



ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

About Consult Australia

Consult Australia is the association representing the business interests of consulting firms operating in the built and natural environment. We specialise in helping businesses of all sizes to create a commercial platform from which they can operate successfully and sustainably while making the business side of running their firm easier and less time consuming.

By acting as the voice of the industry, facilitating collaboration and networking, and by providing tailored education and support services, Consult Australia frees its members to do what they do best and what they enjoy most about providing professional consulting services: consult!

Our member firms' services include, but are not limited to: architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, planning, cost consulting (quantity surveyors), project management and environmental science.



Policy and Advocacy

There is no other industry association in Australia dedicated to advocating for the business interests of firms consulting in the built and natural environment. Consult Australia's policy and advocacy is supported by long-standing, productive relationships through federal, state and territory parliaments and the bureaucracy—as well as our members' substantial expertise and unique perspective on a range of issues.

In addition to our *six priorities to support and transform the Built Environment sector in Australia* (overleaf), we also represent our member's interests at state and territory level through divisional committees who drive advocacy activities responsive to the unique challenges of their jurisdiction.

Consult Australia is sought-after by policy makers who recognise the vital role of professional consulting firms; their contribution to the nation's productivity, future prosperity, and standard of living.

Our leadership facilitates governments' policy development delivering better public policy and an improved operating environment for our member firms.

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Six priorities to support and transform the Built Environment sector in Australia

1 Strengthen Built Environment Policy and Pipeline

- Ensure coordinated and connected government policies for cities that seek to improve long term integrated planning
- Continue to improve governance and processes to ensure a consistent and transparent pipeline of value add projects
- Lead the debate on infrastructure finance and funding
- Engage in the debate to deliver best practice affordable housing
- Advocate for best practice and bi-partisan supported Climate and Energy policy

2 Improve Procurement for better Project Outcomes

- More use of reasonable, standard contracts
- Remove contracting out provisions for Proportionate Liability in all jurisdictions
- Establish Consult Australia as the leader in private sector procurement expertise and knowledge
- Establish a Centre for Procurement Excellence

3 Strengthen the talent pipeline

- Ensure government focus on STEM skills
- Demonstrate leadership and best practice in the retention and promotion of women in the sector
- Focus on sensible and responsive government policy in migration and workplace relations.

4 Lead debate on the built environment innovation agenda

- Work with stakeholders to realise efficiencies possible through BIM and other technologies/processes
- Assist members to transition firms for a digital future
- Showcase and promote innovative procurement and delivery models

5 Connect Australian firms to the region and world

- Engage in relevant trade negotiations to deliver best outcomes for members
- Position Australian firms as best practice providers on a regional/international platform
- Assist firms to take advantage of regional/global opportunities and relationships

6 Improve the regulatory and business environment for firms

- Reduce/reform red tape to assist members to run streamlined, modern businesses
- Ensure member representation and liaison with relevant regulatory and standard setting bodies
- Advocate for the provision of services and tools to assist firms to run efficient, profitable businesses