



MEDIA RELEASE
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES ASSOCIATION
Wednesday 20 March 2019

**NEW EMPLOYMENT SERVICES – TRIAL ROLL OUT AND FULL CO-DESIGN CONSULTATION
PROCESS WELCOMED**

The National Employment Services Association welcomes today's announcement of the framework for New Employment Services.

The Independent Expert Advisory Panel of which NESA CEO Sally Sinclair was a member took into account previous successful employment service models to inform the innovative design of this new framework.

“NESA was pleased with the recommendations incorporated in the ‘I Want to Work’ report, particularly insofar as they keep pace with digitisation and more flexible servicing arrangements.” Ms Sinclair said.

“We are also pleased with the Government's intention to extend remaining jobactive contracts for two years to allow time for evidence-based policy development through the trials programmed for Adelaide South and Mid North Coast NSW,” said Ms. Sinclair.

Today's announcement notes opportunities for further consultation and co-design with providers and service users within the trial regions and with the sector more broadly.

“NESA welcomes the opportunities for sector consultation and evaluation that will be provided by the national reference group and the local working groups that will be established in each pilot region.” Ms Sinclair stated.

“As Minister O'Dwyer stated, these reforms are ‘[...] are the most extensive shake-up of employment services in 20 years [...]’, and such a significant alteration in approach must be informed by the experience of those who have been helping Australians into work for the last two decades and who understand first-hand the evolution of employment services programs.” Ms Sinclair said.