

Australian Council of Social Service

15 December 2021

Tarja Saastamoinen
A/g Group Manager, Disability Employment and Carers Group
Department of Social Services
Disability Employment Services reform
Department of Social Services

Dear Tarja,

Re: Disability Employment Services reform

Please be advised that ACOSS does not intend to make a full submission to this consultation at the present time. However, as a member of the New Employment Services Advisory Group we urge DSS to extend the consultation period for an additional year.

The reason we recommend this course of action is because the New Employment Services model has not yet been implemented and there has been insufficient time to evaluate, whether formally or anecdotally, the extent to which this model will be as effective as anticipated. Similarly, there will not have been time to consider the extent to which the digital services that will accompany the New Employment Services model will be effective.

Until there has been time to properly evaluate and consider these issues it would be hasty to lock in any plans relating to the future Disability Employment Service model.

Our Senior Policy Advisor Simone Casey is available to discuss this matter by email simone@acoss.org.au.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edwina MacDonald', is positioned above the typed name.

Edwina MacDonald,
Acting CEO
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