



Establishment of the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) Advisory Committee

The Department of Home Affairs (the Department) has established the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) Advisory Committee (the Committee) to oversee reform implementation, innovation and continuous improvement in the AMEP.

This is in response to the Social Compass *Evaluation of the AMEP New Business Model*, published in August last year, which recommended establishing an expert advisory committee to oversee change and innovation in the program.

For over 70 years, the AMEP has provided free English language tuition to adult migrants and humanitarian entrants to assist them to participate socially and economically in Australian society.

On 28th of August 2020, Acting Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, announced major reforms that will be implemented to the AMEP as part of a range of measures to strengthen Australia's social cohesion.

Engaging with experts while implementing these reforms will provide the Department with feedback and expert advice to ensure the reforms achieve the desired outcomes for migrants and the broader Australian community. The Committee will provide advice and guidance on a range of topics, including curriculum and assessment, teacher qualifications, online learning, and incentivising both learning and broader settlement outcomes.

The Committee will be chaired by Alison Larkins, the Commonwealth Coordinator General for Migrant Services.

The Committee consists of 7 formal members representing English as Additional language and foundation skills expertise, including:

- Dr. Lynda Yates, Professor of Linguistics at Macquarie University
- Dr. Chris Corbel, Lecturer at the University of Melbourne
- Dr. Helen Moore, Vice President of the Australian Council of TESOL Associations
- Dr. Susan Creagh, Research Fellow, Lecturer in TESOL Education at the University of Queensland
- Dr. Jennifer Afford, Associate Professor in TESOL at Queensland University of Technology
- Dr. Chris Davison, Professor of Language and Literacy Education at the University of New South Wales.
- Jason Coutts, Assistant Secretary, Foundation Skills Branch, Department of Education, Skills and Employment.

Representative from settlement peak bodies will be invited to join the Committee at a later date.

The Committee has been established for an initial period of six months.

For all media enquiries, contact media@homeaffairs.gov.au