

# Appendix A: Minimum requirements

Unless otherwise indicated, this section sets out the minimum requirements that applicants will need to comply with if their application is successful. Proposed active sharing mobile solutions that do not meet the minimum requirements may be excluded from further consideration at the department's absolute discretion during eligibility assessment.

## Service requirements

Proposed active sharing mobile solutions must use active infrastructure sharing to deliver new handheld coverage or overlapping handheld coverage from each of the applicant's access seekers and access providers (if applicable) networks to an eligible location.

Where an applicant seeks funding for a cluster solution, all solutions forming part of the cluster must provide new handheld coverage or overlapping handheld coverage to an eligible location.

The following active infrastructure sharing types will be accepted by the department for consideration for funding:

- Multi-Operator Radio Access Network (MORAN)
- Multi-Operator Core Network (MOCN)
- Core Network Sharing (CN Sharing)
- Domestic roaming.

Proposed active sharing mobile solutions may consider a hybrid approach to active infrastructure sharing (for example a MOCN solution with a MORAN overlay).

Proposed active sharing mobile solutions may also consider the use of Open-RAN (O-RAN) and/or any other standardised interfaces, approaches and technologies to deliver an active infrastructure sharing service.

Proposed active sharing mobile solutions must enable consumers to perform a range of functions using mobile devices, such as making and receiving phone calls, sending emails and text messages, browsing the internet, accessing online services, downloading files, using mobile apps, and accessing emergency communications services. To meet this expectation:

- all proposed active sharing mobile solutions will be required to deliver, at a minimum, 4G broadband data and voice services for the applicant's access seekers and access providers (if applicable) networks
- applicants must provide coverage modelling (**improved handheld coverage maps**) for all proposed active sharing mobile solutions identifying each solution's predicted new handheld coverage and overlapping coverage (**predictive coverage zone**) for the applicant's access seekers and access providers (if applicable) networks with an outdoor Reference Signal Received Power (RSRP) at a 90 per cent confidence level for the cell area
- coverage modelling must be provided in either MapInfo TAB, ESRI Shape or GML format and must be capable of being overlaid with each applicant organisation's handheld 4G and 5G coverage maps provided during organisation registration
- coverage modelling must have a granularity no greater than 100 metres squared, with an RSRP resolution of 1-dBm, down to a minimum value of -120 dBm.

All proposed active sharing mobile solutions will be required to deliver mobile services in accordance with the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Cth) and other applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

Proposed active sharing mobile solutions must have an auxiliary back-up power supply which provides back-up power for a minimum of 12 hours in the event of the loss of external power to the site, unless otherwise agreed by the department.

## Co-location and co-build – Mobile coverage solutions

Access providers must offer active sharing on a funded active sharing mobile solution to all MNOs and passive sharing to all other non-MNO access seekers, including NSW Government agencies, which were not part of the project team at the time of application submission. This is subject to the following requirements of this section.

Access providers must, in accordance with Appendix B, grant rights to the Department in respect of any funded assets. The department's rights will be subordinate to the rights granted to:

- access seekers that are MNOs to access the active sharing mobile solution, for the purpose of engaging in active sharing, and

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- access seekers that are non-MNOs to access that part of the funded asset that does not comprise the active component of the active sharing mobile solution, for the purpose of engaging in passive sharing.

Access for the purpose of engaging in active and passive sharing must be offered for a minimum period of 10 years from the date the funded active sharing mobile solution is RFS on a non-discriminatory basis in accordance with the Facilities Access Code to late entrant access seekers.

If a proposed active sharing mobile solution is approved for funding, the access provider must subject to these guidelines commence access negotiations for active and passive sharing on the funded active sharing mobile solution as soon as possible after contract execution of the funding deed and before commencing the funded active sharing mobile solution's detailed design phase. In doing so, the access provider must:

- write to access seekers which did not form part of the project team at the time of application offering the opportunity to:
  - if an MNO, to actively share on the funded active sharing mobile solution, or
  - non-MNO access seekers to passively co-locate on the part of the funded asset that does not comprise the active component of the active sharing mobile solution
- negotiate in good faith with all organisations that satisfy the requirements of these guidelines and express interest in active or passive sharing on funded active sharing mobile solutions, including regarding the terms and conditions of such an arrangement (particularly regarding price)
- if technically feasible, allow additional access seekers who have entered into commercial agreements with the access provider to actively share on the funded active sharing mobile solution to participate in the funded active sharing mobile solution's design and build phases, and
- provide the estimated incremental cost (based on a desktop analysis) of the funded active sharing mobile solution supporting additional access providers (both passive and active) to the department and the project team's access seekers.

The capital contribution to be made by an access seeker in respect of a funded active sharing mobile solution must, at least, equal the incremental cost incurred by the access provider by reason of provisioning the access for that funded active sharing mobile solution.

Where a funded active sharing mobile solution's access provider reaches an agreement with an additional access seeker regarding access to the funded active sharing mobile solution, the access provider must offer backhaul to the additional party if it is in a position to do so.

The terms and pricing of backhaul services provided by a grantee to an access seeker must be negotiated commercially in good faith and in accordance with the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth), *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Cth) and relevant codes, determinations and other instruments.