

Submission to the Victorian Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee
Inquiry into sustainable employment for disadvantaged jobseekers

July 2019

Dr Sue Olney, Research Fellow, Public Service Research Group, UNSW Canberra¹

About us

The Public Service Research Group in the School of Business at UNSW Canberra² has a strong record of research on the implementation of social policy in Australia and overseas. We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the sustainable employment for disadvantaged jobseekers.

In 2016 Dr Sue Olney conducted a detailed employment services system in tackling long-term unemployment.³ The findings of that study, and our research into public service reform, the marketisation of social services, and stewardship of public service markets⁴ underpin this submission. We address the following issues being investigated by the Committee:

the social and economic benefits of seeking to place disadvantaged jobseekers into sustainable employment
the jobseekers and
the types of barriers to employment they face
how well current efforts, programs or activities meet the needs of disadvantaged jobseekers and employers looking for workers, and potential improvements

¹ <https://research.unsw.edu.au/people/dr-sue-olney>

²

The economic impact is compounded by the social impact of growing

Valid concerns have been raised about the transparency and rigour of current processes for assessing capacity to work and their barriers to work the Job Seeker Classification Instrument (JSCI) and

