

EMPLOYERS SUPPORT GENDER REPORTING

The Consult Australia Champions of Change have today written to the Prime Minister to express their support for a robust workplace gender equality reporting framework.

The group—comprised of 13 CEOs from the built environment consulting sector—are taking collective action to address equality in their workplaces and stimulate wider industry support for gender reporting.

“All reporting regimes include an element of administrative burden but, as business leaders, we understand the primacy of data and the merits in making the effort to collect it,” said Greg Steele, Managing Director – Australasia, Hyder Consulting and chair of the group.

“We support the principles of reporting as a valuable tool. The reporting requirements under the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012* are a framework to help us achieve our workplace diversity and business growth goals. The important thing is to ensure that there is a good balance of efforts and rewards,” said Mr Steele.

The Consult Australia Champions of Change have signed a Charter that commits them to actively advancing equality across their businesses and to acting as advocates for the consulting industry.

Their work is inspired by the Male Champions of Change formed by the Australian Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick.

“We believe this agenda is a business imperative. The talents of employees with broad experiences in their professional and personal lives deliver productivity, problem solving and businesses success dividends,” said Mr Steele.

Fellow-Champion and Arup’s Chair and Chief Executive Officer - Australasia Region, Peter Bailey also expressed his support for gender reporting.

“The consultation process to fine-tune gender equality reporting is an opportunity to increase support for collecting, reporting on, and analysing gender equality data that will deliver huge benefits to the business sector and the economy in general.”

Ends

17 April 2014

Editors notes:

For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact PR & Policy Advisor, Gillian O’Young on (02) 8252 6715 or via email at gillian@consultaustalia.com.au.

MEDIA RELEASE



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

About Consult Australia

Consult Australia is the leading not-for-profit association that represents the business interests of consulting firms operating in the built and natural environment.

The Consult Australia Champions of Change collectively employ over 22,000 people across Australia, providing engineering, design, architecture, technology, surveying and project management solutions, most often for public infrastructure and mining and heavy industry.

Our member firms include: Arup, Brown Consulting, Golder, GHD, Hyder Consulting, MWH, NDY, Opus Consulting, Parsons Brinckerhoff, pitt&sherry, Jacobs SKM, SMEC and URS.

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.