

**Submission regarding the Future foundations for giving draft report  
Hornsby Asquith District Christian Education Association**

The Hornsby Asquith District Christian Education Association (HADCEA) is a sub-committee of SU Generate, and consists of a partnership of 14 churches in the Hornsby-Asquith area of Sydney, NSW. We have at least 100 direct supporters within our shire.

We employ three part-time teachers to teach Combined Christian SRE, run lunchtime groups and provide care to students in two schools in the Hornsby Shire (Asquith Girls' and Boys' High Schools.) In addition, HADCEA has provided community welfare in the form of food hampers for families in need, as well as community breakfasts within the schools.

100% of our funding derives from donations from members of churches in our area. The DGR status of SU Generate is crucial for our continued operation – given our financial outlook, it is reasonable to expect that removal of tax deductibility for contributions would mean that HADCEA would be unable to continue the work that we do.

We respectfully ask the Productivity Commission to consider the social and community benefits of SRE and related activities in schools. We refer to the *Study of Special Religious Education and its value to contemporary society* by Professor Zehavit Gross and Professor Emerita Suzanne D. Rutland OAM (found at <https://www.insights.uca.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Executive-Summary.pdf> and attached to this submission) which reports that SRE provides key benefits to students including values education, psychological benefits, strengthening Australia's multicultural fabric and providing safe places for students to explore questions of identity. This is in addition to the ancillary social and community charitable activities performed and organised by SRE boards such as HADCEA.

We respectfully request that the DGR status of giving for Special Religious instruction in schools in Australia is preserved.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Leong  
Chairperson  
On behalf of HADCEA (a sub-committee of SU Generate)