

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and Communities**

**Question No: SQ17-000389**

**Topic: Strong and Resilient Communities**

**Hansard page: 37**

**Senator Louise Pratt asked:**

Are you able to outline yet what kinds of activities have been historically eligible that may not be eligible under the new program [SARC]?

**Answer:**

The overarching policy intent of the Strong and Resilient Communities Activity (SARC) of building strong, inclusive and cohesive communities remains the same as under the Strengthening Communities Activity (SC).

The projects that have historically been funded under SC that may not be eligible for funding under SARC are solely those projects that have been assessed as not closely aligning with areas of Commonwealth responsibility; as set out in the Commonwealth of Australia's Constitution.

Under SC, there were some instances where a small number of broader and more generalised projects were funded (e.g. generalist capacity building projects). Under SARC, similar activities will be funded, provided that they are targeted at a cohort and/or an objective linked to Section 51 of the Commonwealth of Australia's Constitution. These activities include, but are not necessarily limited to, projects directed at:

- Children and youth under 18 years
- Unemployed people
- People with disability and/or mental health issues
- Non-Australian citizens and/or newly arrived migrants; and
- Indigenous Australians.

The Volunteer Management Program, previously under SC, been as established as a standalone Activity outside of SARC.