

MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
2 DECEMBER 2019



**CONSULT AUSTRALIA WELCOMES THE GOVERNMENT'S
COMMITMENT TO BETTER REGULATION**

Consult Australia supports the strengthening of the Government's decision-making framework

Consult Australia supports evidence-based decision making and therefore welcomes the announcement by the Hon. Ben Morton MP, Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet on strengthening the Government's decision-making settings. The acknowledgement that regulatory impact extends beyond financial is a long time coming.

Consult Australia represents businesses in design, advisory, and engineering, an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia that employ around 240,000 people. Consult Australia is the only association representing the business community in our sector.

The regulatory impact analysis framework is a vital tool that, when used in a consultative way, can ensure that new reforms are not just additional red tape, but are real reforms that balance the needs of the community with productivity in industry.

Nicola Grayson, Chief Executive of Consult Australia, said, "We support the framework being updated to ensure that a regulatory impact statement (RIS) is required when the reform is likely to lead to measurable changes in the behaviour of businesses or individuals."

"Industry associations, such as Consult Australia, are always willing to work collaboratively with governments to ensure better regulation, rather than just more regulation. We are encouraged to see the use of a Consultation RIS process at the Federal level, allowing industry knowledge to be fed into the process earlier."

"We call on state and territory governments to commit to similar reforms, including the use of a Consultation RIS process."

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NOTES TO EDITOR

1. About Consult Australia

Consult Australia is the industry association representing consulting firms operating in the built and natural environment sectors. These services include design, engineering, cost management, architecture, technology, survey, legal and management solutions for individual consumers through to major companies in the private and public sector including local, state and federal governments. We represent an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia, ranging from sole practitioners through to some of Australia's top 500 firms with combined revenue exceeding \$40 billion a year.

2. About Nicola Grayson

Nicola Grayson is the Chief Executive of Consult Australia. Nicola is responsible for implementing the organisation's strategy, building ongoing external relationships, and for leading Consult Australia's advocacy and government relations agenda on behalf of member firms.

Nicola is a government relations specialist, and has represented industry associations in the United Kingdom, the European Union, and Australia. Nicola has worked across a range of sectors including general insurance, consumer finance, alcohol, and education, in addition to consulting engineering. She has an Honours Degree in Law from the United Kingdom and was previously Consult Australia's Director of Policy and Government Relations.

3. For interview

For more information and to arrange an interview, please contact Nicola Grayson directly on +61 499 878 839 or email nicola@consultaaustralia.com.au.