

MEDIA RELEASE



Driving Business Success for Consulting Firms in the Built and Natural Environment

Monday 30 January 2017

Please Spend Our Money Smarter

Industry association Consult Australia says the new Berejiklian Cabinet must ensure it is being fair to business and making the most of the money given to them by taxpayers.

In welcoming the new team State Manager for New South Wales, Matthew Trigg, says the fair allocation of risk in contracts, innovative funding of projects, and the independence of infrastructure planning are the keys to success.

“Managing risk in a sensible way is not only fair for all the players, but it makes commercial sense as well.”

“Allocating risk proportionately will deliver more innovation, deliver better value, and bring more small businesses to the table.”

“Research has shown that 69% of small firms have or would not proceed with work on government projects because they would be forced to accept disproportionate levels of liability.”

“This doesn’t happen in Queensland and it should be unacceptable in New South Wales.”

“As taxpayer dollars will only stretch so far, we also need to find better and more appropriate ways to fund what we build.”

“A farmer in Dubbo shouldn’t have to pay for a metro in Western Sydney. We need to understand the real costs of infrastructure and use value capture and other smart funding methods to help deliver the projects we all need.”

Infrastructure without the politics

Consult Australia has long advocated for a robust, independent and transparent process for the evaluation, prioritisation and decision-making around infrastructure delivery.

“The importance for Infrastructure NSW being independent cannot be understated” says Mr Trigg.

“We need to take party politics out of infrastructure as much as possible.”

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For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact Consult Australia’s State Manager for New South Wales, Matthew Trigg on 02 8252 6708 or matthew@consultaustalia.com.au

About Consult Australia

Consult Australia is the association that represents the business interests of consulting firms that design, engineer, assess and plan our built and natural environments.

We represent an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia, ranging from sole practitioners through to some of Australia’s top 500 firms. Collectively, our industry is estimated to employ over 240,000 people, and generate combined revenue exceeding \$40 billion a year.

Consult Australia has undertaken significant work to further the discussion, including on how major works are financed and procured. For more visit www.consultaustalia.com.au