

UPLIFTING PRODUCTIVITY – CONSULT AUSTRALIA’S NEW REPORT RELEASED

Consult Australia demonstrates how economic growth can be delivered through best practice procurement

Recognising the significant impact of COVID-19 on our economy, Consult Australia’s latest report *Uplifting Productivity* is timely, demonstrating what can be done to help maximise the economic benefits of government stimulus. The report demonstrates that productivity gains can be found in every phase of a project; pre-tendering, tendering, contracting, project delivery and post-completion.

Consult Australia represents design, advisory, and engineering consulting businesses, an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia. Our industry is a job creator for the Australian economy, directly employing 240,000 people. The services we provide unlock many more jobs across the construction industry and the broader community.

Nicola Grayson, Chief Executive of Consult Australia, said, “At their heart, our members are problem-solvers and they’ve demonstrated this by nominating best procurement and contracting from past projects to help drive better outcomes in future projects.”

As other sectors race past the construction industry in terms of productivity growth, now is the time to look at what can be done to uplift productivity in infrastructure and built environment projects. These reforms will make an impact both now but also the future. Numerous reviews and reports have made clear that we are not getting the productivity growth across our industry because of underlying legacy issues that are holding us back, such as poor procurement practice.

“We’ve shown that procurement reform needn’t be an invention test, instead we can learn from past projects around the country, implementing the best initiatives into the next project.” said Grayson.

The case studies within the *Uplifting Productivity* report give real-world examples for all to learn from and the recommendations strike a balance of delivering benefits to clients and the industry. All participants in the construction industry want to improve the culture and practice for the future – these reforms ensure we are heading in the right direction.

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MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR RELEASE

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NOTES TO EDITOR

1. About Consult Australia

Consult Australia is the industry association representing consulting businesses in design, advisory and engineering. Our industry comprises some 48,000 businesses across Australia, ranging from sole practitioners through to some of Australia's top 500 companies, providing solutions for individual consumers through to major companies in the private sector and across all tiers of government. Our industry is a job creator for the Australian economy, directly employing 240,000 people. The services we provide unlock many more jobs across the construction industry and the broader community.

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 members.

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 +61499 878 839 or email nicola@consultaustalia.com.au.