

Lia Oliver | Manger

Lia is an experienced project manager and social scientist. Lia joined ARTD in 2018 and has been involved with several projects across a wide range of sectors. She assists government and communities to improve their services and programs to make meaningful changes to people's lives.

Her excellent organisational skills mean even logistically complex projects are finished on time and budget. Lia's wide experience and ability to form rapid rapport with people from diverse backgrounds, including young people, gives strength to her qualitative data collection, stakeholder engagement and project management.



I enjoy collaborating with clients and I'm always keen to learn from their expertise to deliver a useful and practical evaluation.

Education:

- Bachelor of Arts (Socio-legal Studies and Social Policy), University of Sydney, 2017
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Sector experience: Mixed methods evaluation

Lia's expertise lies in leveraging existing qualitative and quantitative data and integrating it with new data to provide practical, robust answers to key evaluation questions that are useful to decision-makers. She plays a key role in strengthening ARTD's business systems, giving her a well-informed perspective when working with clients seeking to achieve the same.

- Evaluation of the Department of Social Services Supported Employment Initiatives (Department of Social Services (DSS), 2025–2027)
 - Evaluation of the Opportunity Pathways Social Impact Investment (Homes NSW, 2024–2026)
 - Overarching Bushfires Evaluation (NSW Reconstruction Authority, 2022–2024)
 - Australian Skills Quality Authority Evaluation Services (Australian Skills Quality Authority, 2022)
 - Future Directions in Social Housing: Service Improvement Initiatives (NSW Department of Communities and Justice, 2019–2022)
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Sector experience: Evaluations of grant programs

Lia's work in grants program evaluation has helped clients assess the appropriateness, effectiveness, and efficiency of grants administration, as well as the broader impact of grants. Her experience spans diverse sectors including regional development, health, infrastructure, sport, environment and creative industries.

- Housing Assistance Measures and Small to Medium Business and Not for Profit Grants (NSW Reconstruction Authority, 2025–2026)
- NSW Grants Evaluation & Strategic Review (Office for Youth, 2026)
- Evaluation of the Resilient Homes Program, Resilient Lands Program, and Flood Property Assessment Program (NSW Reconstruction Authority, 2026–2027)

- Review of the Water and Snow Safety Program and Surf Lifesaving Australia Training Measure (Department of Health and Aged Care, 2023)
- Process Evaluation of the Stronger Countries Communities Fund Round 5 (NSW Department of Regional NSW, 2023)
- Phase 2 of the NSW 2019/20 Bushfires Community Recovery and Resilience Grants (NSW Reconstruction Authority, 2023)

Sector experience: Evaluations of Pilot and Innovation Programs

Lia has developed specialist expertise in innovative programs, both those delivered at scale by the Commonwealth Government or in specific geographic areas. In this work, she employs methods that emphasise learning through practice.

- eSafety's Children and Technology Evaluation (The Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner, 2026)
- Review into new PALM Operational Policy Settings (Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, 2024)
- Post-implementation review of Australian Government Consulting (Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, 2024)
- Australian Trusted Trade Program Sustainment Phase Evaluation (Department of Home Affairs, 2024)
- Department of Communities and Justice Workload Analysis (Homes NSW, 2024)

Project experience: Surveys

Lia has experience designing, administering and analysing surveys across a range of policy and program evaluations. She works closely with stakeholders to develop practical, targeted survey instruments and uses tailored communication strategies to encourage participation and maximise response rates. Her analysis helps clients identify key patterns and make informed decisions.

- Regional Development Australia Stakeholder Surveys (Department of Infrastructure Transport Cities and Regional Development, 2019/2020, 2021/2020, 2024/2025)
- Evaluation of Consumer Participation and Health Literacy Programs (The Health Care Consumers Associate ACT, 2026)
- Work Activity Analysis – DCJ Housing Operations (Home NSW, 2023–2024)
- Parliamentary Counsel's Stakeholder and Website Surveys (Parliamentary Counsel's Office, 2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021)

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