

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

To support co-research practices that reflect the Framework and requires all consumer partnerships to be respectful and operate for mutual benefit.

1.2 Rationale

The SAHMRI **Consumer Reimbursement Policy** (POL 0039) which is consistent with the SA government policy on consumer sitting fees/cost reimbursement, provides the baseline for reimbursing consumer members of SAHMRI committees and working groups.

Research grant schemes – and project development phases – cannot always access funding for consumer reimbursement. The Committee does not want lack of funding to create a barrier to building consumer engagement.

1.3 Policy Statement

All SAHMRI co-research partnerships with consumers will be respectful; reflect the Framework; and operate for mutual benefit.

2 Definitions

N/A

3 Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Consumer and Community Partnership Committee are detailed in the **Committee Terms of Reference** (DOC0086).

4 Policy Guidelines

Mutual benefit may take the form of formal partnerships, education, opportunities and/or recognition. This means that:

Consumers partnering with SAHMRI:

- Are aware of, understand and support the nature, purpose and anticipated impact of the activity in which they engage
- Agree on the contribution they will make, and where this sits on the spectrum of public participation and hence what they can expect as a result of their participation
- Are reimbursed for their time and other costs, in accordance with SAHMRI **Consumer Reimbursement Policy** (POL 0039)

SAHMRI staff:

- Incorporate reimbursement and other consumer benefits into all aspects of co-research
- Advocate for systemic change to ensure consumer reimbursement and other benefits are integral to research grant program policy and practice.

5 Associated Documents

5.1 External

- [Integrating consumer engagement in health and medical research- an Australian framework](#)

5.2 Internal

- Consumer Reimbursement Policy (POL 039)
- Consumer and Community Partnership Committee Terms of Reference (DOC0086).
- [A Consumer and Community Engagement Framework for the SAHMRI](#)