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**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR CITIES AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**

**THE HON. ANGUS TAYLOR MP**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**New Cities Reference Group brings expertise to the table**

The Australian Government has announced the establishment of a *Cities Reference Group* to help advise Government on cities policy.

Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation Angus Taylor said the Cities Reference Group comprised leading thinkers on cities issues in Australia, as well as internationally renowned experts.

“It will be a valuable source of expertise and insight for the Government as we continue to deliver on the *Smart Cites Plan*,” Assistant Minister Taylor said.

“Our cities agenda is all about positioning our cities to be the best they can be in the future.

“I’m looking forward to working with the Reference Group as we continue to refine our cities policy, foster new ideas for innovation and collaboration, and shape the way we measure performance of our cities,’ he said.

Terms of Reference and membership for the Cities Reference Group can be found here [https://cities.dpmc.gov.au/cities-reference-group](https://cities.dpmc.gov.au/cities-reference-group?preview=true).

The first meeting, chaired by Assistant Minister Taylor, is scheduled for 26 April.

Establishment of the Cities Reference Group builds on the work already undertaken with other governments, industry and experts to deliver on the Government’s *Smart Cities Plan*.

The *Smart Cities Plan*, released last year, sets out a vision for Australia’s cities based on smart policy, smart investment and smart technology.

Itaims to position our cities to succeed in the 21st century economy and supports productive, accessible, livable cities that attract talent, create jobs, and encourage innovation and growth.

Further information on the *Smart Cities Plan* is available at *www.cities.dpmc.gov.au*.

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