

Expression of Interest



Seeking: Consultant

Project: Consumer Consensus Statement for Action on the Australian Opioid Dependence Treatment Program (ODTP)



Project Overview

The Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL), Australia's national peak body representing state and territory organisations of people who use drugs, is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from community consultants to conduct consultations, design and facilitate a one-day workshop, and develop a consumer consensus statement for action on the optimal delivery of the opioid dependence treatment program (ODTP).

The consumer consensus statement will set out what people who use drugs want from ODT programs in Australia into the future. The statement will be developed with our community of people with living-lived experience of treatment for opioid dependence and other drug user advocates. It will then be included in a broader national consensus statement, which is being developed by a coalition of stakeholders including clinicians, practitioners, community organisations and other experts.



Background Information

On 7 September 2026, AIVL and partners are hosting a Forum at Australia's Parliament House in Canberra. **The National Consensus for Action Forum: A Roundtable on Australian Opioid Dependence Treatment.**

The Forum will bring together a diverse range of stakeholders, including consumer and community organisations, people with living-lived experience of ODTP, clinicians and professional bodies, researchers, government representatives and funders, to form consensus on how to progress change in this important area of health.

Despite the 2023 reforms to the payment architecture for opioid dependence treatment medicines, significant system-level challenges continue to affect how ODT programs are delivered and experienced across Australia. Issues including access, the ageing workforce, lack of uptake from general practice, lack of contemporary clinical guidelines and stigma and discrimination still significantly impact the efficacy and reach of this program.

The Forum will present shared national priorities to improve access, quality, consistency, and resourcing of ODTP across Australia. Through a series of facilitated discussions and consensus-building activities, participants will work toward an evidence-informed national advocacy position on ODTP reform, aligning research, policy, service delivery, and lived-living experience into a coherent national direction.

The Forum will culminate in the development of an advocacy statement articulating a shared national vision for ODTP reform, including priority actions for governments and key stakeholders.



Consultation and Consensus Process

Consultations and Workshop

The chosen consultant will be responsible for designing and running community consultations culminating in a 1-day workshop. The workshop will be open only to those who have been invited. This will create a safe space to promote genuine discussion about the needs of ODTP consumers and our vision for ODTP in Australia.

The chosen consultant will then produce a consensus statement for AIVL which reflects the views of consumers of Australian ODTP. This consensus statement will then be shared to the broader expert audience at the AIVL webinar discussed below.

Webinar Series

In the lead-up to the Forum, a series of online webinars will bring together key stakeholders to build a shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities shaping ODT programs in Australia.

These sessions will explore current evidence, living-lived experience, and system-level insights to help inform a draft national consensus statement that will be further developed at the Forum.

The webinar series will be open to all interested attendees across Australia. Additional information will be made available closer to the event. The 3 webinars together will inform the national consensus statement. The webinars will be on the following topics.

Webinar 1	Setting the Scene: Reforming Australia's ODTP – Key Evidence, Priorities and Unfinished Business – the post-market review ODTP report and PBS reforms, and Harm Reduction Australia's subsequent briefing paper on advocacy priorities.
Webinar 2	Pharmacotherapy Systems: Mapping Challenges and Best Practice.
Webinar 3	The third webinar will be presented by AIVL and will present the products of this consultation to the wider audience of interested attendees, including ODTP consumers, clinicians, researchers and other stakeholders.



Outcomes

This project will:

- Achieve consensus on priorities

Develop consensus from people with lived-experience of being on ODTP as consumers, advocates from Australia's peer-based Drug User Organisations (DUOs) and selected invited allies about the priorities for change in achieving an optimal and equitable program.

- Produce a Consumer Consensus Statement for ODTP in Australia.

This statement will then be shared at the AIVL webinar and included in the broader consensus statement being developed by a coalition of stakeholders at Australian Parliament House on 7th September.

Expectations

The primary aim of this project is to develop a Consumer Consensus Statement for Action on the Australian Opioid Dependence Treatment Program.

This will be achieved through a process of community consultation, culminating in a one-day consensus workshop.

The project will produce a suite of deliverables, including:

- Consumer Consensus Statement for Action;

- a consultation findings report; and
- a presentation outlining the agreed key priorities.

	Activity	Due Date
1.	Work with convenors to identify and use available resources, previous consultations, and research for the delivery of other project activities.	16 Jul
2.	Design and deliver up to 9 community consultations (online or in-person TBD) with 1 national organisation and up to 9 state and territory organisations.	16 Jul – 7 Aug
3.	Design and deliver a 1-day online workshop with up to 30 members of Australia’s peer-based DUOs and community.	By 21 Aug
4.	Deliver the Consumer Consensus Statement.	By or on 24 Aug
5.	Deliver the report on findings from the consultation, including key priority areas for delivering an optimal ODTP.	By or on 24 Aug
6.	Deliver a slide deck on key priorities for optimal ODTP delivery from the community perspective.	By or on 4 Sep

Some flexibility in terms of order and process is available however all project deliverables must be completed by 24 August 2026.



Who We're Looking For

This project is time-limited with a fixed date for delivery.

AIVL is looking for a person who is flexible, responsive, creative, community-focused, and able to meet the deadlines for delivery of consultations, workshops and reporting.

There is capacity for the consultant to inform the delivery of the project in consultation with AIVL and a small group of convenors involved in delivering the final National Consensus for Action Forum.

Current work with community members and DUOs in Australia will be available to integrate into the consultation phase of the project.

Essential Selection Criteria

- Demonstrated experience designing and delivering workshops to the community, especially for people with lived-experience of using drugs and/or harm reduction-focused community organisations.

- Demonstrated experience designing and delivering group consultations in person and/or online.
- Experience in analysis and report writing to inform advocacy and/or policy change.
- A strong understanding of harm reduction and alcohol and other drug treatment systems, and the ability to quickly understand the Australian context.
- Technical expertise and experience in policy, advocacy, systems development, strategic planning or training.
- Capacity to deliver the project within budget and on time.
- Able to deliver the project either in person or online, with travel to Australia if necessary.

Desirable Selection Criteria

- Lived-living experience of illicit drug use, the opioid dependence treatment program, or similar.
- Experience working in or with peer-based Drug User Organisations in Australia or elsewhere.
- An understanding of the opioid dependence treatment program (ODTP) and health services in Australia.



How To Apply

Please Submit:

- Cover letter addressing the selection criteria
- Project proposal (maximum five pages)
- Budget and timeline
- Current resume
- Examples of relevant previous work

Expressions of Interest must be submitted by email no later than **9:00 am (AEST), Monday 13 July 2026**.

Send to:

John Gobeil

finance@aivl.org.au

Questions about this EOI:

Ele Morrison

Phone: 0433 940 433 Email: elem@aivl.org.au

Engagement Details

- Project commencement: As soon as possible
- Funding available: Up to \$30,000 (exclusive of GST)
- Location: Remote. Some travel within Australia may be required to facilitate consultations