

# Employment Services Expert Advisory Panel

## Terms of Reference

### 1. Purpose

1.1 The Australian Government is exploring what the future of Government funded employment service should look like after the current model expires on 30 June 2020.

1.2 As part of this process, an Expert Advisory Panel (the Panel) is being established to inform the design of future employment services.

### 2. Responsibilities and deliverables

2.1 The Panel will report to the Department of Employment by no later than 15 October 2018 on the development of options for the reform of employment services that consider how digital technology could be used to deliver services and how enhanced services can be delivered for more vulnerable job seekers.

2.2 Any reform options developed by the Panel should reflect the following principles.

That the option(s):

- a. Encourage self-sufficiency and personal responsibility
- b. Maximise job seeker outcomes, and help job seekers find and maintain employment and successfully address their employment barriers
- c. Respond to a flexible labour market and the changing nature of work
- d. Consider the perspective of jobseekers, employers, services sector and the public
- e. Ensure efficiency and value for money in policy design and service delivery by
  - i. Targeting publicly funded assistance to those who need it most
  - ii. Tailoring service delivery to the needs of individuals
  - iii. Encouraging innovative approaches to service delivery
- f. Ensure effective activation by
  - i. Enhancing services offered to vulnerable job seekers, including stronger connections to pre-employment support services
  - ii. Effectively tailoring mutual obligation and compliance strategies
- g. Deliver effective system design to maximise job seeker and employer engagement by
  - i. Enhancing job seeker and employer engagement and addressing emerging needs
  - ii. Reducing the cost of unsuitable and unsolicited applications
- h. Promote fairness and equity of Australia's employment system by
  - i. Ensuring consideration of equality of opportunity, equity of treatment for people in similar circumstances and enhance social mobility
  - ii. Pursuing strategies to help regional Australia access high quality, localised employment services, tailored to the needs of local businesses and communities

2.3 The Panel will assist the Department of Employment to engage effectively with stakeholders on reform options. This will include providing input on a public discussion paper on the future of labour market assistance and advising how to incorporate appropriate stakeholder suggestions into the design of a new employment services system.

***Out of scope***

**Reform of the welfare system, including income support arrangements, is outside the scope of the work the panel has been commissioned to perform.**