

From: [Stephanie Bull](#)
To: [Vera Villinger](#)
Subject: Fw: Release of the Government Response to the Robodebt Royal Commission Report – arrangements for directly impacted individuals and broader support for staff [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Monday, 29 January 2024 11:56:46 AM
Attachments: [SES Talking points - Robodebt Royal Commission Government Response.docx](#)
[image001.png](#)

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From: Stephanie Bull
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Andrew Harper <Andrew.Harper@moadoph.gov.au>
Cc: Karen Laing <Karen.Laing@moadoph.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Release of the Government Response to the Robodebt Royal Commission Report – arrangements for directly impacted individuals and broader support for staff [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

FYI – under embargo until next week at the earliest.

Stephanie Bull
Director



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of 47F

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We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of this land and celebrate their ongoing culture and contribution to society.

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From: de Brouwer, Gordon <Gordon.deBrouwer@apsc.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 4:03 PM
Cc: Davis, Glyn <Glyn.Davis@pmc.gov.au>
Subject: Release of the Government Response to the Robodebt Royal Commission Report – arrangements for directly impacted individuals and broader support for staff [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

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Colleagues

The Government is finalising its response to the Robodebt Royal Commission Report and it will possibly be released next week.

The response addresses the 56 recommendations and the closing observations made by the Commissioner, Ms Catherine Holmes AC SC. It reiterates the Government's commitment to restoring public trust and embedding reforms that put people at the centre and strengthen integrity.

The response is forward looking and heralds work that is being done to reform social security policy, government service delivery and the APS.

The response will bring renewed attention to the failings of public administration that enabled the Robodebt scheme and the damage caused to so many Australians.

Support for affected staff

This may cause distress for current and former staff members within your agency who were directly affected by the scheme. This includes staff who bravely appeared before the Royal Commission to tell their stories, gave evidence or made written submissions.

The wellbeing of staff is a priority.

Please put arrangements in place to support staff in your agency who may be directly affected. This includes, as appropriate, notifying them that the Government is finalising its response to the report, that the response may be released next week, and that wellbeing supports are available to them.

Support for staff undergoing investigations

Prior to the release, APSC wellbeing officers will contact all individuals, including former employees, who were referred to the centralised code of conduct mechanism by the Royal Commission, to ensure they are aware the response will be released, and are well supported. It is recommended that if you have current employees who have been referred to the Code of Conduct mechanism, your wellbeing officers make contact following the release of the Government response.

Support for staff more broadly

On the day of release, we will write to all APS staff to make them aware of the response, what it means for the APS and remind them where to go if they need support.

It's timely to remember that many other staff will find the release of the response challenging and upsetting. Please ensure suitable wellbeing services are available and staff know where to turn for support in your agency.

A set of talking points is attached to support SES and team leaders to initiative discussions with staff. Please share these with your leadership teams following the release of the report.

If you need further information or support in your agency, please get in touch.

Regards

Professor Glyn Davis AC
Secretary
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Dr Gordon de Brouwer
Commissioner
Australian Public Service Commission

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