



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Social Services**

Vice President Hatcher  
Fair Work Commission  
Level 10, Terrace Tower  
EAST SYDNEY NSW 2011

Email: [amod@fwc.gov.au](mailto:amod@fwc.gov.au)

Dear Vice President Hatcher

**Concerning matter AM2014/286 Supported Employment Services Award 2010**

I refer to the 16 April 2018 Statement, published by the Fair Work Commission (the Commission), which states that interested industrial parties and the Commonwealth will be given an opportunity to participate in a conferral process conducted by a member of the Full Bench. I understand that this conferral process will facilitate the design of a new classification structure and wage assessment mechanism, consistent with the conclusions of the Full Bench.

Further to the directions hearing of 29 May 2018 and the submissions made by the parties at that time, I am pleased to advise that the Minister for Social Services, the Hon Dan Tehan MP has announced the Australian Government will provide up to \$0.95 million to support any agreed trial and analysis activities in the Commission to inform a new wage assessment approach under the *Supported Employment Services Award 2010*.

The Department of Social Services, on behalf of the Commonwealth, will continue to participate in the proceedings, as invited to do so by the parties that are covered by the Award and by the Commission.

I note the Commission considers it highly desirable that both elements of the proposed new wage assessment mechanism be supported by the provision of trained and independent assessors by the Commonwealth.

Implementation matters, which may have an impact on the expenditure of public funds, would need to be considered by Government at an appropriate time once the features of the proposed wage assessment mechanism are known.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul McBride', with a large flourish extending to the left.

Paul McBride  
Group Manager  
Disability, Employment and Carers

4 July 2018