

## **CITIES INVESTMENT CRITICAL TO 2013-14 BUDGET SAYS INDUSTRY**

Australia's engineering and architectural industries are urging government to consider critical investment in cities infrastructure, increased workforce productivity, and more efficient procurement as key priorities for the 2013-14 Federal Budget.

According to industry association, Consult Australia the result will be improved governance, boosted productivity and better value for money for Australian taxpayers.

Consult Australia Chief Executive Officer, Megan Motto said the Association is specifically lobbying for greater investment in the Major Cities Unit and Infrastructure Australia.

"We are also calling for an engineering and training tax incentive, more flexible child care support, and the establishment of an independent procurement centre of excellence," said Ms Motto.

"Our recommendations highlight opportunities to capitalise on the Government's existing policy foundations through well placed reform and continued investment.

"If implemented, they hold great value for our industry, and the wider community, through increased productivity, more jobs and ultimately, a better standard of living.

Ms Motto said she urges Government to heed industry's advice.

"These are the people responsible for designing and ensuring the continued sustainability, liveability and productivity of our cities.

"It's critical to our nation's future that their voices are heard."

### **Ends**

30 January 2013

For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact PR & Policy Coordinator, Gillian O'Young on 0423 223 620 or via email at [gillian@consultaustalia.com.au](mailto:gillian@consultaustalia.com.au).