



National Lived Experience Commission

Executive Summary

Registered Australian Charity | June 2026 | Board Approved

"Lived experience is not symbolic consultation. It is operational intelligence."

OUR MISSION

NLEC is a registered national Australian charity that converts lived experience into operational intelligence, public-interest evidence and reform pressure directed at changes to law, policy, practice and system design.

NLEC is an ACNC-registered national charity with a recognised charitable purpose of advancing public debate — authorising us to engage in evidence-based advocacy, policy reform, submissions, research and institutional engagement in the public interest.

THE OPPORTUNITY

NLEC exists to close the gap between lived experience and reform. By converting lived experience into structured, rigorous, publicly accountable evidence, NLEC enables institutions to design better systems, make better decisions and produce better outcomes.

Australia's lived experience intelligence infrastructure is being built now. The question for every institution is not whether to engage — it is whether to do it symbolically or substantively.

NLEC SERVICES

- Lived Experience Advisory Retainer
- Institutional Reform Partner Retainer
- Consultation Design & Delivery
- Lived Experience Advisory Panel
- Policy Reform Briefing
- System Failure Review
- Commissioned Research Report

THE STRATEGIC PROBLEM

Australia's institutions routinely gather lived experience — and then fail to use it. Consultation processes satisfy procedural requirements without producing substantive reform. The people whose experience is most relevant to system design are the least likely to influence it.

The cost is not just wasted time. It is the perpetuation of systems that harm the people they are meant to serve.

OUR PUBLIC DEBATE MANDATE

NLEC's registered charitable purpose of advancing public debate authorises it to:

- Publish evidence-based reform reports and recommendations
- Make submissions to inquiries and reviews
- Engage with government and institutions
- Convene public forums and roundtables
- Promote or oppose changes to law, policy and practice

NLEC does not claim coercive statutory power. Its authority rests in evidence, public benefit, charitable purpose and lived-experience intelligence.

REFORM DOMAINS

- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Disability & NDIS
- Housing & Homelessness
- Child Protection & Out-of-Home Care
- Justice & Corrections
- Health & Aged Care
- Social Services & Income Support

- Public Forum / Roundtable
- Executive Briefing
- Training & Capability Workshop
- Education & Early Childhood
- Family Violence & Safety
- First Nations Systems

FUNDING & PARTNERSHIP OPTIONS

Retainer Partners

\$25,000–\$180,000 p.a.

Ongoing advisory, intelligence and reform services

Project Partners

\$8,500–\$180,000

Scoped research, consultation and advisory projects

Philanthropic Funders

By negotiation

Core operations, programme and endowment funding

Public Debate Sponsors

\$50,000–\$120,000 p.a.

Forums, reports and reform publications

Partnership Governance Assurance: All NLEC partnerships are subject to board approval, charitable-purpose alignment, editorial independence, conflict-of-interest management and public-benefit assessment. No partner may direct, control or suppress NLEC's findings, publications or public positions.

Immediate Call to Action

- Request a meeting with NLEC's Executive Director or Partnership Director
- Review NLEC's Annual Reform Agenda
- Identify your preferred partnership model
- Contact NLEC for a tailored partnership proposal
- Explore commissioned research opportunities
- Join Australia's lived experience intelligence infrastructure

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Independent Board Governance | ACNC Governance Standards Compliant | Full Editorial Independence | Fair Participant Remuneration | Public Benefit Focused

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