

Over the past two years (2017–2019) UHPCP has developed an expectation of when and why UHPCP might participate in an initiative, as well as when UHPCP might specifically seek and or accept funding for an initiative. The ‘UHPCP participation guidelines’, developed in March 2017, has been a critical clarifying document. More recently, as the reputation and credibility of UHPCP develops, the question has become not just could/should PCP be involved but when is it the right thing to do.

As a result, the UHPCP Executive resolved that this question be answered with reference to the following:

- the ‘UHPCP participation guidelines’ (see below)
- the value proposition for members and to the PCP (Is it worth doing?)
- the UHPCP Strategic and Operational Plans including UHPCP Principles
- an assessment of risk for UHPCP that includes:
 - capability
 - likelihood of distraction from the main focus
 - reputational risk.
- Statewide priorities for Primary Care Partnerships

Clearly, UHPCP must be mindful of the good of member organisations, but this is the collective member organisations, not necessarily an individual organisation.

UHPCP participation guidelines

UHPCP will participate in an initiative when:

- it requires multiple organisations to work collaboratively
- it involves collaborative work re Social Determinants of Health
- the activity will result in system improvement
- it requires advocacy for consumers and community to enable their participation.

Why will UHPCP participate?

- As an impetus for action/collaboration
- If it provides an opportunity to influence an innovative approach
- To enable organisations to look beyond their own ‘space’ in relation to a specific issue/challenge
- To utilise the specific skills of UHPCP staff
- To provide a strategic lens to a collaborative approach—a helicopter view
- To build capacity/to enable
- To engage necessary but reluctant organisations.

What role might UHPCP play?

- Lead agency
- Consortium member
- Initiator
- Funder/part funder
- Provider of framework/structure
- Backbone organisation (as described in the Collective Impact Framework)
- Capacity building.

In prioritising where UHPCP might focus, further consideration would include:

- impact on marginalised communities
- locally generated challenges
- members’ appetite
- staff skills
- available resources
- potential to further develop PCP as a credible organisation
- building on previous initiatives and outcomes.