



Australian Government

**Department of Families, Housing,
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs**

Dear Sir/Madam

From 1 January 2011, Australia's first national Paid Parental Leave scheme will start. Legislation for the scheme came into force on 14 July 2010.

Parents planning to have or adopt a child on or after 1 January 2011 need to be aware of the scheme and think about how decisions they make now about work could affect their eligibility for Paid Parental Leave.

Employers need to be aware of how the Government-funded scheme will operate in preparation for 1 July 2011, when employers will generally be required to provide Parental Leave pay to their eligible long-term employees. Employers can start their role earlier if they agree this with their employee.

Brochures for parents and for employers are enclosed for your use and distribution. The brochures provide key facts on the Paid Parental Leave scheme and how it will operate.

As an important body, your association comes into contact with many relevant organisations that reach parents, prospective parents and employers on a daily basis. Your membership and networks may find these brochures useful.

If you would like additional copies of the brochures, please call please call the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs' publication ordering hotline on 1800 050 009.

Please note that the provision of these brochures has been approved as an activity that can continue during the current caretaker period.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Warburton'.

Mark Warburton
Branch Manager
Paid Parental Leave Branch

July 2010