



NESA 2026 AI SUMMIT

20 MARCH – NBN CO, SYDNEY

9.00am

Arrival: registrations and coffee

9.15am

Welcome & Introductions

Kathryn Mandla, CEO, NESA

9.20am

Keynote Speaker: 'Responsible intelligence' in human services – what should that look like?

Prof. Toby Walsh, UNSW (virtual)

10.05am

Introduction to NBN

NBN Co

10.15am

Keynote: Lessons learned on designing systems for accountability

Bill Simpson-Young, Gradient Institute

11.00am – Networking Morning Tea

11.30am

Keynote: Practical frameworks for employment services to consider in adopting and using AI

Lee Hickin, National AI Centre

12.00pm

Government Panel discussion: AI in Employment Services: Opportunities, Guardrails and next steps

*Dr Lachlan McColl, Director, Analytics Centre of Excellence, Data Branch, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
Andrew Cochrane, A/g Branch Manager, Remote Australia
Employment Service Implementation Team, National Indigenous Australians Agency*

1.00pm – Networking Lunch

2.00pm

Keynote: Lessons learned from Estonia in using AI in delivery of public services

Ott Velsberg, Chief Data Officer, Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs, Estonia (virtual)

2.30pm

Industry Panel Discussion

Where and how AI can realistically add value in employment services now and in the future

Industry representatives:

- *Chris Smith, Head of Innovation, ReadyTech*
- *Balendran Thavarajah, CEO, GetMee AI*
- *Joel Steers, Chief Operating Officer, MicrotechDPS*

3.30pm

AI Summit Close

Kathryn Mandla, CEO, NESA

REGISTER ATTENDANCE FOR THIS EVENT