



Australian Government
**Department of Employment
and Workplace Relations**

JCPAA Inquiry into the Annual is Performance Statements 2021–22

Auditor-General Report No. 13 of 2022-23

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

28 July 2023

Opening Statement

I would like to start by thanking the committee for the opportunity to attend the hearing today. The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) values the opportunity to contribute to the Committee's inquiry into Auditor-General Report No. 13 of 2022–23 and recognises the role of the performance statements audit process to strengthen the quality of performance reporting and accountability to the Parliament and the Public.

DEWR was established as a new Commonwealth entity on 1 July 2022, and has responsibility for: employment and national workforce, and skills and training functions transferred from the former Department of Education, Skills and Employment (now the Department of Education); workplace relations functions, transferred from the Attorney-General's Department; and domestic operations and policy for the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Australian National Audit office audited the 2021–22 Annual Performance Statements for the Attorney-General's Department and the former Department of Education, Skills and Employment and each received an unmodified audit opinion.

DEWR is committed producing meaningful performance information underpinned by appropriate processes, methodologies and assurance processes that align to the PGPA Act and Rule and support transparent, quality performance reporting.