

Policy Work In Progress



February 2019

Invigorating business

Title	Date	Synopsis
Regulations Modern Slavery	21 March 2019	NSWBC attended a function jointly hosted by ACCI and ABLA to hear from the newly created State and Federal agencies about how the regulatory requirements of new modern slavery regimes will affect businesses. NSWBC will review the draft (federal) guidelines (which were released on 28 March 2019) and the (NSW) regulations (when they are released). Policy Contact: Elizabeth Greenwood 9458 7078
Service NSW Easy to do Business	22 March 2019	NSWBC met with members of Service NSW's Easy to Do Business project team to discuss new areas of focus and opportunities. Having originally focussed on reducing the time it took to commence a business in NSW, the program is expanding to address other regulatory impacts on business with a specific focus on restaurants, cafes and construction businesses. This is being driven by additional commonwealth funding. NSWBC will re-engage with the team following the state election. Policy Contact: Luke Aitken 9458 7582
NSW Business Chamber Election campaign	12 March 2019	Following a fiercely contested election campaign, the NSW Coalition was returned to Government and the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP became the first female elected as NSW Premier. While many predicted that there would be a minority government elected, the Coalition has returned with 48 seats and will govern in its own right The reach of the NSW BC Keeping NSW Number 1 campaign during the election period was significant. There were more than 32 million impressions of the Chambers campaign on social media and video views of the Chambers pay roll tax ad on Facebook and YouTube exceeded 1.7 million (a greater reach than political parties in the campaign). 14 key seats were targeted by the Chamber in the campaign. The Chamber hosted 17 community events and ran advertising through 21 newspapers. 18 radio stations and 7 TV stations. NSW BC has now written to the Premier, Deputy Premier and Treasurer congratulating them on their win. NSW BC is also writing to key Ministers in the new cabinet seeking meetings to engage and progress our key policy agenda Policy Contact: Chris Lamont 9458 7462 or Ben Riley 9458 7430
Education VET Consultative Forum	27 March 2019	NSWBC attended the NSW Department of Industry's VET Consultative Forum. The forum provides an opportunity for stakeholders to receive updates on the performance of the VET market, development of new policy and provide feedback on the VET system in NSW. As the forum was held close to the NSW election, the Department was not able to provide updates on new policy commitments but was able to provide a detailed run through of its new careers advice / training tool lifelauncher . Policy Contact: Luke Aitken 9458 7582

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Federal Budget
2019-20 Federal Budget

2 April 2019

NSWBC attended the federal budget lock up. Treasurer Frydenberg delivered the 2019-20 Budget announcing the Coalition's plan to implement a range of tax cuts and cash handouts targeted to low and middle income earners, as well as an enhanced instant asset write-off to boost small business investment.

Pleasingly, the Budget included a number of the key recommendation out forward by the NSW Business Chamber in our 2019 Pre-Budget Submission

These included an enhanced instant asset write-off which will allow businesses to immediately write-off assets worth up to \$30,000 (this goes beyond the previously announced increase from \$20,000 to \$25,000) while expanding access to businesses with a turnover of up to \$50m (up from \$10m). The Budget also promised a \$525m skills package will boost the vocational education and training (VET) sector, including \$156m to deliver a new incentive payment to support 80,000 new apprentices in occupations identified as experiencing skills shortages.

The Chamber produced a member communication following the budget as well as a [media release](#) which was picked up widely.

With the Federal opposition having provided a budget in reply, suggesting alternate revenue and spending measures, the stage is set for a federal election in May.

Policy Contact: Mark Frost 9458 7259

Upcoming

Submissions due re: draft (federal) Modern Slavery Guidelines – mid-May 2019