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Employee Ownership Australia and  
Oxford Symposium on Employee Ownership 2024

Dear organisers,

Thank you for your invitation to attend the 2024 Oxford Symposium on Employee Ownership. While I am unable to join you on this occasion, I write to acknowledge our shared interest in promoting decent work and fair workplaces.

As Australia's workplace relations regulator, the Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) ensures compliance with workplace relations laws through advice, education and strategic enforcement. Our purpose, derived from the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth), is to promote harmonious, productive, cooperative and compliant workplace relations in Australia.

The International Labour Organization's (ILO) defines decent work as "productive work for women and men in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity", and argues that decent work is a significant driver of sustainable development and economic growth.

Australia is a key ILO partner and the FWO seeks to advance decent work, including by guaranteeing rights at work and promoting social dialogue. We consider meeting minimum labour standards to be a critical first step to the provision of decent work and recognise the value of collaborative workplace relations to better identify and resolve workplace issues, and promote positive change.

To this end, the FWO supports the efforts of employee-owned organisations, and indeed all organisations, to look beyond the meeting of minimum standards by adopting a range of workplace practices designed to provide good, fair and decent work for all.

My very best wishes for a successful symposium.

Yours faithfully,



Anna Booth

**Fair Work Ombudsman**