

Senate Select Committee on Financial Technology and Regulatory Technology – Questions on Notice

Australian Supplier Payment Code update

The Australian Supplier Payment Code (the Code) was launched in May 2017 as a genuine and voluntary commitment by Australia's largest businesses to pay their small business suppliers within 30 days. Signatories commit to on-time payment for all suppliers and clear dispute resolution processes and to work with their suppliers to shift to more efficient electronic trading.

The Code has now grown to 125 signatories and covers some \$680 billion of annual turnover with some of the biggest players at the centre of Australia's most important supply chains underscoring their long-held commitment to small business partners by signing up. Signatories include Business Council member companies, non-Business Council members and governments. The list of signatories is available online at https://www.supplierpaymentcode.org.au/view_the_signatories.

Raising the Bar update

Raising the Bar is a joint initiative of the Business Council and Supply Nation. It was launched in August 2019 and will grow the Indigenous procurement capability and impact of Business Council member companies. Through the initiative, 17 committed members will collectively spend more than \$3 billion with Indigenous businesses over 5 years to create new opportunities and deliver greater economic participation.

The Raising the Bar framework has four key components:

- an Indigenous procurement target of 3 per cent of annual influenceable spend with Indigenous businesses over a five-year period
- the supporting systems and processes to achieve the target
- reporting and monitoring of spend against the target, and
- activities to develop Indigenous suppliers.

Raising the Bar signatories will increase their spending with Indigenous suppliers to 3 per cent over the next five years, under the following targets:

- Year 1 – 0.5 per cent
- Year 2 – 1 per cent
- Year 3 – 1.5 per cent
- Year 4 – 2 per cent
- Year 5 – 3 per cent.

The Business Council will begin reporting of annual progress against the targets following the completion of the first year.

Uptake of technology reporting

The Australian Bureau of Statistics maintains several publications regarding use of technology and business. These publications include:

- 8129.0 – Business use of Information Technology
- 8158.0 - Innovation in Australian Business
- 8166.0 – Summary of IT use and innovation in Australian Business
- 8167.0 - Characteristics of Australian Business.

The OECD report *Measuring the Digital Transformation – A Roadmap for the Future* maps existing indicators from a range of policy areas against digital policy issues. It identifies gaps in the current measurement framework, and its purpose is to advance measurement of digital transformation.

Innovation and Science Australia also recently released the report *Stimulating business investment in innovation*. The report identifies current levels of business innovation investment, highlights barriers and drivers to investment, discusses case studies, and shows how businesses are growing through investment in innovation.