



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR THE HON NICK SHERRY

Minister for Small Business
Minister Assisting on Deregulation and Public Sector Superannuation
Minister Assisting on Tourism

ENHANCED ROLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members of the Government's Small Business Advisory Committee (SBAC) will soon be able to contribute more of their experience and expertise in advising the Government on small business issues, trends and red-tape reforms.

It follows today's announcement by Small Business Minister, Senator Nick Sherry, of an enhanced role for the Small Business Advisory Committee from November 1.

"The committee will be a valuable source of independent information and will help inform the Government's small business policy agenda," Senator Sherry said.

"The Government's agenda is already delivering for small business through advisory and support services and practical programs.

"Our Small Business Support Line has taken 40,000 calls in its two years of operation and Government funding has helped the nation's 37 Business Enterprise Centres assist 160,000 businesses.

"The Small Business Superannuation Clearing House is surging ahead with almost 10,000 employers now taking advantage of the service, while a wide range of COAG deregulation reforms such as a National Business Names Registration System and Standard Business Reporting is cutting red tape.

"And the Government is introducing significant tax reform, such as the \$6,500 instant write-off, which will directly benefit small business.

"The enhanced role for the SBAC will help build an even stronger relationship between the small business sector and the Government, and inform future policy development."

The Small Business Advisory Committee consists of the following members:

- Mr Gary Black, Executive Director, National Retail Association
- Mr Greg Evans, Director, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Mr Tom Fisher, Fisher Advisory Services
- Dr Michael King, Managing Director, Kings Australia
- Mr Anthony Matis, CPA Australia
- Ms Su McCluskey, Chief Executive Officer, Council of Rural Research and Development Corporations
- Mr Robert Powell, Director, BDO Australia
- Ms Claire Prendergast, Starfish Business Solutions
- Ms Jan Taylor, Principal, JTA Australia.

“Australia’s small businesses make a major contribution to the economy. The Government is committed to supporting the drive and commitment of Australia’s small business entrepreneurs, by helping small businesses grow and create jobs,” Senator Sherry said.

”I am looking forward to working closely with the Committee to identify further ways to improve small business productivity and competitiveness.”

The Government established the Small Business Advisory Committee in June 2010 to enhance consultation with small business as part of the policy-making process.

Its initial focus has been on reviewing and providing expert advice on regulatory proposals that have a significant impact on small business.

A full background of Committee members is attached.

MELBOURNE

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