

MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26 May 2020



CONSULT AUSTRALIA WELCOMES THE MCGOWAN GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO A SIMPLIFIED PROCUREMENT FRAMEWORK

Consult Australia supports the release of the Procurement Bill 2020

Consult Australia congratulates the Hon. Ben Wyatt MLA, Minister for Finance, for the introduction of new procurement legislation to the Western Australian Parliament. The Procurement Bill 2020, provides a simpler procurement framework for all Government departments and agencies, replacing the State Supply Commission Act 1991 and is welcomed by Consult Australia.

Consult Australia represents design, advisory, and engineering consulting businesses, an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia that employ around 240,000 individuals, including professional engineers. Consult Australia is the only association representing employers in the sector.

Diane Dowdell, Western Australian State Manager of Consult Australia, said, "We support the release of this Bill and see it as a positive measure to simplify the procurement process for our members, many of whom provide significant services to Government departments and agencies."

Consult Australia's members are essential to the delivery of innovative projects in Australia including, residential and commercial builds, significant social and cultural projects, as well as major government infrastructure. They will be an integral part of the recovery of the Western Australian economy from the economic impacts of Covid-19 pandemic.

"Consult Australia and our members look forward to working with the McGowan Government on implementation of this Bill and look forward to seeing further detail on improving and simplifying government procurement processes. These efficiency gains will play a key role in assisting our economic recovery." said Ms Dowdell.

"Importantly, the requirement for red tape reduction reinforces the need to design policy with industry at the outset," Ms Dowdell said.

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NOTES TO EDITOR

1. Model Client Policy

Consult Australia is an Advocate for the adoption of a Model Client Policy by Government in line with their Model Litigant Policy. A “Model Client” works collaboratively with industry to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes and does not use their market power to the disadvantage of local businesses and their employees. Consult Australia believes that the adoption of a Model Client Policy, across governments will result in significant benefits in their role as a client and setting the standard of behaviour for all industry to follow. More information on the Model Client Policy can be found [here](#).

2. 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.

3. About Diane Dowdell

Diane Dowdell is the Western Australian State Manager of Consult Australia. Diane 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 across Western Australia.

Diane is a government relations and sustainability specialist and has worked within Federal and Western Australian Government agencies along with significant management experience across the infrastructure and resources sectors within Australia, Europe and the Americas. She holds a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Environmental Science.

3. For interview

For more information and to arrange an interview, please contact Diane Dowdell directly on +61 407 190 571 or email diane@consultaustalia.com.au.