Health Futures Australia ("HFA"), an initiative of Reos Partners, commends the Australian Government on its Social Impact Investing Discussion Paper, dated January 2017 ("Paper").

HFA is an early-stage, for-profit provider of prevention and population health interventions to prevent chronic disease, including obesity. We use "systems thinking" to create organisational alliances that achieve collective impact at the whole of community level.

HFA is working with a wide range of partners, both private and public and in metropolitan and regional Australia, including Bendigo, through the Bendigo Smarter City initiative.

We are pursuing investment opportunities with senior leaders in the insurance and banking sectors.

Our ambition is to scale our services, by developing investable health impact opportunities.

HFA's approach is highly aligned to the Paper's principles, including value for money, robust outcomes-based measurement and evaluation, fair sharing of risk and return and delivering social outcomes.

We look forward to working with the Australian Government on critical roles it could play in:

- Recognising the significant gains to be made from population level preventive health interventions that reach large numbers of Australians, extending the potential for impact investing to support innovation that reaches tens of thousands, to hundreds of thousands of Australians

- Enabling the development of early-stage service providers that could generate very significant savings or avoid future costs to the health budget, such as population-level obesity prevention

- Highlighting the pathways to impact investment that could help early-stage service providers scale their services

- Reducing regulatory barriers to early-stage service providers establishing the necessary legal and governance arrangements.

Yours sincerely

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Dr Shelley Bowen

Managing Director

Health Futures Australia

A collaboration with Reos Partners

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