



# National Strategy for Volunteering

# Presenting Action Plan 2024-2027

**National Strategy  
for Volunteering**

2023–2033



# National Strategy for Volunteering

The National Strategy for Volunteering is a **ten-year blueprint** and **national strategic framework**.

It provides a clear and compelling **case for change** to achieve a **better future for volunteering**, underpinned by robust data and evidence.

Its vision is that **volunteering is the heart of Australian communities**.

# “ Volunteering is the heart of Australian communities ”

*National Strategy for  
Volunteering vision*

The National Strategy for Volunteering is **co-owned by the volunteering ecosystem**. Each member has a role to play in creating a better future for volunteering.

## Achieving the Vision

- Three-Year Action Plans
- Actions taken independently across the volunteering ecosystem

# National Strategy Action Plans

The National Strategy for Volunteering uses a phased approach, including **three Action Plan** phases.

Action Plans are **co-designed** to reflect the needs of the volunteering ecosystem and **identify key priorities** to implement the National Strategy.

2023

Development

Establishment

First Three-Year  
Action Plan

Second Three-Year  
Action Plan

Third Three-Year  
Action Plan

2033

# Co-Design Process

## Ideation

Public workshops

Targeted consultations

State and territory workshops

Development Phase workshops

**1,600+**  
ideas  
generated

## Refinement

Establishment Design Team

National Strategy for Volunteering staff

Testing with key stakeholders

NSV Council Endorsement

**First Three-Year  
Action Plan**

The National Strategy Council has **endorsed the Action Plan** and the accompanying guiding documents on governance, evaluation and shared accountability.

We are very proud that members of the volunteering ecosystem have come together to develop this Action Plan. It represents a **collective commitment to taking action** to achieve a positive future for volunteering.

We are now excited for the **opportunities for everyone** that lie ahead as we progress the Action Plan and implement the National Strategy.

**Doug Taylor**

Chair, National Strategy for Volunteering Council  
CEO, The Smith Family

# National Strategy for Volunteering

2023–2033



## Action Plan

2024–2027





## National Strategy for Volunteering 2023–2033

## Action Plan 2024–2027

# Action Plan 2024-2027

A suite of **22 actions** including commitments from:

- 5 federal government departments and agencies
- 7 state and territory volunteering peak bodies
- NSV Research Working Group
- Volunteering Australia
- Justice Connect

**National Strategy for Volunteering**  
2023–2033

**Action Plan**  
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## Supporting Actions

The National Strategy is for everyone – and so is Action Plan 2024-2027.

Actions from lead stakeholders are complemented by **supporting actions**: accessible opportunities to participate, share or benefit from actions.

No matter your role, there is an opportunity to be part of Action Plan 2024-2027.

# Building and Sharing Knowledge

## Action

## Lead Stakeholder

1

Produce and implement a survey to measure and track the volunteer experience nationally

Volunteering Australia

8

Deliver a research translation initiative to support evidence-based policy and practice

NSV Research Working Group  
Volunteering Australia

10

Collect and publish new official national data on volunteering in Australia

Australian Bureau of Statistics

21

Establish an agenda for the future of volunteering research

NSV Research Working Group  
Volunteering Australia

# Aligning Policies and Strategies

	Action	Lead Stakeholder
2	Align implementation of Play Well and the Sport Volunteer Coalition Action Plan with the National Strategy for Volunteering	Australian Sports Commission
4	Progress greater national consistency of working with children checks	Commonwealth Attorney General's Department / National Office for Child Safety
14	Scope a whole of Australian Government approach to volunteering	Department of Social Services
15	Encourage alignment between state and territory volunteering strategies and the National Strategy for Volunteering	Department of Social Services
18	Progress appropriate alignment of federal government funding for volunteering with the National Strategy for Volunteering	Department of Social Services

# Sharing the Story of Volunteering

	Action	Lead Stakeholder
3	Establish a mechanism to channel the voice of volunteers into policy and practice	Coalition of Support Volunteering ecosystem
7	Deliver a national and ongoing Share Your Story initiative	State and Territory Volunteering Peak Bodies Volunteering Australia
9	Deliver a national campaign to raise awareness of volunteering	Department of Social Services
11	Communicate the value and impact of volunteering	Coalition of Support Volunteering ecosystem
12	Host a public conversation on approaches to informal volunteering and community-led volunteering	Volunteering Australia

# Volunteering Tools and Resources

	Action	Lead Stakeholder
6	Increase volunteer involving organisations' understanding of their legal obligations to volunteers	Justice Connect
19	Develop a national volunteering passport	Volunteering ecosystem
20	Deliver a central platform of tools and resources	Volunteering Australia
22	Align the implementation of National Standards for Volunteer Involvement with the National Strategy	State and Territory Volunteering Peak Bodies Volunteering Australia

# Collaborative Networks and Partnerships

## Action

## Lead Stakeholder

5

Host forums to enhance collaboration and knowledge-sharing around inclusive volunteering

Representative bodies  
Volunteering Australia

13

Create new community-led volunteering partnerships

Coalition of Support  
Volunteering ecosystem

16

Establish an Employee Volunteering Community of Practice

Volunteering Australia  
Co-hosting employers

17

Support the National Strategy for Volunteering by acting as a State / Territory Ambassador

State and Territory Volunteering Peak Bodies

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2023–2033

Action Plan  
2024–2027

## Ecosystem and Supporter Actions

Some actions are led by the **Coalition of Support** and **volunteering ecosystem**.

The Coalition of Support is a network that have made a **public commitment** to the National Strategy for Volunteering. You can join today to demonstrate your support.

These actions provide **guided opportunities** for Supporters and the wider volunteering ecosystem to make specific commitments to implement the National Strategy.



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# Governance, Evaluation and Roles

Action Plan 2024-2027 is complemented by three other documents.

These provide more detail on the governance, evaluation and responsibilities for the National Strategy.

- Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- Model for Shared Accountability
- Governance Blueprint

## National Strategy for Volunteering 2023–2033

## Action Plan 2024–2027

Today marks the beginning of the first **Three-Year Action Plan** phase of the National Strategy for Volunteering.

### What you can do:

- Download the Action Plan and supporting documents
- Join the Coalition of Support
- Start planning which **supporting** or **ecosystem actions** apply to your volunteering practice
- Take action independently to help implement the National Strategy



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