



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Finn Pratt AO PSM
Secretary

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

Email: amod@FWC.gov.au

Dear Vice President Hatcher

Concerning matter AM2014/286 Supported Employment Services Award 2010

The Department of Social Services notes with approval the proposed variation to the *Supported Employment Services Award 2010* (SES Award) submitted to the Fair Work Commission by Ms Leigh Svendsen, Senior National Industrial Officer, on behalf of the Health Services Union, on Monday, 31 July 2017. The variation would amend the operation of the Supported Wage System (SWS) assessment tool under the SES Award.

The Commonwealth is not an industrial party to this matter, however as the owners of the SWS and funders of Australian Disability Enterprises, representatives from my Department have been engaged in the conciliation proceedings with the parties. The Department's preferred position is that the varied SWS is the only wage assessment tool in the SES Award but I note that is to be the subject of separate consideration.

Should the Full Bench of the Fair Work Commission agree to the proposed variation, I suggest the variation come into effect from 1 July 2018. This will enable my Department to: plan and undertake a change management process with affected stakeholders; develop and deliver training and resources to assist wage assessors and employers using the SWS under the SES Award; and implement information technology system upgrades necessary to administer the changes.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of this proposed implementation timing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Finn Pratt'.

Finn Pratt

16 August 2017