

Response to the NSW Government

KICKSTARTING THE PRODUCTIVITY CONVERSATION

SUBMISSION TO

Commissioner for Productivity

Submission Issued 27 November 2019.

SUBMISSION BY

Building Designers Association of Australia

Building Designers Association of Australia is a not-for-profit, peak industry Association representing Australian Designers involved in, or associated with the built environment nationally. Our key role is to educate and raise awareness of designers within the industry, to build and sustain relations with the key stakeholders, and to provide services to our members



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1. Building human capital for a modern and evolving economy.

Once entering the workforce in the backdrop of the ever-changing technological landscape, it is essential that employees and employers are incentivised to continue to grow and learn about industry changes. We have found our Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program has proven to be available to those who choose to engage. Best practice arrangement for CPD is simple. Mandatory compliance. With this approach incorporated into the labour market, its embedding supports an ongoing process of learning and upskilling.

If industry associations are responsible for the management of occupational licencing regimes and their members are legally obligated to be licencing, the regulatory burden is reduced. This process strengthens the relationship between government and industry through collaborate and transparent processes. Fiscally, the volume of licenses would reduce the costs through economy of scale.

It is only natural that mutual recognition arrangements can better facilitate interjurisdictional labour flow. What is missing is training that supports the transition

rights and a clear understanding of the national construction codes. These items can form part of the bridging process of the licencing.

Our submission offers employees the opportunity to upskill or reskill and reduce the economic burden on society of an aging population.

2. Reliable, sustainable and productive use of our water and energy

If Building Designers, the Construction Industry and consumers are offered incentives such as fast tracking building applications with high level blue green footprints, improvements in the urban water sector can improve. Governance of these processes reduce the water burden for regional communities where the opportunity to create cost effective solutions are constrained. Education through public awareness and social media campaigns are the cornerstone of contemporary social change. Underpinned by regulation, the shift becomes proactive rather than reactive.

Reducing the demand is created by improving the energy efficiency of buildings through bettering building practices and techniques to minimise dependence on mechanical heating and cooling systems. We should be striving to make all Australian homes as energy efficient as possible. This can

be done by raising the standards and expectations of Nationwide Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS) above the 6 star minimum standard.

Our submission offers a collaboration between industry and government to create public awareness of how they can make visible benefits extends beyond in their communities.

3. Smart ways to get more from our infrastructure

Cost effective infrastructure is created by an approach informed by design targeted at the growing the missing middle. Maintaining this approach to designing communities allows service infrastructure to reach a broad range people within a socioeconomic corridor. Without this focus, ghettos of services and people will continue to accumulate. In turn, this improves housing affordability, upsizing and downsizing of family groups whilst minimising associated pressures of accessing services for different life stages. The ability for government to proactively listen and respond to the needs of community groups and stakeholders, is reflected in the outcome produced and measured in community's satisfaction of the process.

Our submission offers a collaboration between industry and government to create support diversity and inclusion which enables cost effective infrastructure outcomes.

4. Modernising our tax system to help our economy grow

If industry associations are responsible for the management of occupational licencing regimes and their members are legally obligated to be licencing, the sales of CDP education and licences fees generate taxable income for industry associations. This contributes to the financial economy and generates human capital.

Our submission offers a collaboration between industry and government to upskill and reskill the work force through the mandatory licencing.

5. Planning for the housing we want and the jobs we need

The NSW Government can take the step to improve residential development regulations by introducing legislation making it mandatory for all professional, consultants, designers and trades working in the building industry to be registered and licenced. The accountability created improves development regulations through ensuring the quality of workmanship cannot be compromised. The result is re-establishing confidence in the building sector.

Our submission offers a collaboration between industry and government to increase tax revenue through the mandatory licencing.

6. Forward looking regulation to support competition and innovation

Responsive and adaptable regulation can only be driven by consumer demand and industry incentives. It is essential that the design and construction industries become accountable through registration and licencing processes managed by accredited industry associations.

Our submission offers a collaboration between industry and government to support competition and innovation through mandatory licencing.