

## BEST PRACTICE PROCUREMENT & FAIRER CONTRACTS

*Campaigning for fair allocation of risk between contracting parties, standard contract terms and liability reform at all levels of government:*

- The New South Wales Procurement Inquiry saw Consult Australia NSW's recommendations supported by the Inquiry. Ongoing advocacy saw engagement with the office of the Deputy Premier and Minister for Small Business, The Hon John Barilaro, Transport and Infrastructure Minister the Hon. Andrew Constance, the Attorney General's the Hon Mark Speakman's Office and Department and the Shadow Treasurer, Ryan Park.
- Consult Australia represented the Industry at a National procurement roundtable with Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries from several government agencies led by the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, Mike Mrdak. Additionally, Consult Australia met with Ms Rosemary Huxtable PSM, the Secretary of the Department of Finance, to discuss the economic benefits of better procurement practices.
- Consult Australia appeared before the Joint Select Committee into the Commonwealth Procurement Framework led by Nick Xenophon Consult Australia gave evidence highlighting the need for Governments to modernise procurement in Australia.
- Consult Australia Qld was invited by the Department of Housing and Public Works (HPW) to be a member of the Procurement Industry Advisory Group (PAIG) to engage directly on matters such as procurement pipelines and whole of government approach.
- Consult Australia WA are advancing the case for standard contracts and Proportionate Liability reform. In WA several meetings with the Department of Main Roads, the Water Corporation of WA and the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority have been undertaken.
- Consult Australia NT hosted a breakfast briefing with the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, Nicole Manison and CEO of the Department Andrew Kirkham.
- Consult Australia SA has held meetings with both the SA Department of Treasury and Finance and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) in relation to onerous terms and conditions.
- Consult Australia is working with the NT Chief Minister Michael Gunner on changes to the procurement framework including the requirement for all agencies to publish agency forward procurement plans, a cap on the maximum weighting on price in tender evaluations, prohibiting shortlisting on price alone, and the requirement for all major procuring agencies to provide regular industry briefing sessions.

## STRONGER, MORE COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS

*Fostering more productive working relationships between consulting firms and private and public sector clients across jurisdictions:*

- Ongoing advocacy with key federal political leaders has included the Minister for Major Projects, the Hon Paul Fletcher, the Office of the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Darren Chester and the office of the Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation, the Hon Angus Taylor.
- Briefings were held with key Federal Opposition members on Consult Australia advocacy priorities including the Shadow Minister for Small Business and Financial Services, Senator Katy Gallacher, the Shadow Assistant Treasurer the Hon Dr Andrew Leigh, the Shadow Assistant Minister for Infrastructure and Climate Change Pat Conroy and the office of Deputy Leader of the Opposition, The Hon Tanya Plibersek
- Consult Australia in WA launched its election platform, Better Planning, Better Procurement, A Better WA and ongoing advocacy with the WA Department of Premier and Cabinet

## INDUSTRY INNOVATION, GROWTH & EXCELLENCE

*Showcase industry excellence, lead innovation and the adoption of new technologies such as Building Information Modelling (BIM) and Integrated Project Delivery (IPD); delivering a more competitive industry in the longer term:*

- Consult Australia released The Australian Digital Built Environment Principles marking an important step in the adoption of digital technologies to improve the design and operation of our cities and infrastructure.
- Ongoing advocacy in SA has included a Boardroom Lunch with The Minister for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, the Hon Stephen Mullighan and DPTI CEO Michael Deegan to discuss a way forward to implement digital delivery of public sector projects
- Ongoing advocacy in Vic including working with the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources including leading the discussion in relation to the Construction Technologies Sector Strategy
- Consult Australia ACT delivered the first ACT 'SMART WEEK' with Data 61 and the ACT Government Digital Transformation Officer.

### BETTER URBAN ENVIRONMENTS & INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

*Sharing our firms' expertise to deliver more evidence-based public policy outcomes; supporting investment in infrastructure providing more productive, liveable and sustainable urban environments:*

- Consult Australia welcomed Infrastructure Australia's (IA) 100 projects and initiatives as part of their newly revised Infrastructure Priority List including a number of Consult Australia recommendations on Value Capture.
- Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation Angus Taylor established the Cities Reference Group. Consult Australia's CEO has been appointed to the reference group to help advise on cities policy and to foster new ideas for innovation and collaboration.
- Ongoing discussions have been held with Mike Mrdak Secretary, Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development to discuss the Australian Government's Smart Cities Plan and options for better and fairer ways of paying for Infrastructure.
- Consult Australia has continued to work with John Alexander MP following the Federal Inquiry into Value Capture and had discussions with Trent Zimmerman MP in his capacity as a standing member of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities.
- Consult Australia launched a report that urges Governments to overcome the financial obstacles that prevent infrastructure development. The Good, the Bad, and The Extremely Unhelpful, urges government to embrace debt, utilise value capture as a fair form of finance, recycle assets, develop road-user charging and develop policy to grow private sector investment.
- Consult Australia QLD attending quarterly meetings with the Executive Director of the Capital Infrastructure Delivery Unit resulting in detailed discussions on issues such as transparency of panels, regional planning and improved procurement processes.
- Consult Australia QLD has successfully advocated for Queensland Rail to publish existing panel arrangements and a 6 to 12 month Projects Pipeline Report on their website
- Consult Australia ACT successful advocacy has resulted in the ACT Government committing to introduce a position of Chief Engineer to lead the territory's engineering and infrastructure projects.
- Consult Australia NT has been successfully working with the NT Chief Minister Michael Gunner including the establishment of a 10 Year Infrastructure Plan.
- Consult Australia successfully worked on the review with the SA Government and the SA Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure's (DPTI) Prequalification System for Professional Services Contractors to better reflect current industry conditions and improve the systems efficiency and effectiveness
- Infrastructure Victoria's (IV) discussion paper reflects Consult Australia Vic's advocacy for a more transparent long-term infrastructure pipeline supported by integrated strategic planning including using innovative financing methods such as Value Capture. CEO of IV, Michel Masson, addressed members to discuss how the recommendations will be progressed.
- Consult Australia Vic has been working closely with CEO of the Victorian Planning Authority, Peter Seamer to discuss equitable access to employment, public transport, attractive public space and affordable housing.
- Consult Australia's advocacy has resulted in the commitment of the new Office of Projects Victoria that will oversee the planning and delivery of infrastructure projects.

### SAFER, SUSTAINABLE & MORE PRODUCTIVE WORKPLACES

*Improving access to skilled workers against identified shortages:*

- Consult Australia QLD has worked with the Department of Transport and Main Roads, to achieve several successful outcomes as part of the recent review of the Engineering Consultant Scheme (ECS). The Department of Transport and Main Roads has reviewed the Scheme structure resulting in the removal of financial reporting, maximum daily rates and discounts.
- Consult Australia's ongoing advocacy in relation to changes to the 457-visa system has seen us write to the Prime Minister the Hon Malcolm Turnbull and the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Peter Dutton to ensure our industry can access the best professionals without additional regulatory burden on our member firms.
- Consult Australia was invited to attend a roundtable meeting with Victorian Treasurer Tim Pallas on the Victorian Government's plan for the Registration of Engineers and invited to attend a meeting with Victorian Parliamentary Secretary for Treasury and Finance, Daniel Mulino on the Victorian Government's plan for the Registration of Engineers.

*Facilitating a more diverse workforce, with ensuing productivity benefits across the industry:*

- The Consult Australia Male Champions of Change (CAMCC) has implemented a rigorous Critical Success Factor framework to significantly and sustainably increase the representation of women in their firms. In November 2017, the CAMCC will publish its first progress report.
- Consult Australia NSW hosted an International Women's Day discussion with a focus on Women in Consulting Leadership with Senator Jenny McAllister. A similar event was held in Queensland to highlight the importance of women in our industry.