Public Interest Certificate - New Specialist Disability Employment Program

This public interest certificate is issued under section 22(1) of the *Government Procurement (Judicial Review) Act 2018.*

I hereby state that it is not in the public interest for the following procurement by the Department of Social Services to be suspended while complaints under section 18 of the Act are being investigated or while· applications for injunctions under Part 2 of the Act are being considered.

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| **AusTender ID(s)** | RFT70019438 |
| **RFT Closing Date and Time** | The closing date and time is as published in the Request for Tender (RFT), available on the AusTender website. |
| **Procuring Entity** | Department of Social Services |
| **Contact Officer** | [DE2025Purchasing@dss.gov.au](mailto:DE2025Purchasing@dss.gov.au) |
| **Category (UNSPSC)** | 93141805 - Unemployment Services |
| **Description** | In the 2024-25 Budget, the Government announced a new Specialist Disability Employment Program to replace the current Disability Employment Services program which is to end on 30 June 2025.  The new program, to commence on 1 July 2025, will help individuals with disability, injury or a health condition to prepare for, secure and maintain sustainable employment in the open labour market, and assist in boosting the employment participation and productive capacity of the workforce, addressing skills shortage areas and supporting Employers with inclusive recruitment and workplace practices.  From October 2024 to June 2025 the department will undertake a procurement process to engage providers for the new Specialist Disability Employment Program to commence on 1 July 2025.  The procurement will be conducted via a single stage open tender process through which the department intends to enter into a Deed with each successful tenderer.  For more information on the RFT, refer to the AusTender website: [https://www.tenders.gov.au/](http://www.tenders.gov.au/)  Further information on the new program is also available at:  <https://engage.dss.gov.au/a-new-specialist-employment-disability-program-consultation/> |

Signature of delegate:

**signature**

**Kellie Spence**

**Group Manager**

**Department of Social Services**

27September 2024