

RESOLUTION PATHWAYS

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I have been asked by the ACCC to provide information about the current funding regime for Resolution Pathways to provide a context for the review of the proposed funding models going forward.

The current funding model is based on these three principles:

- The scope of Resolution Pathways being restricted to disputes where APRA is a party.
- Co- contribution from the disputing parties for costs at the rates included in the current authorisation, with APRA paying all costs in excess of that for any particular matter.
- The Stakeholder Group, Governance Committee and independent chair serving as unpaid volunteers.

Unless otherwise agreed by APRA on a case by case basis, the number of disputes dealt with by Resolution Pathways is therefore currently limited to disputes within scope - where APRA is a party.

The current funding model provides a retainer to cover 5 days a quarter for establishment costs and administration.

It also guarantees funding over and above the amounts stipulated in the ACCC authorisation for any disputes within the scope of the ACCC authorisation where co-contribution was not sufficient.

There is no guarantee of funding for other types of disputes or projects.

Additional funding for other types of disputes or projects (e.g. member-to- member disputes) depends on a request from the Resolution Pathways Facilitator after a discussion with the newly formed Governance Committee.

Please note:

- Blanket funding would not have been possible in a start-up before data was available on the disputes and the costs.
- APRA has funded all requests so far, including a peer review project and a number of member disputes which do not involve APRA.

The form of funding model is best decided in conjunction with the preferred scope of Resolution Pathways.

The suggestion from the Resolution Facilitator is that a funding envelope is agreed together with a mechanism for allocation of that funding between projects in consultation with APRA – but importantly, not solely by APRA.

Shirli Kirschner
Resolution Facilitator.

