



Minister for Finance; Commerce; Small Business
Hon Simon O'Brien MLC

Our ref: 29-20892

Mr Oliver Moon
Chief Executive Officer
Combined Small Business Alliance (CoSBA)
PO Box 2237
MIDLAND WA 6936

Dear Mr Moon *Oliver,*

The Western Australian small business sector is a large and diverse part of our State's economy and one that continues to make a significant contribution to the prosperity of our State.

For this reason, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you, as a key stakeholder within this sector, for your contribution during 2011.

We are proud of this Government's significant achievements over the past year for small business, starting with the Premier's appointment of a Minister and Parliamentary Secretary dedicated to the small business portfolio and culminating in the landmark appointment of a Western Australian Small Business Commissioner.

The establishment of the role of the Commissioner will help create a more competitive and fair operating environment for small businesses in the State. It also affords us the opportunity to introduce alternative dispute resolution services for small businesses, particularly with regard to unfair market practices and commercial tenancy matters. We are very pleased that Mr David Eaton, who brings a wealth of experience in the WA business sector, has been appointed to this key role.

Other significant achievements during the year include reforms to retail trading laws to ease staffing cap restrictions for small retail businesses and enhanced protections and tenancy rights for small business traders through changes to commercial tenancy legislation.

During the past twelve months, we have had the benefit of meeting with many small business operators and industry association representatives at forums and events. Through Ministerial Link Forums, awards events and one-on-one meetings, we have been able to gather information from, and about, small business across the State. These opportunities allow us to discuss issues important to individual business owners and to the sector as a whole.

Together, we are committed to the development and the success of small business in Western Australia, and during 2012, we will be involved in further Ministerial Link Forums and other consultations with small businesses around the State.

We look forward to continuing our association with you in the coming months, and to working with the sector to introduce initiatives and measures that will assist small businesses in Western Australia to grow and prosper.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S O'Brien', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Simon O'Brien MLC
MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liza Harvey', written in a cursive style.

Liza Harvey MLA
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY