



Image by Lynton Crabb

Finding the best corporate structure for Alzheimer's Australia (Queensland)

> THE CONTEXT

Alzheimer's Australia Queensland (AAQ) was established in 2002, and comprises seven regional entities. In turn AAQ is a member of the national Alzheimer's Australia. Positive Solutions had earlier been engaged to undertake a board review for AAQ, the recommendations from which had been acted upon. Linkage to the regional bodies was one of the issues examined during the board review. These organisations varied in scale – and in financial health, with one of the bodies having recently been found to be insolvent, and wound up. The existence of a federated regional structure was unique to Queensland.

> THE BRIEF

Positive Solutions was engaged by AAQ to review the corporate structure and governance arrangements for the State body and to identify and evaluate options for future arrangements. Concurrent with our work KPMG was commissioned to undertake a financial evaluation of the organisation and one of the regional bodies.

> OUR APPROACH

Following a briefing with the CEO and Corporate Services Manager we reviewed program, legal, financial and other relevant documentation, and interviewed board members and senior staff. To understand the pros and cons of alternative structures we interviewed the CEOs of three other State bodies and the CEO of the national body. We also consulted the CEOs of four other Australian federated non-profit organisations. A progress report to the board of AAQ was followed by preparing our draft final report.

We identified four alternative approaches to future governance and structure. Our recommendation was for AAQ to transition to a unitary organisation, ensuring that strong presence would also be retained in North Queensland. We suggested a route forward for achieving this.

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- > [Oxfam Australia Governance Review and Training](#)
- > [Queensland Health Capacity Building and Organisational Development](#)
- > [BoardConnect](#)