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MEDIA RELEASE

Vinnies welcomes fundraising reform

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Claire Victory, National President of the St Vincent de Paul Society's National Council has welcomed the Federal Treasurer's announcement to cut red tape for charities which fundraise across the country.

'Simplifying reporting requirements and creating a single registration point will help to streamline charitable activities,' Ms Victory said.

'Existing fundraising laws are complex, variable across the states and territories and no longer fit for purpose. They require charities to register in multiple jurisdictions and do not reflect the online environment that is used heavily now to collect donations.

'It is important that the proposed national, cross-border registration system provides assurances to the public, donors and government that charities are transparent and accountable in their fundraising activities.

'In September, the Society prepared a submission to the Charitable Fundraising National Working Group's discussion paper on the proposed cross-border recognition model for charitable fundraisers. This submission drew on learnings from appeal processes used to respond to the Black Summer Bushfires.

'The submission supported a cross-border model and recommended that more use be made of the ACNC's registration, reporting and auditing requirements that are already in place.

'The cross-border registration scheme is a great start.

'However, the ACNC should be resourced to streamline fundraising management and administration in Australia and relevant Commonwealth and state and territory laws should be amended to support this role.

The Society's full submission is accessible [here](#).

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia consists of 60,000 members and volunteers who operate on the ground through over 1,000 groups located in local communities across the country.

MEDIA CONTACT: Judith Tokley 0408 824 306 / 0475 068 209 or media@svdp.org.au

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