

## **Guiding Principles, Overarching Theme and Pillars of Reform for the Welfare Review**

The Reference Group chaired by Mr Patrick McClure AO was appointed and asked to provide advice to the Minister on ensuring Australia's welfare system is sustainable, effective and coherent, and encourages people to work.

### Guiding principles for the Welfare Review

To assist the Reference Group in undertaking its work, a set of guiding principles for the optimal architecture for a social welfare system were developed with the aim of ensuring that Australia's welfare system:

- provides incentives to work for those who are able to work;
- adequately supports those who are genuinely not able to work;
- supports social and economic participation through measures that build individual and family capability;
- is affordable and sustainable both now and in the future and across economic cycles;
- is easy to access and understand, and able to be delivered efficiently and effectively.

### Overarching theme of the Welfare Review

The overarching theme of the Review established through the work of the Reference Group is maximising participation for wellbeing and better life outcomes, with the ultimate goal of the welfare system being to support people to participate to the extent that they are capable.

### Pillars of reform for the Welfare Review

Based on the guiding principles and overarching theme for the Review, the Reference Group is framing its advice within four pillars of reform it has identified:

- 1) Building individual and family capability
- 2) Engaging with business
- 3) Building community capacity
- 4) A simpler and sustainable income support system