I'm Dr Cathy Adamek and I represent Ausdance, the not for profit peak body for dance in Australia providing support services for the dance sector. I’m here with my colleagues Michelle Silby and Jacob Williams, and we are representing Ausdance National and the Ausdance Network which spans the states and territories (with varying levels of funding).

Ausdance has over 10,000 Australia-wide members, and many more subscribers, consisting of professional artists and companies, tertiary institutions, schools, small to medium business dance studios, community and social dance, and dance for health and well-being.

We celebrate Australia’s new NCP – Revive, and we support its broad recommendations relating to all art forms. However, there are gaps we would like to see addressed:

* **There needs to be more support for First Nations dance across the sector.**
* **There is little reference to dance or language-specific references to dance across all pillars, which primarily emphasise visual arts and music.**
  + **Dance is a major contributor to cultural storytelling**
  + **is one of the most diverse art forms, and**
  + **is one of the top three most popular forms of physical recreation.**
  + **We ask that dance is explicitly recognised across the five pillars.**
* Over the past decade there has been decreasing support for small to medium dance companies and independent dance artists. We look forward to renewed levels of support, and include further investment in and the promotion of dance therapy and dance for health and wellbeing.
* We want to see more investment in dance support organisations/centres/festivals/peak bodies and service organisations which provide dance practitioners with access to performance opportunities, safe dance spaces, and administrative and workplace support.
* Ausdance requires recognition and support to assist in the delivery of NCP policies in partnership with government, and to continue development of accreditation and industry standards of Safe Dance Practice and Child Safety, to be implemented across the Dance sector.
* We need consolidated data (which is currently divided between different government agencies) to provide a true reflection of Australian dance engagement.
* Dance is a female dominated industry, and dance artists are some of the lowest paid arts workers. Awards need to be clarified and dance practitioners remunerated consistently with other disciplines/industries to address issues of equity.

- As founding members of the National Advocates for Arts Education, we want to see their recommendations fully implemented.

**The Ausdance Network has, over the last 45 years, engaged with the dance sector and communities across the country. We request that Ausdance and its members are engaged with and represented in all Creative Australia task forces. Ausdance looks forward to working with Creative Australia and the government to address these opportunities for the benefit of dance and the broader Australian community.**