

Summary Agenda – Thursday 11 April

3.00pm	Participants arrive	Afternoon tea provided
3.15pm	Introduction	Welcome and recap on the background and objectives of the Council and the sessions planned this afternoon
3.30pm	Parallel Thematic Workshops	<p>Option 1: The role of employers in boosting refugee economic participation and related policy settings</p> <p><i>This session is targeted at stakeholders interested in the question of how to engage more employers in the task of boosting sustainable refugee employment in Australia. Federal, state and local government representatives are welcome, along with employers and service providers and others with an interest in this topic. CPD and the University of Sydney will present initial findings on their recent research into the role and perspectives of employers on this topic and policy reform options to boost successful employer engagement. This will be followed by a general discussion of the merits and feasibility of these options.</i></p> <p>Option 2: A place-based framework for refugee economic and social inclusion at the local level</p> <p><i>This session will bring together key local government authorities and other interested stakeholders to discuss a place-based framework for boosting refugee participation. CPD will present a framework that it is developing for a place-based approach to economic participation. Wyndham City Council (WCC) will then present on how it is applying and further developing this framework in connection with its trial of a place-based approach to boost economic participation of refugees and asylum seekers within its community. Representatives from other local areas will be invited to share insights based on experience in their respective communities. This will be followed by a general discussion among all participants of the framework presented by CPD and options for systemic changes to link federal, state and local machinery to enliven this framework.</i></p>
5.00pm	Plenary Discussion	An opportunity to identify convergence in thinking and opportunities from these two sessions.
5.30pm	Conclusion	

Summary Agenda – Friday 12 April

08.45	Participants arrive	
09.00	Welcome and Introduction	Recap of the background and objectives of the Council and key outcomes to date
09.15	Session 1: The federal reform agenda	<p>Discuss key issues arising from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet’s review of integration, employment and settlement outcomes for refugees and other reviews.</p> <p>Discuss links between recommendations and findings from key reviews, recent federal announcements and the work of the Council.</p>
10.45	Morning tea	
11.15	Session 2: Centre of gravity	<p>This discussion will focus on the need for a centre of gravity for federal services impacting refugee participation (including employment, language and settlement services) and effective coordination between the federal machinery of government and state and local government.</p> <p>Facilitated discussion to identify and elaborate the most effective and viable collaboration options.</p>
12:15	Lunch	Break for an informal lunch.
13:15	Session 3: Place-based approach to economic participation	<p>This discussion will focus on the need for localised approaches to employment services and other key services that support economic participation. The discussion will draw on outputs of the discussions on Day 1. CPD will present a framework for locally-led approaches to economic participation and ideas for linking federal, state and local machinery to enliven this framework.</p> <p>The discussion will focus on identifying what can be done to take local approaches to the next level.</p>
14.45	Wrap Up	
15.00	Conclusion	