regulatory regimes. The major cost associated with compliance is the cost of staff time to complete the various forms and reports each state requires. We were able to estimate that on average for those institutes undertaking fundraising activities across Australia it takes around 50 hours each year to comply with all regulatory requirements. This would

represent an annual cost of around \$5,000 per institute. When multiplied across the broader charitable sector this is a significant cost, resulting in funds being diverted away from charitable activities.

**Director details for charities appearing on the ASIC website**

In our submission and in our oral evidence to the inquiry we alerted the Committee to the issue of out of date Director details for charities appearing on the ASIC website, as charities no longer have to report these details to ASIC but to the ACNC. It appears at some point between making our submission to the inquiry and providing oral evidence the ASIC website has been updated, and this out of date information has been removed. Instead, a link to the ACNC website is now provided. We are pleased that this change has been made and would like to alert the Committee to this change.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to provide this additional information. Please do contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Peter Thomas**  
Director of Policy and Operations

